

MEETING MINUTES

Sacramento Audubon Society

Board of Directors

Meeting Date/Time: Aug 28, 2018; 7:00p.m.

Approved Date: September 25, 2018

Location: Lemon Grass Cafe Meeting Room
601 Monroe St., Sacramento Ca. 95825

- I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order 7:00 pm
 - A. Roll Call: Board Members Present: Sally Walters, Bill Bianco, Jane Van Kessel, Elliot Chasin, Harriet Saeck, Diana Hickson, Rosalind Becker, Daphne Reimer, John Hulls, Grant Boice, Heather White.
 - B. Approval of Minutes: May 2018 Draft Board Meeting Minutes approved by consensus.

- II. Guests / Public Comment: Dan Airola provided information about purple martins in the Sacramento area. The species is declining: 12 colonies, 172 pairs when they started monitoring; this year 5 colonies w/ 28 pairs. Neonicotinoid pesticides thought to be the issue. Biggest current threat to purple martin: City of Sac (planning dept., public works dept.). City did two different EIRs for 59th St. area. The nests at 59th St project failed; abandoned due to disturbance from the project. Future project coming: I Street bridge replacement. CalTrans is the “responsible agency” for all of these projects. Concern that more nests will fail.
What can Audubon do? Pressure CDFW to take action. What is Audubon willing to do? Lots of different ideas were raised. To be discussed further at future meeting.

- III. Presentations:

- IV. Officer Reports
 - A. President (Bill):
 1. Approved flight survey for TRBL: Dan Airola had problem getting pilot to show up. He got the flight plan laid out (took \$500). We gave Dan \$1000 and he’s giving us back the other \$500.
 2. Bill filled out survey on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion from Audubon National.
 3. Litigation (\$7,000): we got letter from Sierra Club thanking us for donation to general fund. Bill talked to Sierra Club and they acknowledged that the money is for the lawyer and not for general fund.

 - B. Treasurer (Harriet):
 1. SAS budgeted for losing \$9000 and we only lost \$3000. Our income was higher than expected. Got lots of donations.
 2. Spending: we spent more than we expected to, but it was balanced out by our income.
 3. Newsletter cost: \$13,000, which is same amount we take in with dues. Should SAS raise dues? Or maybe offer an opt-in for receiving electronic newsletter? To be discussed further at future meeting (S Wisecarver is a resource).
 4. Harriet requested that we vote to change the signature from Sally to Bill on the bank account. Motion (Diana/Elliot) to change the signature on the bank account. Motion passed unanimously.

- C. Corresponding Secretary (Diana): None
- D. Other Officers (if anything to report): None

V. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports.

- A. Board Member and Chair Transitions (Sally): None.
- B. Programs (Anthony Asay):
 - 1. Set for the next 3 months.
- C. Outreach (Bill):
 - 1. Need to replenish outreach brochure "Bird Feeding." Printing cost approval required by board. Motion (Sally/Jane) to provide \$349.80 for 500 copies of brochure. Motion passed unanimously.
 - 2. Volunteers are set for naturefest and crane festival.
- D. Education (Gesna):
 - 1. Naturebowl for 2019 will be April 23. CDFW will handle insurance portion.
 - 2. Education committee working on speaker presentations. Heather updated the group on her talk about common birds of the foothills and valley at Sierra Madre Garden Club earlier in the day.
- E. Membership (Jane):
 - 1. August membership checks. 544 dues paying members (7 new).
 - 2. 18 new national members in the area; 11 gave address and Jane sent info to them for SAS.
 - 3. 25 members have become inactive.
- F. Communications (Wendy):
 - 1. Website security verification: board voted to set this up. Harriett said it's moving slowly, onerous process.
- G. Resale Merchandise (Becky Norris) (Bill): None
- H. Conservation (Larry, Elliot):
 - 1. Purple Martin status. Elliot will continue talking with Dan about the purple martin issue. Maybe Sac Audubon could create a glossy handout on urban birds and BMPs for projects and give this to CDFW. Dan Kopf is a resource for us, potentially. To be discussed further at a future meeting.
- I. Bobelaine Committee (Larry, Bill, John):
 - 1. Ken Poerner mowed trails early August. Bill walked north trails (8-24-18) and conditions were good.
- J. Other Committee Reports (if any): None
- K. Board Member Reports (if any): None

VI. Old Business

- A. Request for support from Feather River Land Trust.
 - a. We asked them why we should support them. They said because they print the "Birding Sierra Valley" handout and they monitor the Feather River. We've donated \$250 in the past. Motion (Sally/Diana) to donate \$250 to Feather River Land Trust. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Status of field trip participants signing waivers.
 - a. Diana: Spoke with field trip leaders. Nobody wants to do this. Hopefully it won't become a necessity in the future. We'll drop this issue; it is shelved.
- C. Status of updated job descriptions for Treasurer and Membership Coordinator.

- a. Harriett: bylaws have a description of Treasurer role that should suffice. Bill: Wendy sent email that we don't have description on website for Treasurer or Membership. To do: remove the Finance Committee piece from the website. We have no Finance Committee and aren't required to.
- D. SAS bylaws. Review revisions made by bylaws committee.
- a. Diana received no comments prior to this meeting.
 - b. John commented that it seems strange that field trip leaders don't have to pay dues but they're members, who can't vote on bylaws and Board. Advised that this was for insurance coverage if leader was not SAS member. This has been addressed with new revisions. General membership is separate; general members can't vote. We have a number of "General membership" folks who are National members in our area that haven't joined our local chapter.
 - c. Section 3 of Article 1—Dues should be \$25 per person or per address. Some members of committee feel dues should be something that can be set by the Board, separate from the bylaws. Having them in the bylaws means members need to vote on the change, if it changes. Diana wrote a new version at the table.
 - d. Officers shall serve 2 year terms instead of 1 year term, but there will be annual voting.
 - e. Gifts of stock will be liquidated immediately upon receipt. Article 6, Section 5. This is a new addition from the committee.
 - f. Harriett—Endowment has been removed and will be placed in the policies and procedures instead. Harriett said that SAS inappropriately used the endowment we had. May have been miscategorized. We shouldn't set up any endowments; they're too complicated to administer and SAS does not have the expertise.
 - g. Motion (Sally/Jane) to approve bylaws as edited. Motion passed unanimously.
 - h. Approval of bylaws needs to be in October's newsletter. Diana will let Sharon know. Want to vote in November. Need copies for October's membership meeting. Will also have a summary in Oct newsletter with a link to view the full updated bylaws online.

VII. New Business

- A. Action Alerts. Discuss need for someone to keep list of members who sign up for action alerts list.
 - a. To be discussed at a future meeting.
- B. Sponsorship request for NatureFest (Oct 7). Donated \$500 last year.
 - a. Motion (Jane/Sally) to donate \$500 again this year. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. El Dorado Wildlife Area
 - a. American River Conservancy is looking to purchase property. Want to raise \$200,000 by end of Sep. and are asking for a donation. No specific amount requested. To be discussed at a future meeting.
- D. Sponsorship for 2018 Central Valley Birding Symposium
 - a. Chris Conard asked if we'll sponsor CV Birding Symposium.

b. Motion (Sally/John) to donate \$1000. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment—9:05 PM.