

The Sacramento Audubon Society

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 26, 2019

Approved Date: March 26, 2019

Location: Turley and Associates

2431 Capital Ave., Sacramento CA 95816

I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order 6:37p.m. / Roll Call: Board Members Present: Bill Bianco, Jane Van Kessel, Elliot Chasin, Harriet Saeck, Diana Hickson, Rosalind Becker, Grant Boice.

Board Members Absent: Planned absent Heather White, and Sally Walters.

Approval of Minutes: January 29 2019, Draft Board Meeting Minutes approved by consensus.

II. Public Comment/ Guests: None

III. Presentations: None

IV. Officer Reports:

A. President's Report (Bill)

1. Grant Boice assigned to head nominating committee. Bill remarked if present members remain on board then only the Vice President (VP) position would have to be filled. If a board member wanted to take VP position then a new board member will be needed. It was asked, if VP is required to take President position when President term is expired. Bill said (no); the bylaws state that all nominations must have the concurrence of the nominee. Grant will get names of nominees and inform board, by email or phone. Need to advise Sharon by March 15 of the officers and board members, so she can put slate of officers in April Observer. Vote would be at May general meeting.

2. Bill advised he did "sign on" to two letters, with American Bird Conservancy. Letters are to Appropriators in the House of Representatives. One was to support boosting effective bird conservation programs. The second was to increase Endangered Species Act Conservation and Recovery funding.

3. Bill did the Audubon California Chapter Policy Call on 2/15/19. He will email summary of call to board members. Advocacy Day is May 7, 2019. Elliot gave a brief explanation of what it is. Bill advised that he will attend, and Jeff Shelton might also attend.

4. Advised, through FOSH email that landowners in the Boot area of North Natomas have asked the Sacramento Board of Supervisors to start the legal process for approval of a development plan for 2000 acres of urban development. FOSH requested SAS write a letter to the County Board of Supervisors to deny this request.

Bill passed around the letter that he and Jeff Shelton composed, and emailed to the Board of Supervisors on 2/25/19.

B. Treasurer: (Harriet)

1. Harriet emailed financials prior to meeting. Board members to review.
2. Received NAS dues \$6241.00. This brought total income actual, more in line with total budget.
3. Motion (Diana/Grant) to pay Habitat 2020 dues; \$500.0. Approved.

C. Corresponding Secretary (Diana):

1. Circulated mail that was recently received at P.O. box for board review.

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

V. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports

A. Board Member and Chair Transitions (Sally): None

B. Programs (Anthony): None.

C. Outreach (Bill):

1. Events schedule with request for volunteers has been sent out. Help positions are about half filled, will be sending out reminder mid March.

D. Education (Gesna):

1. Gesna gave a status report on what education committee is doing. Noted that Nature Bowl at Camp Pollock was canceled this year was due to schools vacation dates conflicting with competition dates set by DFW. Need to set 2020 competition dates with regards to schools Easter vacation dates.

2. Gesna gave review of Environmental Education Program in regards to Sacramento Regional Conservation Corp. Explained that education committee members have classroom sessions and field trip that have a relationship with the

students outdoor work.

3. Have a relationship with Sacramento Valley Conservancy (SVC) being Camp Pollock and Nature Bowl. SAS provided a letter of support for funding of Camp Pollock restoration. SVC received approval on the funding request.
4. Education committee revised presentation programs for public, school and community organizations.
5. This year's teen and children's bird count got postponed due to weather, but where performed this past weekend with a good turn out.
6. Next Education Committee meeting will be looking at 2020 goals.

#### E. Membership: (Jane)

1. Reported February had 582 dues paying members (14 new). 2634 National members in SAS area.
2. Now have 72 members getting Observer by email.

#### F. Communications: (Sally) None

#### G. Resale Merchandise: none

#### H. Conservation (Larry, Elliot):

1. Elliot still like to find items for committee that do not overlap with H2020 and ECOS.
2. See IV A. 4. above.

#### I. Bobelaine Committee (Larry, Bill)

1. Ken Poerner led tour for Effie Yeaw docents 2/22/19. Trails surprisingly dry, but did not get to all trails. Mowed North, Otter and Center Trails. Started mule and tried to start chain saw. Took chain saw home to work on it.
2. Request made for battery powered chain Saw. Ken priced Dewalt-DCCS620B; \$150; battery 60v \$100. Plus tax +/- \$22. Motion (Diana/Jane) \$300 for chain saw purchase. Approved by board.

