

DRAFT MINUTES EXCO Annual Meeting
34th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Seabird Group, Asilomar Conference Center
Pacific Grove California, 7-11 February 2007

PSG EXCO AGENDA – Asilomar, California Wednesday 7 February 2007

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Katie O'Reilly, Chair, called the Executive Council meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Executive Council present: Katie O'Reilly, Chair, Dan Robinette, So. California Representative, Vivian Mendenhall, Editor Pacific Seabirds, Don Lyons, Washington-Oregon Representative, Robert Day, Past Chair, Ken Morgan, Canada Representative, Ron LeValley, Treasurer, Craig Harrison, Vice-Chair Conservation, Jo Smith, Student Representative, Verena Gill, Chair Elect, and Melanie Steinkamp, non-Pacific USA Representative.

Executive Council absent: Ron Ydenberg, resigned as Secretary as of 1 February 2007: no proxy given and thus no vote—(the Secretary-elect, Mark Hipfner, was unable to attend), Shiway Wang, Alaska Representative, proxy given to Verena Gill, (Shiway joined us later), Linda Elliot, Hawaii-Pacific Rim Representative, (no proxy no vote), Mark Tasker, Old World, (no proxy no vote), Esther Burkett (proxy given to Dan Robinette).

Other members present: Kim Nelson, Malcolm Coulter, Corresponding members' Committee, Doug Forsell, PSG Representative to Ornithological Council, Dan Roby, Louise Blight, Pat Baird, Elections Chair and acting Secretary, and Lora Leschner.

Temporary Executive Council present (no votes): Pat Baird appointed acting secretary (with the aid of Lora Leschner).

2. Approval of the Agenda

*Motion: Accept Agenda for 7 February 2007 Executive Council Meeting:
Moved by Craig Harrison to accept agenda for 7 February 2007 ExCo meeting
Seconded by Ken Morgan
Motion passed unanimously*

3. Approval of Minutes from 2006 EXCO Summer Meeting

The Minutes of the 2006 EXCO Summer call are attached **(Attachment 1)**
Refer to attachment 1

*Motion: Approve Minutes of summer 2006 tele-meeting
Moved by Bob Day to approve Minutes of summer 2006 tele-meeting
Seconded by Craig Harrison
Motion passed unanimously*

4. New business: (Attachment 2)

1. Find someone to write Lifetime Achievement Award statements for Ed Melvin and Mike Harris
2. Pat Baird, as acting Secretary, will finish a summary of the minutes for *Pacific Seabirds*
3. Finalize Semiahmoo dates for 2008
4. Attachments 8 & 9 moved to 1530 (Treasurer and Trustees Endowment reports)

4. Business Arising –Katie O'Reilly. Chair PSG (Attachment 2)

The Chair circulated a Work Plan listing last year's action items, and described the progress made.

The 2006 Work Plan was evaluated and Katie stated that all Action Items have been addressed from Girdwood meeting or are continuing.

1. Items for Annual Meeting were sent out.
2. **Action item from last year--** There was discussion about suspending mailing hard copies of *Pacific Seabirds* and to develop a policy that moves us towards all-electronic publishing.

Action Item: Send out a notice to all members that Pacific Seabirds will cease to exist as a hard copy except for people who request it, starting after the 2008 volume. This message will be highlighted on the Listserve and will also go into Pacific Seabirds twice (through Volume 35 2008) before suspension.

5. Officer Reports

Reports from Chair, Past-Chair, and Chair-Elect (Attachments 3, 4, 5)
Condensed versions will be published in *Pacific Seabirds*.

Report from past chair— Bob Day-- Refer to Attachment 4

The activities of the Past-Chair were primarily in the capacity as Chair of PSG's Awards Committee (which includes the Past-Chair (Bob Day), the Chair (Katie O'Reilly), and the Chair-Elect (Verena Gill). Other activities included coordinating Achievement Awards, Student Paper Awards, and upcoming meetings as well as spearheading Travel Awards. Details are in Attachment 4.

