

Sacramento Audubon Society
Board Meeting Minutes – March 27, 2012
SMUD Building

President Don Schmoltdt called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

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

Members Absent: Karen Zumwalt

Guests: Subhash Chand

Minutes of the February 28, 2011 Board Meeting were approved as submitted.

Don Schmoltdt - President's Report

- Don forwarded an email from Garry George with a link to Defenders of Wildlife newsletter entitled: Right Idea, Wrong Place: Groups Sue Solar Project to Protect Imperiled Wildlife and Wild Lands.
- Don circulated the California Native Plant Society Newsletter with the SAS Logo indicating our recent support of the Garden Tour. Julie thanked us for the \$200 donation.
- Don forwarded an email from American Bird Conservancy; subject: USFWS rejects petition to regulate wind energy's impacts on migratory birds.
- Don appointed Subhash Chand as a director to the board. The board approved the appointment.

Keith Wagner - Conservation

- Keith followed up with Julie on the SAS donation of \$200 to CNPS for its upcoming Gardens Gone Wild program and offered her the first Native Plant Coordinator position for SAS. Julie has graciously accepted the position which involves coordinating SAS support for CNPS activities that promote native plants as habitat for bird and other wildlife.
- The ECOS/Habitat 2020 position has been advertised in The Observer. Keith will continue to screen applicants. Keith has forwarded ECOS and H2020 agendas to Elliott Chasin, but Elliot has not responded.
- Keith has had no further response from Department of Water Resources or its consultants regarding DWR's plans for establishing 200 year flood protection along the Feather River, including Bobelaine Sanctuary. On the one hand, DWR's consultants have said this project may provide habitat enhancement opportunities. On the other hand, the consultant has also stated that DWR's first and primary goal will be flood protection, thus indicating Bobelaine may be at risk. Keith is concerned there has been no response from DWR or its consultant, because he specifically asked for SAS to be included in any planning efforts, and so far there has been no follow up contact. Keith will follow up with DWR and its consultant, as well as NAS to see if they have heard anything about this project.
- ECOS is filing a lawsuit against a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) formed by the County and local cities to plan a Southeast Connector Road that will connect Elk Grove to the City of Folsom. This project is of significant conservation concern, because it will fuel yet more sprawl in the east county, threatening significant vernal pool, grassland and oak woodland habitats. Keith made a motion that SAS contribute \$500 to ECOS to help cover the costs of filing and serving the litigation. Don seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Cathie will cut the check once Keith lets her know where to send it.

Cathie LaZier – Treasurer

- The treasurer's report was previously emailed to the Board.
- Donation request for Friends of the Swainson's Hawk (FOSH) program at Sutter's Landing. Cathie made a motion to donate \$150, Keith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- Donation request for Wildlife care; Cathie made a motion to donate \$500, Gary seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sally Walters - Programs

- Sally will check with Jamie Washington about the November program date and will follow up with phone calls to Dan Airola and Brian Sullivan.

Tim Fitzer

- Tim announced that the slate of officers is the same; we need to add Subhash Chand. The slate was posted in the April newsletter. The slate shall be announced at the general meeting in April and voted on at the general meeting in May.

Linda Pittman

- Linda has been unable to visit Bobelaine.
- Linda replied to Tracy Salcido-Chourre, the author who contacted SAS about Bobelaine's description for her book, The Best Hikes in Sacramento. Linda has not heard back from Tracy.
- Linda spoke with Paul Tebbel briefly about the Toyota Green grant; time is short and he doesn't have anything right now.
- Linda announced the Pelagic trip in the April newsletter. Questions/discussion - Do we want to continue to have the naturalist on board? It was discussed that a naturalist adds to the experience of the trip.

Darrell Mohr

- Darrell inquired as to the status of the T-Shirts. Keith has not progressed with the project due to other commitments. We were trying to decide on the artwork from Keith Hansen and were considering the cover of Birding in the Sacramento Region illustrated by Dan Brown. Cathie mentioned that Dan & Jan Tankersley volunteered to do the T-shirts for the symposium and might be willing to take over the project. Keith will follow up with Dan & Jan.

New Business

- Sally ran an ad in the newsletter for a used/working laptop but hasn't had any response as yet. Discussion of background and needs. Subhash will look into different options.

President Don Schmoldt adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jonilynn Okano, Recording Secretary.