

Sacramento Audubon Society
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: April 29, 2014
Approved Date: May 27, 2014
SMUD Meeting Rooms

Call to Order: Meeting called to order: 7:15 p.m.

Role Call: Board Members Present: Linda Pittman, Subhash Chand, Cathie LaZier, Keith Wagner, Tim Fitzer, Darrel Mohr, Gary Fregien. **Board Members Absent:** Karen Zumwalt, Sally Walters, Don Schmoldt, Jonilynn Okano. Guests: Maria Ferkovich, Larry Hickey, Bill Bianco

Approval of Minutes: Draft February 2014 and March 2014 Board Meeting Minutes approved by consensus as circulated.

President's Report (Linda):

- Don Schmoldt, SAS Past President, has passed away. Sally Walters has requested that donations in memory of Don be made to California Nature Conservancy, Mono Lake Committee, or the Youth Sciences Institute.
- The upcoming Farallons trip is filling up in record time. As of the Board meeting, it appears there are only three spots left.

Treasurer's report (Cathie):

- Cathie reports that the so-called "Bobelaine CD" has now been cashed out and deposited to SAS' general fund.
- The proposed 2014-2015 SAS budget was circulated at the February meeting. **Motion Wagner/Chand** to adopt as proposed. Approved unanimously.

Membership (Cathie for Lea):

- Chapter currently has 3,103 members assigned by National.
- Chapter currently has 545 dues paying chapter members, 196 are cross over with National.

Programs Report (Linda and other Board members for Sally):

- Susan Myers presented at April presentation, expenses exceeded what we expected, so we will need to cover \$141.92 to cover all expenses.
- Cathie notes total we paid for Susan is higher than usual, recommends that SAS stick closer to our usual budget which is \$150/presentation.
- Linda is presently covering the Programs Chair position for booking programs in 2014-2015. We may seek a more permanent Chair in the future. Linda suggests that perhaps after some time off, Sally Walters, who had done an excellent job in the past, might consider coming back.

Outreach and Education (Cathie):

- Cathie reports she is very pleased with how many members have been volunteering to cover events. For example, we had 22 volunteers to help with the recent, annual bird and breakfast event.
- Cathie was not impressed with Earth Day by ECOS. Recommend that SAS consider carefully before supporting that event next year.
- Cathie and Darrell are planning to handle the Pacific Flyway Association Duck Decoy event.
- SAS still continues to have great success with its beginning birder walks and Effie Yeaw family walks.
- Cathie reports that, overall, we have had at least 33 different volunteers to help with recent events. SAS is doing well, in that regard but still can always use more.
- Subhash has done a few Speakers Bureau events recently, and has another coming up.
- Wendy Money sent a thank you e-mail with photos from her inner city class trip to Effie Yeaw which SAS helped to support with funding to cover travel.

Communications (Subhash):

- Subhash notes that we have not been using the SAS Action Alert e-mail list lately, wonders if we should continue to maintain it. Keith recommends that we do keep it because it is a tool that can be used when sister orgs such as ECOS, H2020, FOSH, or SOS Cranes need SAS assistance with grassroots mobilization.

Resale Merchandise (Linda):

- Becky Norris has been on vacation this past month. Linda expects to make contact with her when she returns to get invoice forms to her and get her Becky more formally started with managing merchandise distribution, tracking and invoicing.
- Maureen Geiger has been acting as liaison with Avid Reader.
- SAS is down to about 40 print copies of Birding in Sacramento Region left. Chris Conard would like to update before it is reprinted. Subhash asks how long / time frame. Linda and Cathie respond about a year to get update completed. Chris has said he'd like to also get info online. Subhash wonders if that means we should not print hard copy. Board generally responds that we should still print but also look into option of making the information in the book available electronically.

Conservation (Keith):

- Keith continues to look for a replacement who can be more active as conservation chair.
- Keith submitted a letter on SAS behalf to the City of Sacramento objecting to the McKinley Village Project at FOSH's request. The City's proposed mitigation measure for foraging habitat for Swainson's Hawk would allow acquisition of lands that are too far away from local nesting populations to be of use.

- SMUD has recently sent a notice that it is proposing an HCP for its activities. Keith has inquired with H2020 and SOS Cranes if they are aware of this HCP or process. Neither knows much about what is being proposed.

OTHER REPORTS

- Tim Fitzer: recommends that SAS put an article in the observer about the importance of buying duck stamps.
- Subhash Chand: would like SAS to consider issuing a challenge grant to other local orgs that support SAS mission. General Board agreement. Subhash will draft a proposal for consideration at the next Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Bobelaine Exploratory Committee:** due to a lack of available time since last meeting, Keith reports that there are no further developments or news on planning for Bobelaine's future.
- **SAS Nominations Committee / 2014-2015 Board Elections:** Slate of proposed officers was published in observer and read to members at April membership meeting. Election will be held at the May meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- **New Computer for SAS Member Meetings / Presentations (Subhash):** MOTION to approve budget of up to \$1,000 to be spent by Subhash to secure a new computer with current software for SAS member meetings and Speakers Bureau presentations (Wagner/LaZier). Approved unanimously.
- **Donation Request from Friends of the Swainson's Hawk, Recommended Donation \$500 (Cathie):** MOTION (LaZier/Mohr). Approved Unanimously
- **2014 Annual Spring Contribution: Wildlife Care Association, Recommended Donation \$1,000 (Cathie):** MOTION (LaZier/Fitzer). Approved unanimously.
- CVBC scholarship support (for travel for student). SAS gave \$325 this year.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.