

Minutes [APPROVED]

Sacramento Audubon Society

Board of Directors Meeting

Date / Time: January 25, 2022 @ 6:30 pm

Location: Virtual

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Approval of Minutes
 - A. Call to Order: 6:34 pm
 - B. Roll Call
 1. Board Members Present: Bill Bianco, Daphne Reimer, Harriet Saeck, Nancy Gronert, Mary Forrestal, Jane Van Kessel, Paul Miller, Eric Johnson, Anthony Asay
 2. Board Members Absent: None
 - C. Approval of Minutes (November 2021): approved by consensus
- II. Guests / Public Comments: None
- III. Presentations: None
- IV. Officer Reports
 - A. President
 1. Donation request from the Sacramento Valley Conservancy
 - a. July 2020 SAS donated \$1000 to SVC. December 2020 SAS donated \$250 to SVC.
 - b. Motion to donate \$250 to the Sacramento Valley Conservancy. (Harriet 1st, Jane 2nd) approved unanimously
 2. Donation request Sierra Foothills Audubon – No donation at this time.
 3. Donation request Feather River Land Trust
 - a. In 2018 and 2020 SAS donated \$500 to the Feather River Land Trust.
 - b. Motion to donate \$500 to the Feather River Land Trust. (Nancy 1st, Paul 2nd) approved unanimously
 - B. Treasurer
 1. Dues are down slightly compared to last year, but donations are up.
 2. Last year the dues from National were received in January, however, as the Annual Report was submitted later this year, the dues from National will be received later.
 3. An additional \$2000 was approved for Nature In the Classroom at the November Board meeting, this has not yet been added to the budget.
 4. New Policies and Procedures will be written for taxes. Board will review when available.
 - C. Corresponding Secretary: Continuing to send Thank You postcards and notecards for donations over \$250.
 - D. Other Officers: None
- V. Old Business
 - A. Insurance Umbrella Policy: Motion to purchase \$2 MM umbrella policy for \$2061 per year. (Harriet 1st, Paul 2nd) approved unanimously
 - B. Meeting Location for Board and Committee
 1. Meetings will continue virtually. Revisit as COVID allows.
 2. Consider Effie Yeaw as a future meeting location. Anthony has confirmed WIFI is available for streaming meetings.

- C. Lapel pins
 - 1. Daphne recommends using Touring Souvenirs for lapel pins, higher quality pins and packaging. Received a quote for 200 pins at \$2.75 per pin plus a 1 time mold fee of \$85.
 - 2. Would be sold at outreach events and meetings for \$5.00 per pin.
 - 3. Sales tax will need to be paid upfront.
 - 4. Pin would be 1"x1" and use the same design as the car stickers.
 - 5. Motion to order 200 pins for \$635 plus tax. (Paul 1st, Harriet 2nd) approved unanimously
- D. Standing Committee and Officer Descriptions
 - 1. Prior to the next board meeting
 - a. Bill will provide for review revised descriptions for conservation, education, and Bobelaine.
 - b. Jane will provide for review a revised description of the membership chair responsibilities.
 - c. Board officers should review the description of their position as found in the bylaws.
 - 2. Once the descriptions are updated, they should be combined into one document for easy reference.
- E. Nominating Committee
 - 1. Bill and Daphne would like to step down from their current roles. Bill will continue serving on the board as Past President. Daphne will be stepping away from the Board.
 - 2. The board is currently short 1 member.
 - 3. Paul volunteers for the nominating committee.
 - 4. Vote for board members is generally held in May. To vote in May, the Slate of Officers needs to be in the April Observer. Deadline for the April Observer is March 15.
- F. Spending Ideas
 - 1. Urban Bird Art – Daphne will continue to pursue this idea as COVID allows.
 - 2. Spending Ideas will continue to be an item on the board meeting agenda. If members have something new or a follow-up on a previous idea, they should bring it to the board's attention. However, if there is nothing new to report, the agenda item will roll to the next meeting.

