

2010 Board Meeting

Minutes: March 28, 2010

- 1. Welcome and Introductions: Board members Lori Mckean, Ken Myett, Brad Orey, Barbara Butler and Kathleen Lester are present. Valerie Freer is excused.
- 2. Distribution of Marketing Plan: Lori McKean distributed a marketing plan completed by a team of Georgetown University business students as a class project. Some discussion followed but since this was the first time seeing the document board members requested that an electronic version be emailed to them for review and for discussion at the next board meeting.
- 3. Discussion about emails: At present the email address is eagleinstitute@yahoo.com which provides access for only one user. Board recommendation that a new address, such as info@eagleinstitute.com or boardmembername@eagleinstitute.com added so that more than one person has access and can assist with the email overload.
- 4. Extend visitor/program season: Board discussion about extending the visitor/program season beyond winter to address growing interest and need in eagle breeding season. All agreed to first read marketing report and bring ideas to next meeting.
- 5. Banded Eagle Info: Ken Myett will pursue options for how to make information about banded eagles more available to the public. For example, there is interest when banded birds are spotted as to where they came from, etc. Will look at web site and Eagle Watch message board as options and will report at next meeting.
- 6. Rio Reservoir and Plank Road: These areas continued to be safety issues this past winter. Eagle Institute paid Kathy Michell, wildlife technician, to assist with education and enforcement of restricted areas and to address safety hazards when NY DEC did not have the funds to do so. Ken Myett and Brad Orey agreed that when they were volunteering at those locations, Kathy Michell is an absolute asset to the visitor and the organization. Ken and Lori McKean will set up an appointment with DEC officials to discuss safety issues and funding the position at Rio.
- 7. Lackawaxen River: The towpath along the Lackawaxen continues to pose safety threats to visitors and disturbance issues for eagles. For the most part, visitors complied with the new "No Stopping" signs posted by the Township. The board agreed that a meeting with PA state police to alert them to our concerns would be a good idea. Katie Lester will set up. May invite Lackawaxen River Conservancy along to discuss mutual concerns.
- 8. Payment for DEC monitor Scott Rando: After discussing concerns regarding Scott's actions the board agreed they did not want Scott representing the EI to public and do not want to pay him for the services he provides on behalf of NYS DEC. Brad made the motion; Katie seconded, all agreed.
- 9. Contributions to other organizations: The Board authorized supporting memberships for organizations whose missions are aligned with EI.
- 10. Scientific study: There is some interest in pursuing a scientific study that would determine the capacity of the eagle habitat area, particularly with regard to wintering vs. nesting populations. Lori McKean agreed to look into regional colleges to see if a student could undertake as part of

- their studies. Funding would need to be sought to support the research. Lori will bring info to next meeting.
- 11. Treasurer's Report: The 2009 Form 990 was circulated for all to review. No questions were raised.
- 12. Next meeting: The board agreed to increase meetings to 2X annually. A Fall 2010 meeting will be planned.
- 13. Meeting adjourned and all attended the annual Volunteer Recognition program immediately following the board meeting.