

**Sacramento Audubon Society**  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Meeting Date: May 30, 2017  
Approved Date: August 29, 2017  
Lemon Grass Cafe Meeting Room  
601 Munroe St., Sacramento CA 95825

**I. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order: 7 p.m. / **Roll Call: Board Members Present:** Sally Walters, Bill Bianco, Larry Hickey, Keith Wagner, Diana Hickson, Jane Taylor, Sue Darst, Jane Van Kessel, Grant Boice, Gibbe Parsons; Elliot Chasen; **Board Members Absent:** Marcia Ferkovich / **Approval of Minutes:** March minutes approved by consensus; April's approved by vote (Walters, VanKessel)

**II. Public Comment/Guests:** None

**III. Presentations:** Gesna Clark, Education Chair (see Committee Chair reports below)

**IV. Officer Reports**

**A. President's Report (Sally):**

1. The search for a Treasurer continues.
2. We should be looking at financials for 2017 fiscal year (July through June) to establish a budget at next board meeting in August.

**B. Treasurer (Marcia):** Absent

1. She had sent balance sheet, P & L YTD, P & L Prev Year Comparison, and General Ledger via email to board members.
2. Members noted continued discrepancies on income and expenses from '15-'16 fiscal year.

**C. Corresponding Secretary (Diana):**

1. She finally succeeded in removing SAS from the mail list for Butte Sutter Yuba Water Quality Board, in which we have no interest.
2. Sally noted that board members wrote letters to the City Council asking for disapproval of a proposed Swainson's Hawk mitigation plan for land near the airport, a matter council was to take up today.

**D. Other Officers (if anything to report):** None

**V. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports**

**A. Board Member and Chair transitions (Sally):** New board member Elliot Chasen is fully on board, so to speak, as of this meeting.

**B. Programs (Sally):**

1. She is lining up programs for general meetings September on.
2. The budget for program speakers sits at \$1500 for next year.

**C. Outreach (Bill):**

1. He forwarded \$256 from cap sales and meeting donations to Marcia.
2. He has sent in an application for sponsorship of the Galt Crane Festival.
3. He will begin recruiting volunteers for this and other events in July.

4. The pop-up shade canopy used at tabling has broken and Bill will look into fixing it.

**D. Education (Gesna):**

1. Rain, the closure of Bobelaine, and rescheduling issues made it necessary to cut back on field trips for the SRCC Environmental Education Program. Classroom participants are not mainstream students and more attention is needed to get them interested in the trips. Noting room for improvement, Larry Hickey moved to continue the education program for '17-'18. Discussion concluded that no cost to SAS was involved, and Jane T. seconded the motion. Board approved unanimously.
2. SAS has been asked to sponsor a Nature Bowl semi-final at Camp Pollock in 2018; Gesna summarized the activities in a written report. A budget of \$2000-2500 to support the program for items like incentives for schools, medals for kids and gift cards for coaches should be adequate. About 6-10 Audubon volunteers will be needed, and Cathie Lazier offered to run them down. Approval of SAS as a host partner was proposed (Bianco, VanKessel), but a new motion to amend to include the budget was made and approved (Walters, Bianco).
3. Several SAS board and general members attended Cultural Relevancy in the Outdoors at McClellan Regional Park workshop on May 15 led by Outward Bound. Its goal to develop programs to introduce underserved youth to outdoors experiences was declared relevant by attendees.

**E. Membership: (Sue):**

1. Mara sent Sue updated SAS membership numbers as of April showing SAS membership slowly climbing (604) but local NAS members declining from 3000 in February to 2200 in April.
2. NAS baseline funding may be affected by lower membership count.
3. Microsoft "Access" is still a possibility for membership software at around \$10 per month.

**F. Communications (Sally):**

1. There is a need to figure out Constant Contact and how it might work to reach out to membership on issues, e.g. the ill-conceived Swainson's Hawk mitigation plan.
2. She and Wendy are making adequate progress on website updates.
3. Elliot commented that the website does not work well with mobile devices on which more people are relying. He will explore alternatives in the few months before the next meeting in August.

**G. Resale Merchandise:** Ball caps were presented for sale at the meeting.

**H. Conservation (Larry):**

1. D&O and Commercial Package Insurance policies' premiums have increased slightly; coverage appears the same.
2. Elliot attended the last Habitat 2020 meeting with nothing new to report.
3. SB 49, which establishes a baseline for clean water and air and endangered species for CA and for which Larry sent a message of

support, was recently amended. (Jane T.'s report of CAS-backed bills from Advocacy Day at the Capitol will give an update on its status.)

4. Our support for Habitat 2020 research in South Sacramento County may benefit efforts to keep Elk Grove expansion in check.

**I. Bobelaine Committee (Larry, Bill, Diana):**

1. Larry, Ken and others hope to get in and evaluate damage, overgrowth with warm weather and priorities for SRCC work.
2. We might communicate to members using Constant Contact to raise funds for repairs, the need for which will be presented at the next general meeting.

**J. Other Committee Reports (if any):**

1. Nominating (Grant): Grant has one more person on his list to sound out about board membership, and Jane VK has a possible referral.
2. Hospitality (Bill and Grant): Nothing new to report; the notice continues in the newsletter for hospitality volunteers who would have a \$300 budget for costs associated with meeting amenities.

**K. Board Member Reports (if any):** None

**VI. Old Business**

**A. Big Day of Giving (BDoG) (Jane VK):**

1. BDoG donations so far are about \$3200; not all are accounted for or reflected in the financials.
2. No update on use of Twitter.

**B. Updates to SAS by-laws (Keith):** These will be presented at August and September meetings in preparation for approval by board and SAS general membership.

**C. Money and/or volunteers requested to cap open fence posts along the Ancil Hoffman golf course (Grant):**

1. No request for reimbursement having been made, this matter is closed.
2. Diana will send a thank you note to the volunteer who capped the posts.

**VII. New Business**

**A. CAS Legislative Advocacy Day, June 8:** Jane T. volunteered to attend and report back on lobbying for bills with legislative staff.

**VIII. Adjournment:** 8:42 PM.