

Sacramento Audubon Society
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: February 28, 2017
Approved Date: March 28, 2017
Lemon Grass Cafe Meeting Room
601 Munroe St., Sacramento CA 95825

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order: 7:02 p.m. / **Roll Call: Board Members Present:** Sally Walters, Keith Wagner, Jane Taylor, Bill Bianco, Sue Darst, Jane Van Kessel, Grant Boice, Gibbe Parsons; **Board Members Absent:** Larry Hickey, Diana Hickson, Marcia Ferkovich / **Approval of Minutes:** January 2017 Minutes approved by consensus.
- II. **Public Comment/Guests:** None
- III. **Presentations:** None.
- IV. **Officer Reports**
- A. President's Report (Sally):**
1. Marcia will serve out the 2016/2017 term as Treasurer while the board searches for a replacement.
 2. Sally will ask Marcia whether the board adopted a budget for this FY; none of the members present remembered having done so.
 3. Since some of the current financial report numbers may not reflect budget goals, Sally will ask Marcia to send out last year's budget so the board can adopt one next meeting for the current term.
 4. Sally, traveling in Baja, will miss the March board meeting.
- B. Treasurer (Marcia):** Marcia had sent balance sheet and P & L through January 2017 via email to board members.
- C. Corresponding Secretary (Keith for Diana):**
1. Diana had circulated some SAS mail via email, including a public comment period announcement regarding a new Centennial Dam proposed for the Bear River.
 2. Keith will direct to the Bobelaine committee a suggestion for reader boards and old DF&G agreements obtained by public records act request concerning Bobelaine's ecological reserve status.
- D. Other Officers (if anything to report):** None
- V. **Committee Chair and Board Member Reports**
- A. Board Member and Chair transitions (Sally):** Jane T. and Marcia will serve through May.
- B. Programs (Sally):** A photo workshop and program on owls should draw a good audience at March's general meeting; this would be a good meeting for announcements regarding committee and board openings and fund raising.
- C. Outreach (Bill):**
1. Bill has spring and summer events set and will be asking for some helpers.

2. He has received photos from Dan Brown for the new picture board and will bring samples to the next meeting.

D. Education (Gesna): None

E. Membership (Sally, Sue): Sue summarized an informal discussion on options SAS might consider to update its Excel membership software, including Wild Apricot, which is pretty pricey. She will continue her research.

F. Communications (Sally):

1. Website technical committee to maintain and update content currently is Wendy Money and Sally, learning, and help is needed.
2. Identifying tasks involved is a first step to communicate to prospective volunteers.
3. Gibbe suggested contacting local college ornithology or biology departments for student interns; Keith suggested Josh Gabil, who developed the Android SAS birding app.

G. Resale Merchandise:

1. Bill presented an idea of Gesna's for selling ball caps with the SAS logo, which cost \$7.75 each for 50 and \$6.44 each for 144.
2. He will bring a cap sample to a future meeting, and if the board approves, a selling price should be established.
3. Jane VK is still working on the window decals.
4. Keith mentioned that the SAS bird checklist is still SAS' main wholesale item.

H. Conservation (Keith for Larry): Keith suggested tabling ECOS' request for additional money until Larry returns to clarify the amount, \$100 or \$1000.

I. Bobelaine Committee (Larry, Bill, Diana): Due to extensive damage to Bobelaine during the recent flooding, Bill suggested soliciting donations for repairs at the general meeting and in the Observer.

J. Other Committee Reports (if any):

1. Nominating (Keith): By the February meeting, President should appoint a committee for new board member search. Grant volunteered to get started, with suggestions to talk to Cathy Lazier and Tim Fitzer, old timers with lots of contacts, as well as current board and general members. Sue suggested announcing needs at the upcoming "owl" meeting. Slate of board and officer nominees will be published in the Observer. Sue also has a prospect for a new Treasurer.
2. Hospitality (Bill and Grant): Now proficient in baking cookies, they will continue for the present.

K. Board Member Reports (if any): None

VI. Old Business

A. Publishing "Observer" 12 Times per Year (Sally): Keith recommended staying with \$25 basic membership dues regardless of email or hard copy newsletter preference; getting email service up to speed will take some time, but eventually may provide actual cost data.

B. Birdwalk Android App Donation to App Developer (Diana): Tabled for a future meeting.

C. Big Day of Giving:

1. Jane VK announced that BDoG is May 4, 2017.
2. Sue proposed the board sign up for 2 free, introductory months of Constant Contact to assist Subhash Chand and Jane VK with BDoG solicitations. Keith advised obtaining cost data for extending beyond 2 months. The board approved unanimously (Wagner, Bianco), and Sally will let Subhash know.
3. As a footnote, Sue reported a slight uptick in SAS membership since 2013, contrary to rumors of decline.

D. Updates to SAS by-laws (Keith):

1. Keith handed out a copy with deletions and additions noted as well as a copy of a “final” version for board review and comment.
2. Items for consideration are staggered board terms, officer succession and term limits, and which body or bodies should approve board members and officers.
3. This is a work in progress and board member comment for next meeting is requested.

E. Money and/or volunteers requested to cap open fence posts along the Ancil Hoffman golf course (Grant): The Scouts require a statement of need, presumably from Ancil Hoffman Park, and Grant will follow up.

VII. New Business

A. New SAS Twitter account: Keith recommended this be tabled until the technical communications committee is up to speed and can take on guidelines for use of Twitter.

B. 2017 California Audubon conservation priorities:

1. Jane T. will follow up on a concern regarding conversion of grassland habitat to water intensive crops, perhaps coordinating with Larry and the Conservation Committee, CAS staff, and/or mid-state chapters.
2. A speaker on the topic at a general SAS meeting might be informative.

C. H2020 request for “extra” \$100 or \$1000 donation for 2017: See Item VH, above.

D. Sponsorship request from Sacramento Zoo for Earth Fest (Bill):

1. The zoo has requested \$200 for its April 22 Earth Fest, which the board approved (Wagner, Parsons).
2. Since tabling last year was a bit of a fiasco, Bill will look further into that.
3. He also will find out to whom and where Marcia should send the \$200.

VIII. Adjournment: 8:52 PM