

Pennsylvania Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Council
December 9, 2022 – Zoom Virtual Meeting

In Attendance: S. DeArment, L. Stallings, S. Gallagher, R. Graboski, S. Acosta, E. Frankel

Absent: C. Eyler, P. Hentz,

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m.

I. Minutes / Treasurer's Report

On a motion by Leah, seconded by Sandra, minutes of the November meeting were approved. The council also approved posting all redacted minutes submitted so far to the PAWR website.

Leah reported that the only change (expense) since last month was \$2,000 sent to the conference venue, along with a contract.

The council discussed making a \$100 donation to Red Creek Wildlife Center after the fire. Council members who wish to add more to the donation should mail their check to SueD. SueD will provide her mailing address.

II. Law Enforcement Updates.

Chad was not available to attend the meeting, so no updates were given.

III. Conference

SueD reported that a committee had been formed to work together with the council in planning. Committee members are: A veterinarian from Radnor vet practice, Betsy Shank, Emily Garrigan, Sandra Acosta, Susan Downing, Peggy Hentz, Sue DeArment.

Sandra asked to be provided with notes and/or minutes from the committee's first meeting and SueD agreed to provide them. SueD will also make sure Sandra receives an invitation for the next meeting, December 16 at 3:00 pm.

Radnor vet clinic has provided a \$1,000 sponsorship. The committee is seeking additional sponsorships.

Conference will be held three days (includes Friday, all day). Registration fees, speaker payments, discounts and other financials have not yet been decided upon. (One veterinarian so far has demanded payment. Sandra asked if the council could be made aware of who this was, so we don't reach out to him again.)

Conference duties to date assigned as follows:

SueD

- Ask Peggy to send all council members her lists/outline for speakers
- Maintain project timetable to help with planning

SueG

- Reach out to LaToya Latney
- Work on artwork for a “Education Vacation/Christmas” theme
- Possible talk on PA state education standards or preserving animals for educational use

Sandra

- Work together with Leah on a budget
- Maintain excel sheet to help with planning
- Reach out to Erica Miller to possibly include a talk on lead poisoning
- Find speakers on diversity/equity/inclusion and cultural issues

Leah

- Work together with Sandra on a budget
- Find a speaker on self-care/burnout topic
- Ask Amanda Leyden about a turtle talk

Robyn

- Reach out to PANO for a possible talk on mental health issues at non-profits
- Reach out to Justin Brown, also for a possible lead poisoning talk

IV. Interviews

Heather Wayne

Heather is currently volunteering at Tamarack Wildlife and will continue permit activities there. Sometime in the next five years, she hopes to establish her own center in Mercer County. Heather interviewed for an upgrade of her mammal permit from novice to general. On a motion by Robyn, seconded by Leah, all agreed a recommendation should be made to issue the upgrade.

Amanda Leyden

Amanda is currently working at the Aark Wildlife Center. She tested for and passed all three permit classes, raptor, non-raptor and mammal, and will continue permit activities at the Aark. She is also very interested in reptile rehabilitation. On a motion by Robyn seconded by SueG, all agreed a recommendation should be made to issue a permit for mammals, raptors, and non-raptors. (Leah recused).

Stephanie Stundon

Stephanie has been working at the Schuylkill Center, and is seeking to take over as permit holder, since the departure of previous permittees. She tested for and passed all three permit classes, raptor, non-raptor and mammal.

Council members inquired about the Schuylkill Center’s commitment to operating a wildlife center. They advised on the importance of having administrative support and financial autonomy

there in order to offer proper animal care. The council offered to provide help and guidance in the future, at any time Stephanie requested.

On a motion by SueD, seconded by Leah, all agreed a recommendation should be made to issue a permit for mammals, raptors, and non-raptors.

Betsy Shank

Betsy interviewed for an upgrade of her mammal permit from novice to general. She showed several pictures of her facility. On a motion by SueD, seconded by Leah, all agreed a recommendation should be made to issue the upgrade.

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

V. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2023, at 10:00 am through Zoom.

With no further business, on a motion by SueD seconded by Robyn, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm

Susan Gallagher
Recording Secretary