

Society of Canadian Ornithologists – Société des Ornithologistes du Canada AGM 2017 minutes

Location:

Kellogg Hotel and Conference Centre
Michigan State University
219 S Harrison Rd, East Lansing, MI 48824, USA

Date: August 04 2017

Time: 12:00 pm

Council members Attending / Présents: Greg Mitchell, Junior Tremblay, Ken Otter, Dan Mennill, Colleen Barber + other SCO-SOC members (23 people present in total)

Council members Regrets / Absents: Greg Robertson, Matt Reudink, Darroch Whitaker, Laura McKinnon, Kyle Elliott, Marc-André Villard, Jennifer Foote, Rob Warnock, Barbara Bleho, Barbara Frei

Meeting called to order by Otter at 12:05 pm

1) Welcome / Mot de Bienvenue (Otter)

Welcome to SCO-SOC members. Thanks expressed to conference organizers on behalf of SCO-SOC. Recognizes that it is a huge effort. Happy to share that we have bilingual tweets on social media. Wants to recognize work of Mennill for student travel awards and work on the local organizing committee. Wants to recognize Mitchell for work on student presentation awards. Notes that SCO-SOC is halfway to target of membership drive. Reiterates that memberships are a key source of revenue for SCO-SOC.

2) Review of Agenda / Révision de l'Agenda (Otter)

Mennill – year is incorrect on agenda.

Action item | élément d'action: Otter to update year on agenda

Motion: To accept agenda order and items with noted changes (moved by Mennill, seconded by Bird)

Motion: To edit previous minutes to include last name of accountant; Deborah Loughnan (moved by Dunn, seconded by Mitchell)

3) President's Report / Rapport du Président (Otter)

Future meetings / Réunions Futures: IOC planning going well. SCO-SOC to co-host a Canada evening at IOC. Currently trying to meet fund raising target of \$20 000 for evening. Trying to secure a big name to speak at the evening, e.g., Margaret Atwood. Asking GOC to make some commitment regarding bird conservation at the evening, such as designation of national bird. SCO-SOC has been trying to support name change of Gray Jay to Canada Jay and has provided some support to designate Canada Jay as our national bird.

Membership / Adhésion: Membership drive still in full swing. Barber has been assembling a university mailing list to target new members. Otter – asks membership to please help distribute posters so we can get memberships up. Otter describes situation last year where potential donor wanted to make donation without having to be a member and was unable to do so. Foote and Whitaker worked hard to have a donation option setup on our website. Resulted in \$1000 donation. SCO-SOC is going to also register on the Canada Helps page. We will populate the site. Sends out e-receipts to donors and conducts charity to charity transfer at the end of the year. Both Canada Helps page and website will allow for targeted fund raising campaigns.

Motion: To accept president's report (moved by Mennill, seconded by Green)

4) Treasurer's Report / Rapport du Trésorier (Tremblay)

Attempted scamming of SCO-SOC at AOS meeting. Hackers got into Otter's account and sent Tremblay an email asking for a money transfer to support the current AOS conference. Tremblay thought suspicious and sought out face to face meeting with Otter. Scam averted. \$9000 increase in holdings owing Wolfville loan payment coming in. \$1000 loss stemming from NAOC in Washington. Essentially breaking even. To support IOC and NAOC, SCO-SOC had to simultaneously loan out \$26 000. Currently only \$15 000 available for further loans. Rest of money is in three staggered GICs. We need to start discussing loan for SCO-SOC meeting in Quebec.

Motion: To accept treasurer's report (moved by Dunn, seconded by Mitchell)

Motion: To accept results of 2017 financial audit (moved by Mennill, seconded by Koper)

5) Membership Secretary Report / Rapport du Secrétaire d'Adhésion (Otter on behalf of Whitaker)

Otter was able to attract several new lifetime members. Many past members renewed this year. There was an overall increase in membership. Bird – asks if there is an automatic renewal request that is sent out? Otter – yes. It is set up to be sent out at the end of the year and provide multiple reminders. Most members are from ON, AB, and BC. Asks membership to help SCO-SOC

achieve its goal of > 300 memberships by IOC. Green – asks how do we know who is already a member? Otter – have to ask Whitaker. Unknown – are we still in Flock? Otter – unsure. We need to look up.

Motion: To accept membership report (moved by Mitchell, seconded by Bird)

6) *Picoides* Editor's Report / Rapport de l'Éditeur de *Picoides* (Otter on behalf of Warnock)

Three issues are being consistently published per year now. Warnock always looking for submissions / content.

7) Committee Reports / Rapport du Comité (Barber)

Standing committees and executive positions / Les comités permanents et les postes de direction: Barber – Thanks extended to Foote for developing excellent online voting system. Thanks also extended to membership for voting. Tranquilla has completed her position as Council member. Tremblay is the new treasurer. Whitaker is the new membership secretary. Mitchell will be recording secretary for a second term. New Council members voted in include Dorothy Hill, Andy Horn, and Beth MacDougall-Shackleton.

Student Affairs Committee / Comité des Affaires Étrangères : Student affairs committee is essentially inactive. Please send suggestions for engaging students.

Student awards / Prix Étudiant and Professional Awards / Prix Professionnels: All information will be shared / announced after plenary tomorrow (August 05 2018).

Ornithological Council / Conseil Ornithologique (Otter): Newsletter (available online) submitted in lieu of report.

ACE-ECO (Tozer): Should be proud of the journal. As of 2016, 196 articles published since inception. Publishing on average 15 to 20 articles a year. ACE-ECO management committee comprised of Doug Tozer (chair), Nicola Koper, Jon McCracken, David Bradley, Richard Elliott, and Junior Tremblay. Impact factor has gone up since 2015. Committee trying to improve impact factor through social media, e.g., tweets about articles. Twitter seen as a tool to help raise the journal's profile. BSC is sending out links to articles/journal to members, friends and followers. Seeking ideas for special issues. Send ideas to Keith Hobson and Ryan Norris. Journal considering contacting specific researchers to encourage submission to special issues. Encourages members to submit their best work to the journal. Considering possibility of best student paper award. Still working on details. Co-Editors-in-Chief report that high quality papers are coming in. Management Committee also very pleased.

Motion: To officially recognize the work by Keith Hobson and Ryan Norris as well as management committee for all of their hard work for ACE-ECO (moved by Mennill, seconded by Mitchell)

Communication / la communication: Amélie Roberto-Charron has agreed to help with social media and communications for SCO-SOC. Details to come in following months.

8) Future meetings / Réunions Futures (Otter)

2018 meeting will be held in conjunction with IOC in Vancouver. 2019 meeting will be in Quebec City. 2020 meeting will be NAOC meeting in Vancouver. For 2021 have been approached by AOS for possible joint meeting in Canada. Still discussing. Host/Planning committee for IOC working hard. Possible partnership with Vancouver International Bird Festival. Right now IOC is tracking to be largest ornithology meeting ever. Canada has not hosted an IOC since 1981. Abstract submission and registration will be due in January.

9) Other business / Autres Affaires

No other business raised.

10) Adjournment / Ajournement

Motion: To adjourn meeting at 13:10 (moved by Roberto-Charron, seconded by Green).