

## **Friends of the Bluebirds Fall Meeting**

**October 23, 2016**

**Riverbank Discovery Centre, Brandon**

The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting of the Friends of the Bluebirds was held at the Riverbank Discovery Centre in Brandon on Sunday, October 23, 2016 with 43 Bluebirders in attendance.

Chairman Gord Hammell called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm and welcomed everyone.

**Agenda** had been previously emailed to everyone.

**MOTION:** GOULDEN, Herb/Sangster, Carole – that the agenda be approved as presented. CARRIED

**Minutes from** the spring meeting had been previously emailed to everyone.

**MOTION:** GOULDEN, Herb/Mather, Rhonda that the minutes be accepted as distributed. CARRIED

**Treasurer's Report** was given by Colleen Barclay. Bank balance is \$842.23.

**MOTION:** BARCLAY, Colleen/Gamache, Luc that the financial report be accepted as presented. CARRIED

**Line Report** – Ken Barclay. There is one line available south of Shilo with 35 houses. Ken took the houses down on the east side of Maple Leaf, being used by house sparrows and left the ones on the mile south, tree swallows using them.

**NABS Conference Report** – Ken Barclay This year's convention was held in Black Falls, AB, 150 people from US and Canada attended with 8 from the Brandon group. Excellent presentations which are on-line and can be accessed at [www.ellisbirdfarm.ca](http://www.ellisbirdfarm.ca). On the home page scroll down to Video Gallery, click and scroll down to NABS Conference 2016.

**Monitoring Data Report** - Luc Gamache Read list of members whose report he has received online. Please send again if not on list. This is Luc's last year for this position.

**Membership** – Linda Pearn reported on membership. Membership is 132 names, there are 79 unique line numbers, 37 are friends – no boxes and 8 have boxes for which they don't submit data

**Library Report** – Colleen Barclay – Magazines can be taken home and returned next meeting, books have a card and should be signed out.

**NABS Report** – Barry Danard There will be no conference next year, looking for someone to take on in 2018.

**Website Update** – Herb Goulden Stressed the importance of having the site up to date. Hired Pivotal Elements to update and revamp site, \$367.00. Linda Pearn and Jackie Dixon monitor, approving comments and pictures before posting.

We have renewed the web host and our domain name for three years, ending October 2019 at a cost of \$561.21. Applied for a grant from Manitoba Nature to cover these costs. There is a donated fund of \$100,000.00 at Nature Manitoba for Bluebird expenses. Herb encouraged members to use the web site, can post pictures on it. For assistance with posting contact Linda Pearn.

Will evaluate after 3 years period and decide if we want to continue and spend the cost.

**Logo** – Erica Alex

The spring newsletter is finished and there are 5 paper copies for those who have no computer.

*Window Decals* – received two quotes, Leech Printing being the lower one.

3” round logo -50 - \$35, 75 - \$45, 100 - \$55. 4” are \$50, 75 and 85 respectively. Consensus was to order 100 - 3” Logos from Leech Printing.

*Ball Cap* - \$18. each. Orders over 72 would reduce cost to \$13. each. Prepaid order basis. Colour to be grey. Order over the summer and have caps available at fall meeting. Contact Erica to order at [jjalex@mymts.net](mailto:jjalex@mymts.net).  
*Prefers cheque or cash to accompany orders.*

*Yahoo Group* – Suggestion that we have a Yahoo Group similar to the Manitobabirds group for ease of communication. Erica indicated she would be the moderator for the group and will see all messages and photos before posting.

Address to sign up on line is <https://ca.groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/mbbluebirds/info>

Once you have signed up address is [mbbluebirds@yahoo.com](mailto:mbbluebirds@yahoo.com). Messages posted on the site will show up in the email of everyone who has joined the group.

To post pictures need to create an album, click edit after to add your name in the description box.

Erica said she would send a report in the fall to Manitobabirds summarizing how the year went for Friends of the Bluebirds. Will start with how group was formed and provide a bit of history.

**Acopian Bird Savers** – Luc Gumache

Luc demonstrated how this style of bird window strike protection worked. Cord can be purchased from Stapleton's Great Adventure in SK. Can be made with plastic J channel. Luc found the aluminum brackets sturdier.

Stickers can be purchased at Preferred Perch in Winnipeg to help prevent window strikes.

Linda Pearn suggested panels of window screen can be hung in front of windows for protection.

Linda Boys uses white Tempera Paint, bought at Michael's and paints swirling diagonal lines on the windows. The paint is washable and comes off easily.

**Data Coordinator** - Linda Pearn offered to take on the role of Data Manager starting in 2017.

Membership Coordinator - Carole Sangster will look after membership.

**Lunch Coordinator** - The club is in need of a lunch coordinator to replace Marg Hammell who is retiring from that duty after many years. Would volunteers please contact Gord Hammell or Herb Goulden

**Guest Speaker** – Erica Alex

Erica gave an interesting talk titled *The Adventures of a Beginner Birder* accompanied by photos she has taken over the years.

**Adjourn** – Edith Parsons adjourned the meeting at 4:00 pm. Door Prizes were drawn for.

Everyone enjoyed Anniversary Cake and refreshments following the meeting.

**Spring Meeting** – April 23, 2017

Linda Boys, Secretary