Discussed methods of distributing travel funds: decided to give a little funding to more students instead of large amounts to fewer. There were 19 student posters and 29 student papers (30% of all presentations).

The issue of the travel fund award was resolved at the summer ExCo meeting.

Action Item: Get this information into the Handbook (Incoming Past Chair Katie O'Reilly).

Action Item: In the application form to submit papers on the Web, there will be verbiage that recipients of student awards have to present a paper or poster and they must be the 1st author.

Jo Smith (Student Representative) proposed the need for reviewers of student papers and posters to give feedback to students re: why they got a good or bad score so that there is a transfer of knowledge from us to them. A compilation will be sent to students re: comments on their presentation as well as their own score.

Action Item: Post a link to PSG's Handbook, (that lists criteria for papers and posters), on the website page where one submits abstracts to the meetings.

Report from Chair Katie O'Reilly --Refer to Attachment 3

There was discussion on how to get people to attend the Business Meeting.

Report from Chair-Elect Verena Gill-- Attachment 5

Refer to Attachment 5 for details.

Discussion to move up the abstract deadline to October. There was a problem with people not being able to get visas by the 15 December deadline.

Action Item: Change the deadline for abstract and travel awards to 4 months in advance of the meeting. Add this information to the Handbook.

Discussion on needing a range of dates e.g. abstracts, awards, and the final date for early registration one month later. Suggestion to have a two-tier registration for government people

6. Report from Chairs of the Organizing Committee

Jim Harvey / Hannah Nevins / Lisa Wertz

We have 275-280 registrants here. Discussion on whether or not Asilomar is the best place for this size of group—re: concurrent sessions especially.

Room count = don't have it yet

GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION, AND PLANNING

7. Report from Elections Committee--Pat Baird, Chair (Attachment 6)

Electronic ballot—this worked really well, especially since people could not vote for Representatives outside of their region—thanks to Ron LeValley for spearheading this method. A few ballots came through with no votes (about 3). There was still not a huge voter turnout. We need multiple candidates to have a larger turnout.

A few hard copies still came in, some with votes for everyone, and no name on the envelope and/or unreadable mail frank to determine what region they were from. These were not counted.

We need to improve the ease of finding nominees for offices: every ExCo member needs to find people to replace or run against him/her and to find potential chairs for the Futures Folder. This way we will ensure more than one candidate per position as well as drum up interest in the ExCo and let others see how the whole thing runs. Try to get some people from a younger cohort than most of us.

Chair-Elect: Doug Bertram, Vice-Chair Conservation: Craig Harrison, Secretary: Mark Hipfner, Regional Representatives: Canada-Ken Morgan, Southern California-Dan Robinette, Washington-Oregon-Don Lyons, Non-Pacific U.S.-Melanie Steinkamp.

8. Future meetings and dates

The 35th Annual Meeting will be at the Semi Ah Moo Resort, Blaine Washington, February 27 to March 2, 2008. Tom Good will be the Local Chair. George Divoky, Lora Leschner and Julia Parrish will be on the Local Organizing Committee. They will work with Doug Bertram re: themes and associated plenaries.

Rooms: \$109 for water view and \$99 for parking lot view. No comped rooms. Still working to include the American Plan--like Asilomar's (all meals included).

Action Item from 2006: Use OSU as our registering group for meetings--done.

Question--are we saving money by using OSU as registration? Answer: Yes, plus we gain in efficiency by using them. They take a 4% fee for credit card billing, so build that cost into the Annual Meeting's budget.

Action Item: to work with OSU to see if they will continue to do our registration for us

Action Item: For future meetings: use colored name tags or something to distinguish the ExCo and students from other members.

There was some discussion on when PSG usually meets and our inability to satisfy these times for all seabird scientists and managers (e.g. southern hemisphere/northern hemisphere issues).

Doug Forsell: There was a resolution 15 yrs ago that January should be the main time to meet because it fell on semester break for students for the first 15 yrs of PSG. Late February conflicts with flyway meetings and with sea duck biologists' research.

