

**PENNSYLVANIA BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**2 June 2004**  
**PA Fish & Boat Commission Headquarters, Harrisburg, PA**

**Board Attendees:** Jacqui Bonomo, Tom Buzby, Michelle Cohen, Nick DiPasquale, Randy Gray, Cliff Jones, Sally Just, Tom Kerr, K.C. Kim, Blaine Puller, Carl Richardson (for Tom Ford), Sue Thompson, Richard Whiteford. **Others:** Charles Bier, Frank Felbaum, Ken Klemow, Patricia Pingel, Ed Schroth  
**Excused:** Cal DuBrock, Paulette Johnson, Laurie Goodrich, Michael Hampton, Doug Kuntz, Andrew McElwaine, John Rawlins

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

At the request of the Pennsylvania Habitat Alliance, the PBP Board was asked to consider a series of Funding Principles which they developed. After some discussion and specific questions about wording, the consensus of the Board was to postpone any action until the Biodiversity Conservation Plan is further developed. Sue Thompson will relay this action along with specific comments to PHA.

Given the necessity to re-schedule this meeting, the planned July PBP Board meeting was re-scheduled for 28 September 2004 in Harrisburg. The conference to present the first draft of recommendations is planned for 9-10 November or 16-17 November. Thompson will work with the Public Relations Task Force to determine availability of a conference location in the Harrisburg area. The minutes of the 24 February 2004 meeting were approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Sue Thompson announced that effective 3 May 2004, Merewyn Boak was hired as the new PBP Executive Administrator. Thompson reported on various outreach and information gathering efforts, including focus groups, exhibits at conferences, and presentations. She distributed a word game based on state natural symbols that is in the beta testing stage. She also discussed a potential partnership with Eastern Research Group to assist in both writing a grant proposal and helping to develop an exhibit on biodiversity as part of the strategy to market the Biodiversity Conservation Plan.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Tom Kerr reported that PBP's finances were sufficient through most of 2005 and up to final production of the BCP. The Finance Subcommittee has not yet met.

**TASK FORCE, AGENCY, and PARTNERS REPORTS**

**Bioinformatics** – Chair Ken Klemow again discussed some issues with messages on PABIODIV and encouraged members to respond to any messages which they think are inaccurate or contain misinformation.

**Policy** – On behalf of the new task force chair Paul Lyskava, Tom Buzby presented two letters for approval, which support increased funding for the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Cliff Jones motioned that the letters be sent to the respective executive directors of the commission along with copies of PBP's 17 March 2003 letter to Governor Rendell (seconded by K.C. Kim; passed unanimously).

**Science** – Chair Charles Bier reported on the recent task force meeting at State College and requested feedback on their revisions to the issues document.

**Allegheny National Forest** – Thompson presented a proposal from Michael Hampton that PBP co-host a workshop in conjunction with the ANF Forest Plan Revision. After some discussion, the consensus was that being involved in such a workshop at this time would divert time away from the task of completing the BCP and that this request should be declined.

**Department of Conservation and Natural Resources** – Sally Just presented background on the Growing Greener II funding initiative and its present status and asked the PBP Board for a letter of support. After discussion, a motion was proposed (Cliff Jones moved; K.C. Kim, seconded) that PBP send a letter endorsing the concept of the program and to urge legislators to find suitable ways of funding it. The motion carried with one dissenting vote.

**Department of Environmental Protection** – Nick DiPasquale listed several legislative issues that the department is working on and also discussed DEP's position regarding the Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education (PCEE), which they view as primarily a funding issue. Secretary McGinty supports funding PCEE through the state education system as a line item rather than through the DEP budget.

**Fish and Boat Commission** – Carl Richardson announce a lobbying day for House Bill 2155 and also discussed a public survey on knowledge and attitudes funded by the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The results from Pennsylvania show that citizens support the idea of somebody looking out for natural resources.

*approved 28 September 2004*