

Pennsylvania Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Council
November 8, 2022 – Zoom Virtual Meeting

In Attendance: S. DeArment, P. Hentz, L. Stallings, S. Gallagher, R. Graboski, S. Acosta

Absent: C. Eyler, E. Frankel

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

On a motion by Leah, seconded by Peggy, minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Sandra will provide abbreviated/redacted minutes to appear on the PAWR website.

I. Treasurer's Report

Leah had provided a treasurer's report in advance by email.

A total balance of \$18,874.41 remains in checking. This reflects \$9420.54 in unrestricted funds, and \$9453.87 in restricted funds (PGC grant for eagles/lead). On a motion by Peggy, seconded by Robyn, the report was approved.

II. Law Enforcement Updates.

Some questions remain for Chad on requirements for Capture/Transport permittees, particularly on permits needed for live trapping. Current practices are inconsistent across the state.

There was no new information on the effort to recruit new rehabilitators via an additional classification. Chad may be submitting a proposal at a future PGC board meeting, but the date for that meeting was unclear.

The group agreed to invite Chad to a December meeting. The date for that meeting was agreed to as December 6 at 10:00 am, pending Chad's ability to attend. SueD will be in touch with him, as well as Heather Wayne and Amanda Leyden, to see if they can join for interviews.

II. Miscellaneous

Robyn had reached out to PANO regarding 501c3 status for PAWR, without success. Sandra agreed to reach out to a non-profit attorney she knows, and to inquire what his fees might be to assist.

III. Conference

All agreed on the dates as December 1-3, 2023. All agreed additional rehabilitators and volunteers should be recruited to a committee to help plan and market the conference.

Council members had been notified previously that Betsy Shank was researching a Lancaster venue. Sandra will continue looking into the Philadelphia/Valley Forge area, with a place to accommodate 40-50 hotel room reservations. Robyn will ask at the Ramada about the first week in December.

Robyn reported she had gotten feedback from some rehabilitators saying they preferred a virtual conference.

SueD reminded all that we need to include C/T personnel in the conference and schedule talks for them.

Sandra shared an extensive database she had started. This will allow the council to track income, expenses, speakers, and much more data. Sandra will forward this to all.

Marketing ideas included

- Asking for a few minutes to speak at any PA vet conferences
- Reaching out to vets in each of our areas, making them aware of our services and training opportunities
- Direct mail to vets and vet technicians possibly with a poster, flyer or magnet they could keep posted at the practice.

IV. Interviews

- **Kathy Schuster**

Kathy will be moving to Pocono by spring, where she will focus more on rehab than administrative duties. She has met personnel there.

On a motion by Robyn, Seconded by SueD, all agreed a recommendation should be made to issue a permit for mammals, raptors and non-raptors, on the condition that it be made clear she is rehabilitating at the Pocono facility, not at her home or another site. Peggy agreed to follow up and make sure Kathy knows this.

- **Emma Murgas**

Robyn recused herself from the discussion. Emma is a current volunteer at Centre Wildlife and will rehabilitate there. However, she was asked to contact Brenton/Chad via email to be sure they have her correct contact information. On a motion by SueG seconded by Peggy, all agreed a recommendation should be made to issue a permit for mammals, raptors, and non-raptors. (Robyn recused).

- **Kaley Egan**

Peggy recused herself from the discussion. Kaley is currently working at Red Creek Wildlife Center and requesting an upgrade from novice to general status. On a motion by Leah seconded by SueD. All agreed a recommendation should be made to issue the upgrade (Peggy recused).

SueD will contact Brenton and Chad to let them know of these interviews and decisions.

After confirming with Brenton that permits will be issued, Robyn will update the rehab map accordingly. Robyn will send info then to Peggy who will add to PAWR website.

A discussion followed on whether pictures should be required from new applicants working at established centers. All agreed pictures were unnecessary unless significant changes had been made since the facility's original permit had been issued.

V. Future Meetings

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 6, at 10:00 am, through Zoom.

All agreed to the following tentative dates for 2023

- **January 10**
- **Mar 14**
- **May 9**
- **July 11**
- **Sept 12**
- **Nov 14**

Robyn had been in contact by PGC veterinarian Andrew DiSalvo, who would like to offer a wildlife health seminar for rehabilitators and key people at their centers.

The seminar is tentatively set for November 21, from 9:00 to 10:20 a.m.

Robyn will confirm date and time with Andrew, then get a notice out via email to licensed rehabilitators. SueD asked if WIN regional personnel could be included and all agreed they should be.

With no further business, on a motion by SueD seconded by Robyn, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm

Susan Gallagher
Recording Secretary