VI. New Business

- A. Testing for COVID for admittance to Monthly Speaker Meetings
 - 1. After field trip policy requiring vaccinations to participate was announced, Sacramento Audubon received an email requesting SAS reconsider and allow negative COVID tests to also allow participation.
 - 2. Bill as president responding that the current policy requiring vaccinations would stand. However, raised the question of allowing testing for admittance to General Meetings.
 - 3. Board consensus to maintain policy of requiring vaccination for participation in meetings.
 - 4. Monthly meeting will remain virtual through May.

VII. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports

A. Membership (Jane)

1. The Welcome Letter for new members has been updated to include all SAS committees and a request to volunteer. Board approves.
2. Membership numbers from Jane's email to the Board on January 14, 2022
 - a. There are currently 664 dues-paying SAS Members. 379 of these are receiving e-newsletters. There were 15 new SAS members this month and 3 previously inactive members sent in dues. 2 members were made inactive this month.
 - b. There are 2,789 NAS members that live in our chapter area. There were 71 new NAS members this month that live in our chapter area.

B. Education (Bill)

1. Continuing to receive requests for presentations and field trips. Still on-hold due to COVID.
2. Beginning Birder Field Trip leaders (Cathy Lazier and Larry Hickey) are considering offering Beginning Birder Field Trips as early as March. Website committee asks to be kept in the loop so they can develop appropriate pages and registration forms, if needed.

C. Website (Mary)

1. Recommending email addresses for all board position, committee chairs, registration and coordinators. These emails should be linked to the position not the person holding the position.
 - a. Currently only president, membership, education, webmaster, and meetings have email addresses with @sacramentoaudubon.org. These are blind email addresses that are connected to individual personal accounts.
 - b. Will follow-up with options, pricing, and additional information at next board meeting.

D. Conservation (Bill)

1. Trees of Sacramento requested assistance in analyzing the City's draft Urban Forestry Management Plan. Anthony Asay has volunteered to assist. Thanks Anthony.
2. California Cascade Building Materials Lawsuit.
 - a. Bill forwarded the letter to California Audubon and others.
 - b. Barbara Washburn of the Laguna Creek Watershed has spoken with the attorney. Only one sample has been collected, this does not meet the standard for testing. Additionally, Dioxin has a half-life of 75 years, meaning it could be a legacy contaminant. She will continue to follow-up with the attorney.
 - c. We haven't had any field trips to this portion of the creek.
 - d. At this time there is not reason for SAS to sign on to the lawsuit.
3. ECOS is monitoring the Coyote Creek Solar Project
<https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2022010271>
 - a. SMUD is proposing to construct a 200-megawatt solar energy facility over approximately 2555 acres of oak habitat at Scott Road area of Sacramento County.
 - b. The notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) has just been released.
4. Reichmuth Park
 - a. The bikers have discontinued their use of the park.
 - b. The trails have been widened with concrete and bricks to help avoid the mud, unfortunately this has removed habitat on the sides of the trails.

- c. No progress has been made on restoring what was destroyed by the bikers.
 - E. Outreach (Bill)
 - 1. Galt Winter Birding Festival is February 5, 2022. It is now a virtual event.
 - 2. Walk on the Wildside has not announced whether it will be an in-person or virtual event.
 - F. Accessibility (Paul)
 - 1. First field trip had limited participants but those that were there enjoyed the outing.
 - 2. Maureen and Paul will be visiting Colusa and Sacramento NWR to evaluate for accessibility and a possible Observer article.
 - G. Bobelaine (Bill)
 - 1. Application for grant has been submitted by River Partners and FlowWest.
 - 2. Trash pick-up / Volunteer day scheduled for Saturday, January 29.
 - 3. Wood Duck nesting boxes are up at Crandall Lake.
 - 4. The map has been updated, when reprinted will replace the history of Bobelaine with the eBird checklist.
 - H. Other Committee Reports
 - 1. Jane and Harriet have purchased a new version of QuickBooks and installed it on Jane's computer.
 - 2. Should we continue to send emails to membership encouraging registration for Monthly Speaker Meetings? Board consensus is yes, continue to send.
 - I. Board Member Reports
 - 1. California Audubon Society Chapter Committee Meeting is at the end of February, please send Eric anything you would like him to bring up.
 - 2. St. Joseph Cemetery project is on hold for the next 6 months.
- VIII. Adjournment: 8:29 pm