Brief discussion on upcoming meetings, including the special meeting in Taiwan—not an Annual Meeting (see below). Other meetings proposed are: 36th: Hokkaido, Japan, February 2009, Yutaka Watanuki Local Chair; 37th: Long Beach California January 2010 – maybe Nina Karnovsky on Local Committee; and 38th: Vancouver B.C. October 2010 Louise Blight & Jo Smith co-chairs, with no meeting 2011. Possible meeting 2012 western Mexico.

We thought that the proposed meeting in Vancouver in 2010 should dovetail with the World Seabird Conference: preferred months: late September/early October (best for southern hemisphere people).

Discussion ensued re: number of expected attendees (600) and themes and symposia:
Examples:

- Global status and assessment of seabirds similar to the one in 1984
- Impacts of climate change
- Bycatch
- Invasive species

Another issue for the 2010 Vancouver meeting: Raising money for it—we would need \$50-100,000.

Action Item: ask the Sea Duck Joint Venture (meeting in Québec 2008) if they would want to help financially.

Discussion on dividing up duties for the Scientific Program if we joined the World Seabird Conference—would the organizers of the Conference be in charge of this or would PSG have some input?

Products of meeting: published proceedings and global seabird-colony database.

Discussion ensued on meeting with the Waterbird Society again and perhaps scheduling a

meeting on the east coast. Another alternative would be to tie this in with the Mexico meeting in 2012.

Details on Taiwan meeting: 4-7 October 2007 (Thursday thru Sunday), with field trips on Thursday the 4th and Monday-Friday the 8th – 12th. Ron Ydenberg is spearheading this, with the help of Rob Butler.

Location: west coast of Taiwan in a suburb of Lugang.
Stay *gratis* at the Landmark Leader hotel (Taiwan government pays for stay there).

Malcolm Coulter, Ken Morgan, Mark Tasker, and Bob Day are on the organizing committee, and Tony Gaston is head of the Scientific Program.

Twenty-seven people will be brought in as invited and plenary speakers.

Details will be on the PSG Website (www.pacificseabirds2007.com) and Listserve and a special issue of *Marine Ornithology* will be published.

9. PSG 2020 Long-Range Planning Committee Report (Attachment 7)
Lisa Balance, Chair

There was discussion on how to serve the mission statement better. Refer to Attachment 7 re: questionnaire and what sorts of things to add to it (e.g. the reorganization of regional representatives). Attachment 7 includes the 2020 questionnaire for members.

Action Item: The ExCo needs to look at this questionnaire and give them feedback.

FINANCIAL AND MEMBERSHIP ISSUES

10. Report from the Treasurer Ron LeValley. (Attachment 8)

Refer to Attachment 8. (N.B. We are 5 months into the budget and we haven't approved it yet. Ron will send Katie O'Reilly, Chair, an updated budget to be part of the final Minutes).

Discussion on membership payments and meeting registration using credit cards. Also, discussion of the definition of what a member is. Membership currently runs from beginning of our fiscal year (1 October) till its end (30 September): an Annual fiscal-year membership, not a calendar-year membership. Discussion to change to a calendar-year membership.

Action Item Ron LeValley will add to the web site that membership runs from January to December (i.e. calendar-year membership).

We have made the decision to close our UK bank account because the only person who can sign checks is Breck Tyler. We may close the Canadian account too and use only online payment for meetings and publications.

More discussion on Chubb Insurance costs as well as income from the general meeting.

Typo in Attachment 8: In table depicting "Expenses," under 2006-2007 column, "13454" should be "1354."

Discussion on saving money from low cost of publishing *Marine Ornithology*. Refer to Attachment 8.

Discussion on filing taxes from successful meetings. Thus, Annual Meetings should be included in PSG's financial considerations.

Bob Day suggested that \$200-\$250 needs to be budgeted for award plaques each year, and he suggested giving some kind of prize to students for Student Awards (e.g. a book). He suggested that we also need to budget \$1500 a year for each Lifetime Achievement Award and Special Achievement Award. We may not spend it, but at least it is on the books as an expense for which we should be prepared.

