

**Sacramento Audubon Society**  
Board Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2012  
SMUD Building

President Don Schmoltdt called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Cathie LaZier, Darrell Mohr, Don Schmoltdt, Gary Fregien, Jonilynn Okano, Keith Wagner, Linda Pittman, Karen Zumwalt, Sally Walters, Tim Fitzer

Guests: Elliott Chasen, Peter Watkins

Minutes of the January 31, 2011 Board Meeting were approved as submitted.

**Don Schmoltdt - President's Report**

- Don sent out a late email today from Al Blumenstock of California Fair Share (grassroots advocacy group). They are looking for SAS to sign on to their coalition letter calling for Representative Lungren to endorse a 4-year extension of the wind production tax credit to promote economic development and clean energy. Don will look into it and discuss with us further.
- Don forwarded an email on the Channel 40 news report on the enormous flock of Brown Headed Cowbirds (BHC) by a Target store and in Fair Oaks. Don was surprised to learn they were BHC and not European Starlings or Blackbirds.
- Don forwarded an email to the board from Nick Di Corce, Co-Facilitator, Environmental Water Caucus thanking all who signed on to their HR1837 opposition letter to the Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the House and Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives.
- Don did not attend the Chapter Council meeting due to an illness in the family. Don suggested to Gary George to change the start time since everyone has to commute a long distance. Peter reported that there were approximately 10 people in attendance. Keith commented that these are very good meetings to attend and highly recommended the meetings to anyone on the board as it is good to interact between the other Audubon Chapters and share ideas.

**Conservation - Keith Wagner**

- Keith introduced Elliott Chasen to the Board. Elliott is interested in becoming more involved in SAS and is interested in the ECOS and Habitat 2020 representative position. He currently works for Department of Fish & Game in the renewable energy program.
- Keith reported a win on the public hearing last Wednesday for the Sacramento County Sanitation District Conceptual Wind Energy Project. The board moved to terminate without further discussion.
- Keith provided an update on the Cordova Hills Project which is east of Rancho Cordova, and that several groups are involved. There is strong objection because of the Vernal Pools in the area. Keith will advise us of any updates. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) could be filed in the future. More information is available at the Department of Environmental Review website: [www.dera.saccounty.net](http://www.dera.saccounty.net)
- Keith reported on Bobelaine and the Lower Feather River Corridor Management Plan. Keith contacted the River Partners. They want to do conservation and wildlife habitat restoration. Keith contacted Dan Taylor (Audubon California) about what is going on but has not heard back whether National will get involved. Keith wants to meet and talk to others about the plan. There is a possibility they could get funding from National. The main thing we do not want is to sacrifice Bobelaine.

**Outreach - Cathie Lazier**

- Upcoming outreach events: ARNHA Bird & Breakfast at Effie Yeaw on March 10, Animal Art Show on March 10<sup>th</sup> in Carmichael, Earth Day on April 22 and Walk on the Wildside in May.

#### Education - Karen Zumwalt

- Karen is working on items for the website and is getting pictures from Linda.
- Karen receives various newsletters from other Audubon organizations. She will continue to pass them around at the board meetings. Sally expressed an interest in looking at the newsletters.
- Karen recommended doing a program on "What is eBird" since it is such a great tool. Sally inquired about other bird list programs such as AviSys. Cathie suggested Sally contact Chris Conard as he uses eBird.
- We received information on the California Bluebird Recover Program. Vicky Butler has several boxes that they use for monitoring, surveying and data collection. For more information, go to <http://www.cbrp.org>.

#### Sally Walters - Programs

- Sally is working on next years' programs. Linda has offered to do a program on sea birds next spring. Sally still needs a program for November but is finding it difficult because of the date being so close to the symposium. Cathie suggested she check with Jamie or Paul at the EYNC.

#### Gary Fregien

- Gary offered the Feather River Land Trust Report to the board.

#### Peter Watkins - Report on Sales

- Peter reported on sales, he is continuing to sell the checklists for \$2.00. Cathie told Peter to charge \$1.00 since the last reprint of the checklists cost us much less than the original printing.
- Don gave Peter a lead on a bookstore in Davis called The Avid Reader. Peter visited the bookstore and offered the usual 15% discount. The owner expressed that she expected 40% off which was the "standard" bookstore discount. SAS gives a 15% discount so the bookstores don't mark the product up and still can make a profit.

#### Linda Pittman

- Linda found out from Kathy Mullen that REI no longer gives money to grants.
- Linda is working with Wendy Money on possible ideas for writing a grant for Toyota Green to get transportation money for underserved schools for environmental field trips.
- Linda talked to the Captain of the Salty Lady; they have a contract with the Oceanic Society to go along on trips. The Captain will get another boat if necessary for the July trip.
- Linda is planning on going to Bobelaine to update the trails and maps and make up a new flyer.
- Sally contacted Linda about doing a program for SAS on pelagic trips since Linda is presenting a program for Sierra Foothills Audubon.
- The Monterey pelagic trip is scheduled for October 6.

#### New Business

- Sally put an ad in the newsletter for donations of a working laptop
- Cathie - the CNPS is asking for a donation for their Garden Tour on March 31. Cathie made a motion to donate at the \$200 "Walnut" level. Linda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Keith - made a motion to offer Julie Serences a position and title that is affiliated with SAS. Julie would be able to add the title to her accreditations on her signature block. Keith recommended the title of Native Plant Coordinator. Julie would bring the board updates and needs as they arise. This recommendation would be subject to Julie agreeing to the position. Linda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Cathie recommended that SAS make a stipulation for gas reimbursement for Council meetings.

President Don Schmoltdt adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jonilynn Okano, Recording Secretary.