

Meeting Minutes
Sacramento Audubon Society
Board of Directors Meeting

Date / Time: September 28, 2022 @ 6:30 pm (started 6:37 p.m.)

Location: Virtual

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Approval of Minutes
 - A. Roll Call

Present: Prakapas, Miller, Johnson, Saeck, Gronert, Bianco, Asay, Goodrich.

Absent: Florence
 - B. Approval of Minutes (August 2023) *Unanimously approved.*
- II. Guests / Public Comments: *N/A*
- III. Presentations: *N/A*
- IV. Officer Reports
 - A. President
 1. Need volunteers for: President, Education Committee Chair, Conservation Committee Chair, and Outreach Committee Chair, as well as Hospitality Chair.
 - a) *Paul spoke to someone who may be interested in Hospitality chair and she and Daphne (who is considering being backup) will come to next board meeting. Bill said there should also be a backup/assistant person.*
 - b) *Paul asked what Outreach chair work level was, as well as Education. Work comes in spurts.*
 - c) *Paul asked if other ways besides Observer to advertise and Nancy suggested flyers at Wild Birds Unlimited stores. Prakapas suggested Facebook for general population view. Nancy posted to SAS website and people like the site.*
 2. President motioned and Taylor seconded via email \$500 for two screech boxes.
 3. *Paul put together a forum and asked for approval to reimburse volunteers' mileage at 50%/mile Harriet said volunteers seeking reimbursement should submit documentation quarterly and submit to Paul who will send to Harriet. Forms should have name and address and date signed. There was discussion about putting the form online. Joanne suggested an online form with a box to check if the volunteer wants the reimbursement to be donated. This would help separately track reimbursements and donations.*

Also, some volunteers would allow their mileage reimbursement to be a donation back to SAS Harriet wants to keep reimbursements and donations separate to better track them.

Paul said he wants to get grant funding and documenting the volunteers' costs because it is important. Harriet said Hospitality people should send expenses to track costs.

B. Treasurer

- a. *See report. Treasurer had trouble contacting Nature in Classrooms to discuss the budget. Bobelaine budget of \$7k and \$10k given to Bobelaine discussed. Paul said he sent Bobelaine endowment in February but there is still no check. Harriet wasn't sure about that.*
- b. *Harriet stated she has concern membership numbers are down. Paul wondered if it was due to Audubon name change issue. Harriet said could also be due to group demographics (older members) because the name change survey was positive. Susan suggested business cards to send out to leaders so they could hand out on their trips to increase membership. Idea will be put on next board meeting agenda.*

C. Other Officers N/A

V. Old Business

A. Constant Contact - Board Access Needed

1. *Paul said only Jane and Mary have access to send member emails, e.g., dues. Joanne suggested could be a conflict with website plans if Paul also had access; Paul agreed.*

B. Big Day of Giving Chair Still Needed

1. *Jane did last year but doesn't want to do this year. Paul said he could help but needs help. Joanne tentatively offered depending on the level of assistance.*

VI. New Business N/A

VII. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports

A. Field Activities

1. *See report. Will be 10-12 trips. One new leader, Bill Becket, who works for Consumnes. Paul said regarding Patterson email, things outside of Field Activities should go to the Education Committee. Susan said she was told anything with children should go to the Education Committee.*

B. Education

1. *See report. Bill asked for family nature walk. Before covid there wasn't a charge for the walks, but now Effie Yeaw charged the last two years. He thought SAS could donate money so there doesn't have to be a charge for the walks. He asked how much revenue was made from charging and maybe it could be covered by donations. He suggested to add this as an agenda item to next board meeting.*

C. Conservation

1. *Paul, acting as interim chair, received email from Daphne (Del Paso Regional Park Renovation). Paul not sure of comments SAS needs to make. Pacific Flyway now has new web page dedicated to it on the SAS webpage.*

2. *Paul said we need to continue seeking a permanent Conservation chair. Susan wondered if Barbara Leary would be interested as she wants to leave Sierra. Susan will ask.*

D. Accessibility

1. *Paul said Susan joined a group and saw ten species.*

2. *On the accessibility page, Paul added UC Davis under high access and Sierra Discovery Train under partial accessibility.*

E. Bobelaine

1. *See report. Paul made motion to give Karla a bonus check for \$500 for the kiosk work., Nancy 2nd. Approved unanimously.*

2. *Bill said the donated bird boxes to be built might have to wait because the recipient needs to get city and county approvals, which could take a while.*

F. Monthly Speaker

1. *Anthony said he was impressed with the speakers he is getting October speaker is set up. Paul said he would bring a general meeting before or after the General Valley Birding Symposium, maybe November 30, but he must check with the speaker first. The symposium in Stockton has for over 20 years had the symposium the weekend before Thanksgiving.*

a) *Paul said we would also need to let member and Effie Yeaw know—put an add on the SAS website, Facebook, and the Observer.*

G. Other Committee Reports (if any)

H. Board Member Reports (if any)

VIII. *Adjournment 7:49 p.m. Paul made motion to move next the meeting to October 24 due to conflicts. After meeting, via email a quorum was reached to move the October meeting to November 7.*

Attachments:

Membership Report

Membership Report 091323

There are 619 dues-paying SAS members. 409 of these members are receiving e-newsletters. There were 6 new SAS members this month and 3 inactive members came back. 14 SAS members were made inactive this month because they hadn't paid their dues or did not wish to renew.