The Morgan Stanley account remains open with about \$25,000. Discussion about closing it and putting some of the money in (~\$10,000) into the Conservation Fund and the rest (~\$15,000) into the Endowment Fund (see below). Travel funds for "foreign" students (i.e. non-U.S. non-Canada) come from Annual Meeting income. The Endowment Fund is only for publications.

Motion: move \$10,000 from the Morgan Stanley account to the new Conservation Fund

Moved Ron LeValley

Seconded Dan Robinette

Motion passed unanimously

Motion: Put the remainder of the Morgan Stanley funds into the Endowment Fund

Moved Bob Day

Seconded Ken Morgan

Motion passed unanimously

More discussion relating to miscellaneous items about web site:

Action item: Put a page on the website for deceased members and their contributions to PSG and to marine bird science

Action item: Put means of donating to PSG via pay pal on the website

11. Report from Trustees of Endowment Fund: Ron LeValley, Chair **(Attachment 9)**
Refer to Attachment 9.

12. Report from Corresponding Membership Committee: Malcolm Coulter, Chair **(Attachment 10)**

The Honorary Membership category was considered by 2020 Committee, and we will decide this later. John Cooper has been made a Corresponding Member. At this time, we have a limit on the number of Corresponding Members.

Malcolm listed the six various Corresponding Members and their countries. Eight is the maximum allowed under the Bylaws. This number was set up at the San Diego meeting. Thus, we have only two positions left for Corresponding Members. Malcolm proposes increasing it from 8 to 12

Comment: Should we set the number of Corresponding members as a certain percentage of all membership?—Bob Day

Comment: It is to our advantage to have these members—they are doing something for us and it is no cost to us. We mail *Pacific Seabirds* to them twice a year. —Malcolm Coulter.

Comment: There should be criteria for rejecting Corresponding Members --drop people who don't file reports.--Malcolm Coulter.

Comment: Do you envision a time limit for filing reports by these people? They are disseminating info from PSG into their country, which is a positive thing. Discussion.

Motion: Increase the number of Corresponding Members to 12
Moved by Craig Harrison
Secoded by Bob Day
Motion passed unanimously

It is not worthwhile rewriting the Bylaws just to increase the number of corresponding members. Next time we rewrite the Bylaws we will incorporate these changes.

Result: **Pending Action Item till we rewrite Bylaws**

Action Item-- Secretary will keep a list of the proposed Bylaw changes

CONSERVATION ISSUES

Action Item from 2006: Debate on Brown Pelican issue is the Plenary Session on Friday.

14. Proposed PSG Conservation Small-Grant Program (Attachment 11) Bob Day and Craig Harrison

Long discussion ensued on eligibility for the grant (i.e., researchers from an ineligible country working with people from an eligible country; applicant for grant not actually doing work etc.). Need PI from the eligible country (leveraging money from within that country etc.).

Discussion on training people who have never worked on a seabird colony before.

Grant is for conservation, not research. Discussion on assessing project to see if the grant will make the difference between a good project's happening or not.

PSG wants to support conservation actions in countries that don't have much conservation effort and monetary support themselves for seabirds, and to emphasize work in places where work is not occurring already.

Much discussion about:

- Spirit of donation—rework verbiage so spirit is captured
- Background & objectives
- Not limiting amounts (and getting matching funds)
- Encouraging people to apply

Here are the proposed objectives:

OBJECTIVES: "The objective of the Conservation Small Grant Program is to advance the conservation and restoration of seabirds by providing funds or supplies to scientists (student or non-student) for conservation actions in countries in the Pacific for conservation action. Emphasis is on restoration and protection of Seabird populations."

Action Item—Review this and rewrite objectives. Clarify eligibility. Have this up and running by 1 April 2007.

Action Item--Ron LeValley will put money into the Conservation Fund account from the Money Market fund which will be closed. Amount to be determined (suggested: \$10,000)

Action Item--Put a link to the Conservation Fund on the Website and put the information on the Listserve to get the word out.

Exclusion of countries: Taiwan and South Korea?

