

*BIRD
CONSERVATION
NETWORK*

December 8, 2005 Excom Meeting

Attendees:

Donnie Dann
Lee Ramsey
Bob Fisher
Glenn Gabanski
Randi Doeker
Steve Packard - Guest

1. Steve Packard – Discussed how BCN member groups can become more involved as advocates within the Chicago Wilderness community. The current ChiWild activities tend to be dominated by the staff personnel from the ChiWild groups (which means they meet during regular work hours, for examples). A “grassroots team” within ChiWild has been proposed (status TBD), which would give the volunteers some voice in the activities and priorities. An institutionalized team would, by definition, get some paid staff support by ChiWild.

Donnie suggested to Steve that he prepare a written proposal that would be discussed at the January members’ meeting.

2. Glenn Gabanski – Distributed an up-to-date financial report. No changes are expected before January 1.

(Glenn:) *Last week we got another letter from the IRS. It contained interest and penalties for three of the four years we paid taxes, and a letter similar to the one we last received but this time saying we didn't send in documents properly for tax year 2002. I met with our CPA and he prepared a response which got mailed today. I also wrote checks for the interest and penalties and sent them off. The total was \$461.43, of which \$356.42 was for penalties. Keep in mind that we still need to hear from the IRS about penalties and interest for 2002, as well as what the state might charge. The services of the CPA today were still covered under what we paid him earlier. When the dust all settles on our penalty payments, he will then write a letter asking to refund the penalties.*

Database analysis project - BCN still owes Audubon \$700 for the first phase of the project; to be paid in 2006. The costs of continuing project development and on-going maintenance was discussed based on a proposal from Eric Secker. Glenn will discuss continuing financial partnership with National Audubon.

Wolf Lake Initiative donation – no action to be taken until an invoice is received.

3. Lee Ramsey - Discussed where the PPT presentation on the monitoring can be given. Bob advised that the presentation would be given at the March DBC meeting. The rest of the clubs will be contacted by the board members based on their respective club “assignments”..
4. Donnie Dann – TNR in McHenry County – no report

Annual report – Will create an annual report of accomplishments to include:

- Bird trail map
- More monitors
- PPT report
- Database analysis
- Participated in Wild Ones conference
- Provided the seed to provide opposition to the TNR program in McHenry
- Sign on letters
- Land manager outreach

Bird flu statement – okay for website

Wind turbines – The meeting with the Chicago DOE was discussed.

5. Bob Fisher – Has an extensive statement about the needs of Red-headed Woodpeckers to post on the BCN website. He received approval from the editor of the magazine, *Wisconsin Natural Resources*, where it was first published.