

Wildlife Rehabilitators Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes – 1/23/13  
Division of Fish and Wildlife, Central Region Office, Robbinsville NJ

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**WRAC Purpose:** The purpose of the WRAC is to provide advice and assistance to the Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to improve the wildlife rehabilitation program and the care that is provided to injured and orphaned wildlife.

Attendees: Don Bonica, Phil Brodhecker, Lisa DeLambert, Tracy Leaver, Dr. Erica Miller, Paulette Nelson\*, Diane Nickerson, Sue Predl\*, Hardy Wiedemann\*

\*Division of Fish and Wildlife

- Motion to approve previous meetings' minutes (with second page correction) : T. Leaver and seconded by D. Bonica.
- Cathy Blumig will serve as an alternate for P. Brodhecker for meetings that he is not able to attend.
- **Open positions:**
  1. Tracy Leaver – Mammal position – expires
  2. Erica Miller – Endangered and Nongame Advisory Committee (ENSAC) position – expires
  3. Harriet Forrester – Reptile position – expires
  4. Vacant – Veterinarian position

Other rehabilitators will be made aware of open positions. 30 days to submit their resumes / letters of interest. Recruitment letter to be sent by DFW by 1/28/13

Possible letter to NJ Department of Agriculture's list of veterinarians to provide information about open position and solicit interest via Joanne Lontz - NJ Dept. of Agriculture.

Additional Avian Position: WRAC makes a recommendation to DFW that an additional Avian position be added to the WRAC Committee.

**Motion:** K. Simonetti stays as Chair Person for another year. Brought by D. Nickerson and seconded by P. Brodhecker, passes unanimously.

- **Meeting Schedule 2013**

WRAC will continue to have meetings every 60 days for the next year, every odd month and on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of that month.

Tentative Meeting Schedule:  
3/27 – Northern Region Office  
5/22 – Central Region Office  
7/24 – Northern Region Office  
9/25 – Central Region Office

11/27 – Northern Region Office

- **Letter to Senators:**

With one minor change the letter is approved by the committee and will be sent to Senators.  
(Motion by K. Simonetti and seconded by T. Leaver)

DFW will create a letterhead for WRAC correspondence.

- **Exceptions to 200-hour-rule when adding species to permit**

The efforts to define animal classifications are ongoing. New classifications will be emailed to officers before next meeting.

- **Questions and Comments from other Rehabilitators who are not present**

Letters will be sent out in response to inquiries that were submitted to WRAC.

- **Division Update**

Division informs WRAC that since the last meeting one Sussex County rehab facility was inspected.

Several annual reports / renewal applications have been received by the Division

**Motion:** Only Rehabilitators who are current on permit renewals can be published on the list found on the DFW website. Rehabilitators who are not current with permit renewal applications will be added when paperwork is received. (T. Leaver, seconded by K. Simonetti and D. Nickerson)

- **Storm Damage Resources**

**Action Item:** E. Miller will draft intro and description of resources available during times of disaster and DFW will send information out to licensed Rehabilitators.

- **Stimulating New Rehabilitators**

WRAC recommends that Division showcase resources and committees such as Wildlife Rehabilitators Advisory Committee and the functions they perform, including but not limited to: what to do with injured and orphaned wildlife and information for prospective rehabilitators, at public events like the Outdoor Expo and the Pequest Open House

Adjourned: 12:06 pm