Motion: Form a committee for the Conservation Fund with Bob Day as Chair, and additional members Doug Forsell, Craig Harrison, Ken Morgan, and Malcolm Coulter

Moved by Ron LeValley

Seconded by Verena Gill

Motion passed unanimously

Discussion on means to earn additional money for this fund—e.g. need to have a line item on Silent Auction form to give money to small grants program--Jo Smith

14. Report from Vice-Chair for Conservation (Attachment 12)--Craig Harrison

Information enclosed in Attachment 12.

Let Craig know if you know of conservation issues that need to be addressed.

15. Report from Marbled Murrelet Technical Committee (Attachment 13)--

Danielle Prenslow Escene Coordinator

Discussion about different populations of Marbled Murrelets. Information contained in Attachment 13.

The committee asked the USFWS to reconsider exclusions and to consider the species range-wide, rather than excluding specific populations, (e.g. Alaska).

Action item from the Girdwood meeting: John Piatt was to collect status assessment for Alaska and BC. He found dramatic population declines.

16. Report from Xantus's Murrelet Technical Committee (Attachment 14)

Bradd Keitt & Shaye Wolf, Co-Chairs

1. There has been no change in their status: California State lists them as threatened and the Federal government has put them on the Candidate list. See Attachment 14

Action Item –Add: "to coordinate research & conservation in US and Mexico" to

the Xantus' Murrelet Technical Committee mandate

2. Discussion Re: the Oil spill letter written about Xantus' Murrelet:

- a. PSG's Public policy: write one official letter about any issue.
Only the ExCo creates and sends the letter (apparently there was an official PSG letter as well as others from individuals, and these contradicted each other in part). Policy: do not write two letters that contradict each other.
- b. If officers don't agree on the wording, the issue then goes to the whole ExCo
- c. Delete sentence last paragraph in Attachment 14—signing onto an additional letter that recommends "...greater support for money and restoration efforts to benefit Xantus Murrelet..."

3. Bradd Keitt stepped down as Co-Chair
Need to appoint new Co-Chair

*Motion: Melinda Nakagawa be appointed as new co-chair of Xantus' Murrelet Technical Committee
Moved by Ron LeValley
Seconded by Dan Robinette
Motion passed unanimously*

17. Report from Loon/Grebe Technical Committee--Joel Schmutz Chair
(Attachment 15) Joel was not present.

18. Report from Seabird Monitoring Committee (Attachment 16)--Scott Hatch Chair.

The Pacific Seabird Monitoring Database has been launched but will not be up on the Internet until security concerns can be addressed. It contains "2,700 serious records" and "18,000 other older records." These latter will be certified and then published.

Discussion ensued about the World Seabird Conference and tying it into the monitoring database (e.g. updating Vermeer et al. 1994 Seabird Ecology) and noting that birds don't observe artificial boundaries by which we often group them. Recommendation: take a species-account approach.

Discussion ensued re: a perceived cultural difference Europe and USA data sharing model

19. Report from Japan Seabird Conservation Committee (Attachment 17)--
Motohiro Ito, Chair.

Attachment 17 doesn't include information on other research except Watanuke's lab (e.g. Toroshima Hsaegawa's work on albatrosses)—apparently half of the report is missing.

Discussion ensued re: the oil spill in Japan and the lack of coordination of the government agencies again re: clean up, as well as the government's low interest in seabirds. Suggestion that PSG play a role in this and advise them--perhaps pair with the industry of rehabilitators for oiled wildlife.

Because the 2009 PSG meeting will be in Japan, PSG will work with the media there ahead of time to showcase interest in seabirds. Various people's names were suggested to help out with this.

Review PSG's relationship with Japanese conservation committee—Lisa Ballance

Discussion re: Appointing replacement chair for co-chairs John Fries and Koji Ono who have resigned. Motohiro Ito is suggested as the new Chair.

Motion: Appoint Motohiro Ito as new Chair for Japanese Conservation Committee

Moved-- Dan Robinette

Seconded- Ken Morgan

Motion passed unanimously

20. Report from Mexico Seabird Conservation Committee—Xico Vega, Chair (No Attachment because no response)

Xico was not present, nor were any other Mexican Seabird Conservation Committee members.