#### J. Other Committee Reports: None.

#### K. Board Member Reports (if any) None.

#### VI. Old Business

#### A. Purple Martin I Street Bridge Replacement.

Bill reported, the city would like a meeting with Dan Airola to discuss mitigation options for Purple Martin related to I St. Bridge project. City requested several dates and times for setting up meeting. Dan emailed Bill and he forwarded to conservation Committee and Sally Walters. Dan spoke to the environmental consultant (at ICF), an ex-employee of Dan's. She said the City would not accept keeping the bridge ramp in place. Dan proposed to work separately with ICF on mitigation measures. Dan is presently waiting for meeting date. Bill will be attending meeting once it is set.

#### B. SAC350.

Information requested at Jan. board meeting is outstanding. Board questions what SAC350 stand for. Grant gave some bird death numbers for wind turbines and solar panels, and questions how we justify supporting. Elliot commented these numbers are somewhat lower in comparison to bird deaths from window strikes and cats. Members felt some aspects of SAC350 we support, but question others. Agreed to delete from consideration.

#### C. Grant request: Agricultural-Natural Resources Trust. (ANRT)

Bill presented information from discussion with Liz DiGiorgio of ANRT. She informed him that they are to submit in May for the Prop. 1 share funding. ANRT is providing \$10,000 towards the funding. She did not know the total amount they will submit, and they are also requesting from other non profits. ANRT will accept any amount and can also split donation if desired. If ANRT is turned down the Prop 1 funding then ANRT would return SAS donation. After discussion, motion (Diana/Elliot to donate \$1000 to ANRT for proposal to seek Proposition 1 cost share funding for the acquisition of a permanent easement for 275 acres on the Mello/Jensen Heir Farm.  
(At Tyler Is.) Motion approved.

#### D. Grant Application Process

In consideration of request for grants, sponsorships and donations the board agreed that a base floor amount in SAS assets should be established. Harriet said this would be a minimum of 3-4 months SAS operating expenses. Harriet is to review expenses and provide base amount for board review.

It was asked, what budgets are based on, Harriet said, they are presently based on prior year donations.

The grant rules on web site need to be updated and revised. Suggested two dead lines for conservation grants and also for donations requests. Sponsorships should have separate criteria.

#### E. Pelagic trips

1. Harriet reported, she meet with Linda Pittman and this year SAS will do a Farallon trip, but not a Monterey trip. Set July 14th for Farallon trip. Information on trip will be sent next week to Sharon for Observer. Trip will have 25 person limit. Considering doing the Monterey trip every other year. With this being a three day trip, it's harder to get enough people to commit.
2. Bill reported he sent Linda's appreciation letter to Sharon for putting in the Observer.

#### F. Policies and Procedures Document. (PPD)

Diana emailed to the board prior to the meeting the PPD she and Harriet worked on.

Document covers Finances, Taxes, Membership, Post Office Box, Donations, Record Retention, Insurance, Charitable Remainder Trust,. Items to be completed are The Observer and Field Trips. To be added is National information and contact person for dues received from national.

Bill asked where the PPD is to be retained. Decided that all board members are to retain copies.

#### VII. New Business.

##### A. Sac. Zoo Earth Day

Bill presented the sponsorship request which Sacramento Zoo wanted signature on. Request had three levels of sponsorship. The lowest was \$200 which SAS donated last year. Asked, if we get a space for our outreach table with our sponsorship. Have to go to next level per criteria. Motion (Diana/Grant) \$200 sponsorship provided zoo allows outreach table space. Harriet is to contact zoo for acceptance.

##### B. Walk on the Wildside.

Request from Friends of Stone Lakes NWR for sponsorship of Walk on the Wildside.

Reoccurring sponsorship for SAS. Motion (Diana/ Jane) to provide \$500 amount for sponsorship. Approved by board.

##### C. SAS Website.

Special board meeting was 2/20/19, minutes where forwarded to board on 2/24/19.

Bill gave brief overview of meeting. Web site has never been updated. Suggested steps involved is to get memberships input by a question survey., "What we like to have on website" input from web master, and board. Review present site and what we want with an outside consultant. Consultant could provide evaluation and cost for board to review.

Daphne looked at other Audubon chapter sites and noted most sites did "in house design". She suggested board members

look at other sites for items we might want. Also ask who designed their site and costs. Suggested we check with each committee chairmen on ideas or changes for website. Can check with colleges for students who would like intern credit for website design. Elliot said most of these items can be done concurrently.

Website committee will be Gesna, Elliot, Daphne, Jane and Heather.

#### D. Elk Grove SEPA Mitigation

Bill advised he received an email from Friends of Swainson's Hawk (FOSH). Informed us final judgement was filed in Sacramento Superior Court on the Addendum to the Southeast Policy Area FEIR to change Swainson's Hawk mitigation. Now preparing for Appeal, so likely we will see more funding requests.

VIII. Adjournment: 9:30pm.