



200 High St
Holyoke MA
01040

FEAWM
Full Membership Meeting
Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport
110 Airport Road
Westfield, MA 01085
Thursday, May 28, 2015
10:00am
Field Tour 11:00 am

Present: Ron Grzelak, SSA; Liz Dawson, US Fish & Wildlife Service; Monte Chandler, USDA-APHIS; Rob Lewis, FBI; Cathy Tenerowicz, VAMC; Joanne Guild, VAMC; Jeff Anliker, Program Director; John Collins, VAMC; Candice Christenson, VAMC; Mary Grasso, USDA Rural Development; John Desarro, ANGB; Sherry Walsh, VAMC (via telephone); Debbie Mercier, UMASS Student Intern -Webmaster

Members Regretted: Oreste Varela, SBA; Jon Niedzielski, USDA-FSA, Michael Walsh

1. Minutes:

- The minutes for 2/26/15 were approved – motion by Cathy Tenerowicz and seconded by Candice Christenson

2. Treasurers Report:

- Treasurer's Report given by Jeff Anliker
- Current balance in account is \$6,680.19
- Monthly Income from sponsors fees for the Awards Banquet
- The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously as presented

3. Brief Committee Updates:

Activities & Wellness:

- Report given by Sherry Walsh
- The picnic will be held at Nonotuck Park, Easthampton on June 14, 2015
- As of May 28th, no registrations have been received for the picnic
- Cathy to send out an All Employee Email at the VA publicizing the picnic
- Jeff to resend the picnic email to all agencies
- The VA Employees Association (VAEA) is unable to fund the money to purchase the meat for the picnic
- The Activities Committee to explore alternative funding
- Email Sherry Walsh with any suggestions

Awards:

- Committee report given by Ron Grzelak
- The awards banquet will be held at the Castle of Knights on September 21, 2015
- Scholarship Information has been sent out
- Ron has received one nomination to be considered, for an award, thus far
- Carmen Ortiz will be the speaker at the Awards Banquet
- To encourage attendance, Ron will send out Carmen Ortiz's bio
- Jeff reported thus far, there will be 5-7 exhibitors at the banquet
- Kathy Mullins has agreed to prepare the Awards Banquet Booklet this year

Education:

- Committee Report given by Cathy Tenerowicz.
- Scholarship packets were sent out
- Cathy has had 6-7 inquiries regarding the scholarships
- At this time planning is being done for a Retirement Seminar to possibly be held at Holyoke Community College on September 10th
- The estimated cost per participant would be \$60.00

Federal Relations:

- Committee Report given by John Collins
- John reported he is attending quarterly meetings
- Senator Warren & Keith Barnicle attending the Women's Health Clinic opening at the VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System

Pay and Benefits:

- Committee report given by Ronald Grzelak
- The Salary Council recommended the Locality Pay for Berkshire County
- There has been no news from OPM regarding the Locality Pay for Berkshire County
- Ron has and will continue to follow up with OPM regarding this
- Ron stated it is time to start another proposal to be presented in the fall of 2015

Website/Public Relations:

- Committee report given by Jeff Anliker and Debbie Mercier
- Jeff introduced Debbie Mercier, UMASS Amherst Intern who will be the new Webmaster as Alex Sachetti has stepped down from this position
- Debbie has established a Twitter Account, updating Facebook and Website
- Information regarding the Picnic, Awards and Scholarships has been posted

COOP:

- Committee report given by Candi Christenson
- Candi has planned a mid- June call to plan an event for the fall
- The proposed time to hold the event will be after September

4. Vote Bylaws Revision:

- Jeff reviewed the 2015 FEAWM proposed Bylaws Changes
- Motion by Cathy Tenerowicz and seconded by Ron Grzelak to accept the proposed Bylaws Changes
- Motion approved unanimously to accept the Bylaws changes

5. Board Elections:

- There were 3 positions that were being elected
- The chair position on the board was up for election with 2 board member positions being up for re-election
- The secretary of the board cast a unanimous vote to accept the ballot as written
- A Vice chair of the board will be appointed in October, 2015 to fill the vacancy which was created by the current Vice Chair being elected Chair of the board
- Board chair signed 3 copies of the changed Bylaws
- Bylaws to be posted on the website

6. Other Business:

- None

7. Next Board/Committee Chair Meeting – June, 2015:

- 06/23/15 – 10:00am -FBI, Springfield, MA

8. Next Full Membership Meeting: - August, 2015

- 08/25/15-meeting place to be determined

9. Field Tour: Business Meeting was followed by a tour of the tower at Barnes Airport

The meeting adjourned at 11:05am

Recorder: Joanne Guild