

NFSS BOD MEETING
4th Quarter 2009

PRESENT: Bob Peers, Rebecca Mikel, Roland Cristo, Lisa Murphy, Sally Huntington, Vonda Zwick, Paula Hansen, Gail Benson, Bill Parlee, Doug White, Jason Crean, Sharon Dvorak, John Wilson, Alfredo Brugueras, Barbara Jacquez, Tom Keegan, Vince Moase, Laura Bewley, Cheryl Burns, Michael Gravely

ABSENT: Orlando Rivera

RESIGNATIONS: Diane Munroe, Membership Director

APPOINTED: Tiffany Park, Membership Director Pro Tem

DEPT. REPORTS

President, Bob Peers

This meeting was officially started at NCBS in Tulsa, OK. The Annual Membership Meeting was convened during NCBS as well.

Election Results – Officers who will be serving on the 2010-2011 Board of Directors:
(38 total ballots cast) (SEE MOTION #2009-23).

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| President: John Wilson | Region 1 VP: Elaine Ortman |
| 1 st VP (Education, Regional VP's): Bob Peers | Region 2 VP: Michael Gravely |
| 2 nd VP (Website, Journal): Tom Keegan | Region 3 VP: Jason Crean |
| 3 rd VP (Finch Save, Census): Vonda Zwick | Region 4 VP: Cheryl Burns |
| 4 th VP (Judge's Panel) : Laura Bewley | Region 5 VP: Anna Sinclair |
| Treasurer: Lisa Murphy | Region 6 VP: Doug White |
| Bands: Paula Hansen | Region 7 VP: Orlando Rivera |
| Affiliations/Awards: Alfredo Brugueras | Region 8 VP: Moase |
| Membership: Diane Munroe | |
| Secretary: Rebecca Mikel | Website: Barbara Jacquez |
| Finch Shop: Sharon Dvorak | Advertising: Gail Benson |
| Legislative Liaison: Roland Cristo | Moderator: John Wilson |

Dianne Munroe has informed this BOD a recent move and changed circumstances prevent her from dedicating the time required to serve as Membership Director. Tiffany Park expressed an interest and after conversations has agreed to serve as Pro Tem (SEE MOTION #2009-30)

The following individuals were presented with Service Awards for having served on the BOD: Cecil Gunby, Robert Mehl, Brian Nagle, and Cecile Aguilera.

Treasury, Lisa Murphy

2009 3rd Quarter

| DEPT | INCOME | EXPENSES |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|
| Bands | \$1,946.50 | \$977.81 |
| Membership | \$3,495.52 | \$55.78 |
| Advertising | \$97.08 | \$17.84 |
| Judges Panel | \$20.00 | \$0 |
| Finch Shop | \$230.60 | \$34.99 |
| Affiliations | \$150.00 | \$0 |
| Awards | \$296.45 | \$94.63 |
| Journal | \$0 | \$2,900.70 |
| Misc. | \$3.26 | \$913.70 |
| Finch Save | \$0 | \$0 |
| 1 st VP/Region | \$0 | \$0 |
| TOTAL | \$6,239.41 | \$4,995.45 |

Bank Balance as of 7/1/09: \$24,856.87

Bank Balance as of 9/30/09: \$26,100.83

Bank Balance as of 11/1/09: \$28,432.10

PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET

| DEPT | INCOME | EXPENSES |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bands | \$13,500.00 | \$12,000.00 |
| Membership | \$15,000.00 | \$750.00 |
| Advertising | \$3,000.00 | \$100.00 |
| Judges Panel | \$210.00 | \$100.00 |
| FinchShop | \$400.00 | \$200.00 |
| Affiliations | \$1,000.00 | \$100.00 |
| Awards | \$1,000.00 | \$750.00 |
| Journal | \$0 | \$16,500.00 |
| Misc | \$480.00 | \$3,520.00 |
| FinchSave | \$0 | \$120.00 |
| 1 st VP/Regional | \$0 | \$100.00 |
| TOTAL | \$34,590.00 | \$34,240.00 |

In order to balance the budget, adjustments to some departments were necessary. These numbers leave very little room for deviation, especially as it would relate to any proposed increases in expenses at this time or at some point later in the year. Our Treasury is in a healthy state and with responsible and vigilant management it can remain that way. (SEE MOTION #2009-21)

Please contact the Treasurer, Lisa Murphy, if you are interested in seeing a break down by item of the "Miscellaneous" column expenses and income.

The Audit of the 2008 financial records was completed by Bill Parlee and Michael Gravely. (SEE MOTION #2009-22)

Website, Barbara Jacquez

Update of the website has been ongoing. Relocation of the site to new web host has provided a savings for the NFSS. Working on continued updates in coding, transition from all tables to css, faster loading, and cleaner appearance. Created a form for members and businesses to submit their listing or site: <http://www.nfss.org/members/aviaries.html>. Continuing transitions to improve visual appearance, present a progressive and organized site, and continuity. Put a new calendar in place, updating links for vendors and advertisers. Will transfer domain name to John Wilson by December 15th, reorganize files on server, and rename pages to there is only 1 index and all mail html pages are on one level. Restructuring shopping cart as well.

