

MidAtlantic Chapter SWS

2009 Annual Meeting

Madison, WI

Attendees: Andy Baldwin, Robert Brooks, Andy Cole, William Eustance, Pat Frost, Ellen Hartig, Amy Jacobs, Medha Kochhas, Albert McCullough, Pat Megonigal, Kurt Philipp, Anne Sergeant, Lenore Vasilas

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am, Amy welcomed everyone and introductions were made. Amy provided an overview of the activities that the Chapter organized and participated in over the past year.

Bylaw Proposed Changes – a motion was made to adopt the amendment to change the officer terms to 2 years. The motion was amended as follows:

The elected officers of the Chapter shall be a President, President-elect, and Treasurer. These officers, plus the immediate Past President, constitute the Executive Committee and are authorized to act on behalf of the Chapter during intervals between SWS International Annual meetings. The terms of office shall be one (2) years for the President-elect, President and Past President, and three years for the Treasurer who is elected every third year. The President-elect shall automatically become President for the 2 years following his or her term. A new President-elect will be elected every 2 years with the incumbent President-elect assuming the position of the President and the President assuming the position of the Past-President. Terms of all elected officers will commence and terminate at the SWS International Annual Meeting. At the SWS International Annual Meeting, the outgoing President or their designee shall attend the old board meeting and the incoming President or their designee shall attend the new board meeting. Nominations for office shall be solicited by the President and new officers shall be elected by a majority vote of members in good standing, conducted prior to the next SWS International Annual Meeting. Only active members in good standing shall be eligible for nomination for an elected office. Election shall be by electronic mail. The Vice-President shall certify the voting status of members and the results of the elections.

Following discussion the motion to amend the proposed changes to the by-laws was brought to vote and passed unanimously. The motion to amend the by-laws was brought to vote and passed unanimously.

A motion was made to amend the by-laws to allow voting on changes to the by-laws via the internet. The motion was discussed and then brought to vote and passed unanimously. The changes as amended are:

The Chapter bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members in good standing either attending the annual business meeting of the Chapter (which is held at the SWS International Annual meeting) or voting via the internet, provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been provided to the members at least 30 days prior to the date of the meeting.

Suggestions for new activities/ field tours/ support for members

Amy asked for suggestions for activities in the upcoming year. Lenore informed us that Frank is not planning to have the Wetlands and Watersheds Workshop this year so we need to plan another venue for our mid-year meeting. There was strong support for seeking out other organizations that we could partner with on a joint meeting. Options include Northeast Fish and Wildlife Chapter, Northeast Ecology Student event, Society of Ecological Restoration, Atlantic Estuarine Research Society. In addition to the business meeting we would organize a wetland section at the meeting.

Albert and Andy suggested having a field trip on freshwater tidal wetlands. Possible locations included Jug Bay on the Patuxent with Greg Kerns or in Denton on the Choptank River. Lenore mentioned that MAPS is having a field tour in New Jersey in the fall. We are also considering another delineation field training in the fall.

8:55 Adjourned