There has been no contact with this committee this past year. Xico Vega is Chair

Discussion re: What are they doing and should they disband?

Bob Day suggests making this an "inactive committee" because the goals and structure are already in place for this committee. Discussion ensued. Ideas of others to be Chair (Eduardo Palacios and Eric Mellink were suggested)

Action Item for Melanie Steinkamp and Pat Baird to follow up with Xico for the Mexican Seabird Committee. Pat Baird has already done this: IM and email and phone as of 2/14/07 and again 2/21/07 via email—no response.

PUBLICATION/COMMUNICATION ISSUES

21. Report from Editor of *Pacific Seabirds*--- Vivian Mendenhall (Attachment 19)

April 15 is the deadline for the spring issue. Digital photographs of projects would be appreciated.

22. Report from Managing Editor, *Marine Ornithology*--Tony Gaston (not present) (Attachment 20)

Tony is thinking of retiring in 3 or 4 years and will step down as Managing Editor.

Discussion re: needing a year or two overlap to train new Managing Editor.

Discussion re: mentioning vacancy at Annual Meetings, how to evaluate replacements, defining the term of an editor, improving visibility of *Marine Ornithology* on the web. It currently is not on IC Web of Science because the journal has to be current and we are more than a year behind. Apparently, we will be current soon.

Thanks to Tony for doing a great volunteer job and keeping our subsidy costs down quite well.

Action Item: Get current with *Marine Ornithology* so we can get on IC website by 2008.

Suggestion: Find more Associate Editors to help him get caught up—ask him what he needs. Louise Blight will contact Tony re: advertising and Jo Smith will contact him about the web.

We need a detailed budget for 2007 support for Marine Ornithology (not in Attachment 20).

Action Item from 2006: Thank-you letter to John Cooper-- done

Action Item from 2006: add guidelines for symposia-- done

23. Report from of Publications Committee--Pat Jodice, Chair (Attachment 21)

Request from David Ainley for publication assistance for \$5000 for his and Larry Spear's monograph in Studies in Avian Biology. Chair of Publications Committee supports request.

Publication Funds, however, come from the Endowment, and it is the intent of the Bylaws to only support in-house publications, e.g. *Marine Ornithology*. Institutionally we need to support *Marine Ornithology* and meet PSG's long term goals and Mission Statement to disseminate information about seabirds.

Discussion—re: Ainley's request, delays in publication of *Marine Ornithology*, putting others' publications on our website, PSG's policy of only supporting our own publications, etc.

Action Item—Need a change in the Bylaws under Endowment, to clarify that "publications" means *Marine Ornithology* or other PSG-sponsored publications (e.g., some sort of monograph).

Motion: Take \$ 5,000 out of PSG's money market fund for page charges for the Ainley-Spear monograph for publication in Studies in Avian Biology

Friendly amendment: provided the PSG gets appropriate credit in Studies in Avian Biology

***Moved Ron LeValley
Seconded Vivian Mendenhall
Motion failed 5-6-0***

Motion: Any funding needs for a publication must be submitted to PSG before the author submits the manuscript for publication in any other journal

***Moved Ken Morgan
Seconded Dan Robinette
Motion passed unanimously***

Motion: Offer Ainley to fund the monograph fully if it is published in Marine Ornithology

Moved by Verena Gill

Seconded Craig Harrison

Motion passed 9-1-0

Action Item-- We should have a means to publish monographs. We don't have a monograph-capable series at this point.

Action Item for Publications Committee: Find a better method to inform people that PSG supports publications only in Marine Ornithology.

24. Report from PSG Webmaster --Lisa Balance. (Attachment 22)

Talk to Lisa if you need clarification about anything on the website

Action Item-Update password. Lisa Ballance will do this.

Action Item--Update membership information at end of meeting. Ron LeValley will do this.

25. Discussion of List Serve issues--Verena Gill, Administrator.

Re: Listserve: We like the list of "new publications" that comes out at regular intervals. Verena will post "what's new at PSG" every 3 or so months on the Listserve. This is a closed list—if you try to send out emails from an email address other than the one that is recorded for you on the Listserve, it will not be accepted or sent out by the Listserve.

