

Desert Fishes Council Business Meeting:

November 14, 2008, 4:15pm, 53 people in attendance

Presiding over Business Meeting: Stewart Reid our current president cannot be here (and he is very regretful) due to pressing family issues, so Nathan Allan has agreed to fill in for him

Notes from last year's Business meeting: Jon Sjoberg motion to accept, Paul Holden, seconded, passed

Financial Report by Executive Secretary for Life, Phil Pister: Have three accounts (General, Vanguard, and American Century) that total \$119,489.50 as of January 13, 2009. Next year DFC will make money on the meeting due to its location in Death Valley (venue is essentially free)

Membership: Heidi Blasius

- 163 current members (decrease from last year)
- 41 new members
- Reminder on Life Special Membership: credit is given at \$25/year up to 10 years

Area Coordinator: Kathryn Boyer (Acting)

- Have 6 regional coordinators plus 2 in Mexico
- Difficult job for coordinators to get information
- Tracking tables are important, perhaps for the Desert Fish Habitat Partnership, to use for monitoring and evaluating success
- Brian Kesner (volunteer DFC web database programmer) will convert tracking tables to online database
- Timeframe for tables will now change to January-December

Proceedings: Dean Hendrickson

- Several years behind due to translation issues, although there is a possibility of publishing just in English to get pubs out sooner
- Hopes to catch up soon
- All published via lulu.com, DFC not making any money on this, it is a free .pdf unless you want a hardcopy

Member at Large: David Ward

- Explained role of the MAL: to facilitate communication between the EXCOMM and the members. For example, a member might bring up an issue for EXCOMM response
- Activities over the past year include coordinating a review of the Southern Nevada Water Authority EIS which proposes to pipe water from northern Nevada to Las Vegas

Elections (3) *Note all three election candidates ran unopposed

1. Chris Hoagstrom is new Member at Large
2. Kathryn Boyer is the Areas Coordinator
3. Heidi Blasius is the Membership Secretary

CC Research Station Update: Dean Hendrickson

- Good visitation rates over the year, especially by Mexican researchers
- Suffered a bit of a setback when the Peace Corps pulled support but Desuvalle continued to support the station during these challenging times
- Over the year, 120 people stayed at the station, primarily students, professors and eco-tourists and contributed 45% to the overall operating expenses
- Still need a full-time manager
- Recommend pursuing non-profit status in Mexico to make funding possibilities easier
- \$55,000 was infused into the CC community from the previous meeting

Website: Thank goodness for Brian Kesner. He rebuilt the back end of the abstract submission process and made generating the program much more straightforward

Still looking for opportunities to update the website and modernize its appearance. Considering paying someone to update the design

Future Meetings

- Recommendation from the membership to hit the aquarium business for funding. Would need official DFC letterhead
- Good job for the new Member at Large!
- Money could be used to help augment the Conservation Fund, which accepts small dollar proposals to help finish projects for aquatic conservation
- Will consider CC as possible location during next Mexican rotation along with other possibilities such as Monterey

Student Award Winners (17 oral presentations, 3 poster presentations)

James Cureton: Poster Winner

Daniel Sepulveda: Miller Award Winner

Stephanie Kraft: Hubbs Award Winner

Adjourn at 6:05pm

| Submitted by Pam Sponholtz, Program Secretary