Several suggestions made at NCBS in Membership Meeting about new project possibilities. Once Barbara has completed all necessary updates to the website, she will begin to review and give attention to these ideas.

Legislative, Roland Cristo

Invasive Species Legislation – There is a hold on this legislation until the congressional committee comes back with changes – if they do. Communication continues with the Legislators with regard to our opinion that this legislation is unnecessary.

Adding Species to U.S. Endangered Species list – USFW wants to add Moluccan Cockatoos; there has been some confiscations in Florida. We would like to see a precedent set that this can't happen unless a Private Vet. Certifies the animal's life/health is in eminent danger.

PAY ATTENTION TO LOCAL ANIMAL CONTROLS!

2nd VP , Tom Keegan

Dual: 66, Foreign: 10, Junior: 5 Single: 418
499 Memberships; 565 Members (not including Affiliates)
Affiliates: 38

WEB: Barbara Jacquez continues work on updates

ADVERTISING: Need to look for new advertisers; send ideas to Tom or Gail

JOURNAL: Nov/Dec is running a bit late, and will be mailed as usual. Tom is applying for Periodical Rate which we will begin using on Jan/Feb issue. Change in Journal Schedule as follows:

| ISSUE | SUBMISSION DEADLINE | SENT TO PRINTER |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Jan/Feb | 11/15 | 12/15 |
| Mar/Apr | 1/15 | 2/15 |
| May/June | 3/15 | 4/15 |
| Jul/Aug | 5/15 | 6/15 |
| Sept/Oct | 7/15 | 8/15 |
| Nov/Dec | 9/15 | 10/15 |

BANDS, Paula Hansen

2010 order for December arrived; will begin filling for Christmas release. Credits from order lost in February will go out first. Dollar exchange rates continue to impact band prices and NFSS needs to increase prices – we've not had an increase in 2 years. Will need to update band order form and website. (SEE MOTION #2009-25)

3rd VP – Vonda Zwick (Finch Save)

Work continues on the software; if anyone is interested in assisting with the testing process, please contact Vonda.

CENSUS: All are encouraged to participate. Failure of many to participate does skew totals, but it is felt the data collected is useful. The census could serve to show statistical proof of our contribution to the survival of species, offsetting arguments made by Animal Rights population about the “ills” of bird keeping.

FINCH SAVE: Work continues on the software.

4th VP – Laura Bewley

Judge’s Handbook is complete, copies will go to judges with current NFSS memberships and copy to Barbara Jacquez for Website. Plans are to eventually make hard copies available for sale through Finch Shop. Show Classification sheets will be updated and placed on website along with Show Report and Secretary’s sheets

Judge’s Memberships are due 12/31 and Dues are due 4/1. Judge’s are also to submit all 2009 show reports by 12/31 in order they may be compiled and presented to the Journal Editor for inclusion in the Journal.

There were 187 birds entered in NCBS

The next new standard will be Cuban Melodious – Alfredo Bruguera is the Committee Chairperson, Committee Members include Armando Lee, Cheryl Burns, Cecil Gunby, and Julio Valella. The standard after that will be European Goldfinch – Committee not yet developed. Committees are comprised of NFSS judges wishing to participate and member authorities. The 4th VP is the final authority for approval of the completed draft for presentation to the BOD.

Persons awarded Champion Exhibitor (50 exhibition points earned in 2008) included Lisa Murphy, Hiram Morales, Robert Mehl, and KJ Brown.

Persons awarded Exhibitor of Excellence (200 lifetime exhibition points in 2008) was Robert Mehl.

Bob Peers passed Judge’s Test and may begin Apprenticeship.

Finch Shop, Sharon Dvorak

Discussion about adding new items to FinchShop. Some suggestions included medications, breeding supplies, etc. We’ve tried to keep inventory to a minimum due to storage and costs. (i.e. recapturing investment on slow moving items). It is felt the NFSS Birdkeeper purchases supplies from a multitude of vendors where they get the best price. We sell exclusive NFSS items unavailable elsewhere and don’t have the resources to become an online marketplace. Our current method allows least expense, risk, and labor. A new item in the near future will be the Judge’s Handbook – an 85 page document, price to be determined.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Region Realignment, Bob Peers

Discussion on this topic started at NCBS. The goal of the committee is to balance the regions according to numbers of members. These numbers vary at times, but there is a large discrepancy between regions. California has enough to warrant being its own Region, Canada has so few it might make sense to absorb it into another region. One suggestion made was to reduce the number of regions. The committee is considering all suggestions and will report back to the BOD.

Policies and Procedures & Election Procedures, Tom Keegan

Tom has been serving as 2nd VP, Editor, and Membership Director. Once Membership Director responsibilities are handed over to the new Director, work on these committees will begin.