There are 2,571 NAS members that live in our chapter area. There were 34 new NAS members this month that live in our chapter area. These new NAS members have been sent information about SAS and how to join.

There has been a drop in the number of SAS members over the past year. The change could be the result of the Covid years when our numbers seemed to increase. In fact, in April of 2022 the count was up to 682. The member counts in September over the past several years are listed below. We are close to going back down to the member count we had in 2020.

September 2018.....	552 members
September 2019.....	577 members
September 2020.....	614 members
September 2021.....	648 members
September 2022.....	662 members
September 2023.....	619 members

Field Activities Committee Report - September, 2023

SAS Field Trips

-For 8/15-9/15 we held 6 trips.

-December scouting trip scheduled to Brannon Island State Park to arrange field trips there, beginning in January 2024.

Leaders

-Added one specialist for Cosumnes River.

-Annual Summer gathering to honor FT leaders who've led in the past year was held Sept 9 at Richard B's.

-Annual emailing sent to leaders, including leader list, protocols, etc.

SAS FAC lending outside FT assistance

-Cosumnes 9/30/23 for City of Patterson: providing trips for 4 Youth groups - Maureen Geiger heading- **cancelled**

Process

Review of scheduling and registration processes ongoing.

Education Committee Report 9/27/23

Last education committee meeting 9/18/23

1. Family Nature Walks.

Continue again this fall and spring 2024 with Effie Yeaw Nature Center.

Scheduled for 3rd Saturday each month and start at 10:30am

Scheduled dates:

1. 10/21
2. None in Nov.
3. 12/16
4. 2/17/24. The weekend of GBBC; Nicole Barden will be coordinating with EYNC.
5. 4/20/24
6. 5/18/24

2. Beginning Birding.

Larry Hickey has trips scheduled for Sunday 10/22 & 11/12. Larry's assistants are Jane VanKessel and Rich Howard.

3. Outreach Events.

Current schedule:

1. Family Fall Festival, 10/1. Near River Bend Park.
2. NatureFest, Effie Yeaw. 10/8
3. Lodi Crane Festival, 9/4 & 9/5
4. Central Valley Birding Symposium, 11/16 - 11/19

Note: Lodi Crane Festival and Symposium need raffle items. Something we always provided in the past. Bill will check with Dan Browns web store and Wild Birds Unlimited for items.

4. Presentations.

1. Cliff Feldheim will be doing Nature/bird walk for SLEW students at Stone Lakes on Nov. 1st. Cliff will be coordinating with Allie Dumas, SLEW's Program Director.

5. Kids Bird Count.

Combined with Great Backyard Bird Count, with Effie Yeaw, 2/17 & 2/18/24.

Nicole Barden will be coordinating with Rachel Greve at Effie Yeaw. Need notice to start in October Observer and continue till February. Nicole will be registering participants.

6. Other items.

Committee suggests that "Kids Corner" remain and be kids birding items.

An a "Teens/Adult" section added. Need to confer with Marry Forrestal.

Next meeting 10/16/23, Mather Park, 10am

Bobelaine Committee Report 9/25/23

Last committee meeting 8/17/23

1. Kiosk Status.

- a. Kiosk is up and three panels are in place. Cable fence has been revised old kiosk has been taken down.
- b. Photos will be taken October 7th.

2. Feather River Restoration Project.

Paul received letter from Helen Swagerty with River Partners advising they got the award for year one. River Partners will be reaching out to SAS and scheduling a kickoff meeting with the project team soon.

3. Monitoring Camera.

- a. Taylor researched a 2 camera package (Lorex, mfr.) for Bobelaine parking area. Package includes outdoor junction box for mounting. Cost with 10% discount is \$437.00. Committee approved purchase. Other needed items: installation materials, conduit, wire, enclosure for DVR in shed and labor.

5. Other items.

- a. New Area 3 Levee Maintenance Manager. Drew Strsser, 916-335-6359.

Drew gave Bill the combination to the north levee gate. Noted in the Bobelaine Journal.

West side of levee has been burned. East side will be burnt when weather conditions are favorable.

Drew told Bill the levee slump east of the shed won't be repaired until next year.

- b. Trail mowing is now minimal, but trimming is still needed.

Scheduling trail repair at South Forty Trail. Need minimum 3 man crew, and possibly two work days. Going to use waste cinderblock for the base, which Larry and Bill can supply. There is enough small rock that was left over from the levee repair. Needed soil is available on site.