

Pennsylvania Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Council
May 28, 2024 – Zoom Virtual Meeting

In Attendance:

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

I. Conference

Peggy reviewed the results of the conference survey sent to all rehabilitators. She provided a spreadsheet with results from all 117 respondents.

Those responding ranked the following as most important in a decision to attend the state conference:

- Quality of talks
- Variety of topics and speakers
- Cost
- Distance to travel
- Having hands-on labs

Ranked low in priority were:

- Quality of food
- Quality of hotel
- Other opportunities such as shopping, sightseeing, etc.

A virtual option was discussed, but Peggy noted that virtual platforms have become increasingly expensive, and what the council needs/wants in a virtual setting may not be available.

Peggy made a motion to hold the 2025 conference in State College. Leah seconded. All voted in favor excepting Sandra who voted no.

Robyn will let the Ramada know, with planned dates of December 5, 6, and 7.

The majority agreed on the following:

- Sponsors should be sought, starting now
- A committee should be formed, also starting now
- The conference should end with lunch on Sunday
- Making sure appropriate vegan options are available is important—a vegan should sit on the conference committee and/or help coordinate menu with the hotel

- The conference should include a structured banquet
- Jobs during the conference should be assigned in advance—room moderators, A/V help, raffle sales, etc.

Peggy will put an application calling for abstracts online, and will send a link to the application to Robyn

Robyn will send a “save the date” email to the rehab list after Peggy gets the application up.

II. Other

Sandra had previously emailed documents regarding a 501c3 status for PAWR. All were asked to review the documents before the next meeting.

All other business was tabled until the July 9 meeting.

On a motion by Leah, seconded by SueG, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Gallagher
Recording Secretary