OLD BUSINESS

Judge's Handbook, Laura Bewley

Handbook is complete, a copy will be provided to all Judges, sent to WebMaster to post on WebSite, and hard copies eventually available for sale through FinchShop

NEW BUSINESS

NCBS RESULTS – 187 birds entered (Judge: Armando Lee)

- 1st – White Eye, Debbie Eaton
- 2nd – Paradise Whydah, Cecil Gunby
- 3rd – Violet Ear Waxbill, Vince Moase
- 4th – CFW Cock, Ricky Gaskin
- 5th – American Self Chocolate Society, Cheryl Burns
- 6th – White Hooded Nun, Ginny Allen
- 7th – Normal Gouldian Cock, Ginny Allen
- 8th – Normal Shaftail, Ricky Gaskin
- 9th – Bearded Reedling, Andrew Green
- 10th – Cuban Melodious Cock, Cheryl Burns

Best Novice: Chase Austin

Youth Award: Shane Hudson

Best Unflighted: American Self Chocolate Society, Cheryl Burns

2nd Best Unflighted: White Headed Nun, Ginny Allen

Bill Parlee Best Finch: Paradise Whydah, Cecil Gunby

Val Clear Best Softbill: White Eye, Debbie Eaton

Charlie Anchor Best Zebra: CFW Cock, Ricky Gaskin

UPDATE AND MAILING OF AFFILIATION PACKETS, Alfredo Brugueras

Packets have been updated and mailed and include the Awards Form and a Judge's List. A reminder was also included to the clubs that contact with Judges should be made in ample time to allow them to make travel arrangements. (SEE MOTION #2009-24)

UPDATES TO WEBSITE, Barbara Jacquez

Many continued thanks to Barbara Jacquez for doing such a great job in such a short time. Discussion at NCBS included possible ways to increase NFSS membership or involvement of current members through the website, with one such idea being a possible Photo Contest and the Top 12 being used to create an NFSS Calendar. As Barbara completes the necessary updates she'll begin to give consideration to all discussion items presented.

UPDATE OF NFSS DVD, John Wilson

Updates will include inclusion of new/recent issues of the Journal. Suggestions made regarding including the index Harry Bryant (former NFSS 2nd VP/Editor) published in a prior issue of the Journal. This project will be reviewed each year at the 3rd Quarter BOD meeting. We will seek volunteers to assist with this process.

NFSS ARTICLES BACK ON LINE, Barbara Jacquez

At the time the NFSS DVD was created, old issues of the NFSS Journal were removed from the website. It is felt these articles are helpful to the members and it is believed returning them would not significantly decrease future DVD sales. The WebMaster will work on this project and place them back on the website with a “password protection” system in order that NFSS Members may access them. (SEE MOTION #2009-27)

NEW AWARDS (Sally Huntington/Bob Peers)

New awards were discussed. One award possibility would be tied to exhibition points earned in a particular year. The other would be tied to avicultural accomplishments – perhaps breeding successes. As the details for one or both of these awards are finalized, they will be presented. (SEE MOTION #2009-28)

ASSISTING MEMBERS DURING NATURAL DISASTERS, Doug White

Discussion about what assistance could be provided members and their birds if faced with a natural disaster and how to “market” that assistance. Rallying efforts on the forum may be most appropriate as attempts to establish a data base would require constant oversight to prevent it becoming quickly outdated. The “notice” on the forum could define the location and the need; Regional VP’s could provide involvement/leadership.

MOTIONS:

| MOTION # | BY | 2 nd | MOTION | RESULT |
|----------|-----------|-----------------|--|--------|
| 2009-21 | Mikel | Hansen | Accept 2010 budget | Pass |
| 2009-22 | Hansen | Zwick | Accept 2008 Audit | Pass |
| 2009-23 | Mikel | Murphy | The BOD to publish (journal, minutes/forum) total ballots cast in all NFSS Elections | Pass |
| 2009-24 | Brugueras | Murphy | Rescind Motion #2008-19 which limited the maximum profit on awards | Pass |
| 2009-25 | Murphy | Mikel | To accept proposed band prices submitted by P. Hansen, to take effect 1/1/10 - \$5/string of 10-closed; \$3/string of 10-split | Pass |
| 2009-26 | Wilson | Murphy | SEE BELOW | Pass |

| | | | | |
|---------|--------|-----------|--|------|
| 2009-27 | Bewley | Keegan | To allow back issues of NFSS Journal on website for members only | Pass |
| 2009-28 | Hansen | Brugueras | SEE BELOW | Pass |
| 2009-29 | Bewley | White | To table discussion of Red Siskin Project until 1 st quarter 2010 meeting | Pass |
| 2009-30 | Hansen | Murphy | To appoint Tiffany Park as Membership Director Pro Tem | Pass |
| 2009-31 | Murphy | Zwick | To accept minutes and adjourn meeting | Pass |
| | | | | |

2009-25: The Awards Manager to determine pricing in consultation with Treasurer and President. Awards pricing to be set with the intention of covering all associated expenses. Pricing and costs to be reported to the BOD at the 1st Quarter BOD meeting following said determination.

2009-28: To present a bird of the year award, both flighted and unflighted, to the birds earning the most points each calendar year. Ties will be broken by the bird competing against the greatest number of birds in all the shows it entered.