STUDENT ISSUES

26. Report from Student Representative--Jo Smith (Attachment 23)

Discussion of Student Questionnaire that was sent out. Most important information needed from the questionnaire was: does PSG retain student membership once they graduate? Analysis made from 2003 cohort from Sheila Bucknell's complete list of students and emails.

More M.S. students are retained as PSG members (these usually go to Agencies), whereas more Ph.D. students leave PSG because they often go to universities which may be away from the Pacific Rim (and thus from what is perceived to be PSG-related issues).

Action Item: Jo Smith will follow up from the Girdwood meeting about this question of what is our annual attrition rate.

50-100 students are here at this meeting, with a good number of from Europe.

Action Item: Name tags for students at meetings should be different—this action item was addressed above.

Action Item: Add definition of "student" to PSG Handbook and in the OSU registration link so that students can check to see if they can receive the student registration rate. (Assigned to Shiway Wang and Dan Roby)

Action Item: Ron LeValley will put this definition in the annual membership mailings.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ISSUES

27. Open Data Access Q and A with Falk Huettmann (Attachment 24)

Discussion ensued re: pros and cons of data sharing: misinterpretation of data (i.e.: others' reporting your data with a wrong analysis) central data storage, a global-change national directory, standards and data pirates. See Attachment 24 for more explanation.

Discussion re: the difference between FOIA and data sharing

Question: Are people interested in forming a task force or pursuing it? No—thus no motion.

Conclusion: We already have an informal method of data sharing. Falk's idea needs to be fleshed out in more detail and in a more concise format, the way we summarized the small Conservation Grants Program.

If anyone wants to join Falk in this discussion to pursue the idea of task force on these issues, contact Katie or Falk. Consensus to discuss finer details in a smaller group.

28. Report from Special Awards Subcommittee--George Divoky, Coordinator.

Composed of former and current chairs—incoming and outgoing. Starting in 2008 it will be organized by the most recent Outgoing Chair. We need to come up with more nominees. Non-Chairs can submit names too. ExCo has final approval of nominees.

You may send your nomination to "soon-to-be-former chair" with your reasons of why you are nominating this person. You can also send names to all the chairs: chair, chair-elect and past chair (the awards committee).

Input from 2020 Committee is needed also for nominations.

For each awardee, we need a point person to create the write up and/or to introduce awardees. In the past it was the person who nominated awardee. Thus, when you nominate someone, you should you be willing to do this.

29. Report from Representatives to Ornithological Council--Doug Forsell and Scott Newman. (Attachment 25)

Doug Forsell presented

Discussion on Ornithological Council's role in: permits, animal welfare (translating "Use of Wild Birds in Research" into Spanish and perhaps into French & Portuguese too- see p. 34 in attachment 25), and their website, BirdNet.

Proposal to raise dues for Ornithological Council from \$500 to \$1000. PSG has the lowest

cost per member of any contributing society (\$1.00), except for Raptor Research Fund. Discussion on fixed donation vs. donation per member (e.g. raising the contribution to \$1.50 per person would make the total \$700).

Discussion ensued re: how PSG gets more out of the OC than perhaps other groups, and questions of whether the Council is focused on the U.S., do we have money in the budget to increase our donation, and how is PSG's low contribution viewed? Discussion on how OC fits into the goals of the PSG. Discussion if we might transfer funds from *Marine Ornithology* dues.

Refer to Attachment 25 for comparison table of contributions.

Action Item: TABLED re: increasing our contribution. We have to approve a budget first.

Ron LeValley needs to have new ideas about proposed new contributions 3-4 months in advance of the Annual Meeting.

Motion: Donate up to \$1000 to Ornithological Council dues once the FY 2007 budget is approved.

Moved by Verena Gill

Seconded by Ron LeValley

Motion passed 8-3-0

30. Report from Representative to IUCN--Craig Harrison. (Attachment 26)

Please see attachment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15