

BCN Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, April 8 2016
Phone Conference

In attendance: Dave Willard, Mary Lou Mellon, Nancy Tikalsky, Suzanne Checchia, Bobbi Asher, Emma England

Not attending: Glenn Gabanski

Guest: Bob Fisher

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Willard at 7:00 pm.

- 1. Feral Cat Policy** – Bob Fisher proposed that BCN formally adopt the Chicago Wilderness Position Statement on Feral and Unattended Domestic Cats Outdoors as its own and display it on the BCN website as a bird conservation resource. Prior to the conference call Bob had sent ExCom a copy of CW's position statement and background on its development to review. After discussion, ExCom agreed to accept Bob's proposal until such time as BCN may modify the CW statement or write its own policy. The Secretary will send a copy of the CW position statement to BCN reps with notice that we will vote on this proposal at our April 16 quarterly meeting.
- 2. The Messenger**
 - **Music Box Theater Showing** – Willard & Mellon
Showing is confirmed for Tuesday night, May 10th. Sponsored by the Cinema Science program of the Field Museum. BCN has agreed to promote and line up member orgs to co-sponsor the showing. Peter Marra, Head, the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, and Doug Stotz and Josh Engel of the Field Museum will be on hand for a post-film discussion. ExCom agreed that BCN would ask its member organizations to publicize and promote this showing to their memberships. BCN also will ask its member organizations if they wish to be listed as co-sponsors for the event. There would be no cost to them to co-sponsor and they would have the opportunity to distribute their literature at the event.
 - **Alternative (or non-theatrical) showing** – Bob Fisher
Bob reported that he researched the possibility for individual organizations to host “non-theatrical” showings of The Messenger at a reasonable price. Details of how member groups can take advantage of this will be made available at a later time.
- 3. Bird Conservation Network Migration Monitoring Project** – Willard & Mellon
The purpose of this project is to attempt to evaluate if habitat restoration work is accomplishing our goals, by determining if and how birds are using the restored lands. The monitoring will be conducted at Montrose Point, LaBagh Woods and Burnham Corridor. A contract with the Urban Wildlife Institute of the Lincoln Park Zoo to consult on protocol development and data analysis for the project, as subcontractor under our Urban Bird Treaty Grant is being finalized. When Dave receives the final contract, he will circulate it to ExCom for approval. This expenditure was approved by BCN last year.

4. Urban Bird Treaty Grant, International Migratory Bird Day, BCN Facebook page – Mellon

Judy Pollock has many activities planned for International Migratory Bird at the Burnham Corridor in 2016. The events for IMBD will be promoted on BCN's Facebook page. The option of paying extra to Facebook to publicize these events further than our own page was mentioned. Pollock will handle.

5. ExCom Make-up – Mellon

Because the BCN Survey is such a big part of what BCN does, the question was raised, should ExCom always include a representative from the Survey. It was agreed that we would adopt this as a guideline, rather than a requirement.

6. BCN Letterhead – It was proposed and agreed that Bob Fisher be added to the BCN letterhead as Communications Chair, a position that he has filled for many years. The Secretary will revise the letterhead to reflect this addition and send the document to ExCom members.

7. Sound System – Mellon

A portable amplifier and cordless microphone are needed so that everyone can be heard at our meetings. England and Mellon agreed to research what's available and report back.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Checchia, BCN Secretary