

## **MINUTES [Approved]**

### **Sacramento Audubon Society**

#### **Board of Directors Meeting**

Date / Time: August 30, 2022 @ 6:30 pm

Location: Virtual

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Approval of Minutes
  - A. Call to Order 6:43 pm
  - B. Roll Call
    1. Board Members Present: Paul Miller, Harriet Saeck, Nancy Gronert, Mary Forrestal, Jane Van Kessel, Anthony Asay, Susan Goodrich, Taylor Florence, Bill Weaver, Bill Bianco
    2. Board Members Absent: Eric Johnson
  - C. Approval of Minutes (May 2022) approved by consensus
- II. Guests / Public Comments: None
- III. Presentations: None
- IV. Officer Reports
  - A. President
    1. On Friday, July 29, 2022, via email a \$500 sponsorship of the Lodi Sandhill Crane Association's Crane Festival was approved. (Nancy 1<sup>st</sup>, Jane 2<sup>nd</sup>)
    2. On Friday, July 29, 2022, via email a \$500 sponsorship for Effie Yeah Nature Center's NatureFest was approved. (Nancy 1<sup>st</sup>, Jane 2<sup>nd</sup>)
    3. Effie Yeaw requested copies of the book, *Birding in the Sacramento Area*, and the Sacramento Area Birds Checklist. Both items were originally published in 2009 and the print versions have not been updated. Recommendation to create a tri-fold brochure that features the information that can be found on the website. Mary and Paul will work on this project.
  - B. Treasurer
    1. Year End Income Statement
      - a. Bobelaine and Conservation Donations: Both increases compared to previous fiscal year.
      - b. Grants: Down due to a lack of requests.
      - c. Education Expense: The increase in education expense is related to the Nature in the Classroom program.
      - d. Observer Printing Costs: This includes both the cost of printing and mailing of the printed Observer. Question of the per unit cost. Could there be a cheaper option.
      - e. NAS Donations for Bobelaine: These funds are requested on a as needed basis. There was no need / request in the 2021-2022 fiscal year.
    2. Balance Sheet: Harriet will submit a proposal at the September meeting outlining a recommended investment amount and vehicle in which to place funds that are currently in the checking account.

C. Recording Secretary

1. According to the Bylaws the recording secretary will include a record of the elected Board Officers and Directors for the year in the minutes of the September Board Meeting.

President – Paul Miller

Vice-President – Eric Johnson

Treasurer – Harriet Saeck

Recording Secretary – Mary Forrestal

Corresponding Secretary – Nancy Gronert

Director – Jane Van Kessel

Director – Anthony Asay

Director – Taylor Florence

Director – Susan Goodrich

Director – Bill Weaver

Past President – Bill Bianco

V. Old Business

A. SAS Gmail

1. Emails have been established for most officer and committee positions.
2. Instructions for changing who the account is forwarded to need to be updated.
3. Mary will send an email to collect the passwords created for each new account.

B. Business Cards: Paul will follow-up.

C. Spending Ideas

1. There is a potential for major expenses at Bobelaine related to trail improvements, if the Feather River Grant Project (the modification of the flood channel for Salmonoid habitat) moves forward. See [October 2021 Board Minutes](#) for more information on this project.
2. Request to provide all field trip leaders with a pin, nametag and possibly hats.
3. Partnering with Lights Out Sacramento
4. Promoting awareness of neonicotinoids and pesticide problems.
5. T-shirts and ball caps - What is the level of interest from membership?

VI. New Business

A. SAS Volunteer Thank You Event

1. A thank you to our volunteers / team building event held on a weekday evening in early October at Effie Yeaw. Light hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Alcohol if permitted.
2. Send a list of committee members / volunteers to be invited to Harriet.
3. Motion to spend up to \$1500 on the Thank You Event. (Nancy 1<sup>st</sup>, Paul 2<sup>nd</sup>) Approved.

B. Procedures for submitting Observer articles

1. Currently, Carla receives all submissions by the 15th of each month. She creates and sends the draft of *The Observer* to several proofreaders on the 16th. Current proofreaders are Jane Van Kessel, Mary Forrestal, and Bill Bianco. Proofreaders return any changes or corrections by the 18th. On the 20th, Carla sends the copy to the printer and Jane emails the finalized version to the members who have signed up to receive the electronic edition. Printed editions are mailed to members by the printer.

2. In *The Observer* the following rules for submission are printed:  
Copy deadline is the 15th of the month. Send all copy to the Editor. Observations must reach the Seasonal Observations Editor by the 8th of the month.
  3. Certain items are regularly submitted for publication in *The Observer* such as Field Trips and Seasonal Observations. For a complete list of items submitted regularly, see Recording Secretary's August 30, 2022 email to the board.
  4. Recommendation to create a Newsletter Committee and formalizing the procedures related to submitting articles to *The Observer*.
- C. Bobelaine, Oak Tree Cutting
1. Estimates received from Davey Tree and Twin Cities Tree Service to remove the split oak tree on back trail and second heavily leaning oak tree overhanging the trail.
  2. Motion to accept the estimate from Davey Tree for \$6,000 and proceed with the work. (Paul 1<sup>st</sup>, Taylor 2<sup>nd</sup>) Approved unanimously.

## VII. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports

- A. Membership - Numbers from Jane's email to the Board on August 14, 2022
1. There are currently 662 dues-paying SAS members. 408 of these members are receiving e-newsletters. There were 12 new SAS members this month and 1 inactive member came back. 14 members were made inactive this month because they hadn't paid their dues.
  2. There are 2,680 NAS members that live in our chapter area. There were 14 new NAS members this month that live in our chapter area.
  3. Modified how dues reminders are sent. Second reminder is now sent via email instead of by mail, reducing postage of the mailing and return mail envelope.
- B. Education: Several speaking events are scheduled.
- C. Website
1. In the first six months of 2022, the Sacramento Audubon website was visited 51,109 times with 124,675 pageviews. Popular pages include the Gallery of Birds (18,029 views) Birding Locations (11,705 views), Sacramento Area Birds Checklist (13,785), and Kid's Corner with it's wonderful Meet the Bird posts written by Jane Van Kessel (8,487 views).
  2. The majority of visitors use a mobile device to view the website. The website committee is making changes to optimize the website for viewing on a mobile device.
  3. Other projects: adding eBird sightings links and addresses to birding location and updating picture descriptions to include male, female, juvenile, designations.
- D. Conservation
1. ECOS meeting was canceled in August.
  2. Bill W. is settling into the position and looking for information on how things have been done in the past.
- E. Outreach: Chalk It Up is this weekend. Bill B. will ask Daphne Reimer if she is willing to write an article about the event and artist for *The Observer*.
- F. Accessibility
- G. Bobelaine
1. Received estimate for sand blasting the rust spots on the shed roof. Once the spots east and west sides and roof are removed volunteers can prime and paint. Bill B. will email the estimate to the board for approval.

2. Recently goats have been reported on the property. They appear to have escaped from a neighboring farm. Bill spoke with Game Warden, Dane Frazier. Dane is to check with goat rancher. Bill is to try and locate rancher to the north of Bobelaine along the levee.
- H. Other Committee Reports
1. Field Trip Committee's next meeting is September 1, 2022 with new chair Susan Goodrich.
  2. Monthly Speaker: This month's program is *CalTrout: Fish and Bird Management and Conservation* be sure to [register](#) if you'd like to attend.
- I. Board Member Reports
1. Request to discuss how sponsorship and grant requests are handled
    - a. Email vs. in person approval
    - b. Holding grant requests vs. approving as they come in.

VIII. Adjournment 8:41