

MINUTES [APPROVED]

Sacramento Audubon Society

Board of Directors Meeting

Date / Time: May 31, 2022 @ 6:31 pm

Location: Virtual

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Approval of Minutes
 - A. Call to Order 6:32 pm
 - B. Roll Call
 1. Board Members Present: Bill Bianco, Nancy Gronert, Mary Forrestal, Jane Van Kessel, Paul Miller, Daphne Reimer
 2. Board Members Absent: Anthony Asay, Eric Johnson, Harriet Saeck
 - C. Approval of Minutes (April 2022) approved by consensus
- II. Guests / Public Comments: NA
- III. Presentations: NA
- IV. Officer Reports
 - A. President
 1. Received email thank you from Freya McGregor of Birdability for our \$500 donation.
 2. June 17-July 2, Bill Bianco will be out of town and have limited connection via email.
 3. Nancy has received updates to the P&P from Bill, Harriet, and Jane and will make the changes when she returns from her trip.
 - B. Treasurer
 1. Sales Tax has been added to the Income Statement for the pins sold. Please be sure to state, "sales tax included" as well as "postage included." The article in the Observer only indicates shipping is included.
 2. \$1,100 was budgeted for Speaker's Fee. Nothing was spent this year, why? From a past discussion, it is understood that the speakers are turning down the payment.
 - C. Other Officers
- V. Old Business
 - A. Board Elections Update
 1. As of Monday, May 30th ninety-four people had voted – all "Yes."
 2. 16 people who are not members have voted. Jane will remove these votes from the count.
 - B. Field Activities Committee – Mission and Protocols: Maureen took the board's comments under advisement and sent the revised protocols and mission to the Field Activities Committee and Field Trip Leaders. Committee members and leaders were asked to acknowledge having read and understood the documents.
 - C. SAS Gmail
 1. sacaudubonpresident@gmail.com has been created and is in use.
 2. Membership will continue to use sacaudubonmembership@gmail.com
 3. Accounts that need to be created will be determined via email this summer. Protocols and procedures for creating those accounts will also be finalized.
 - D. Business Cards
 1. Remove bird tracts and address. In its place put *70 years advocating for birds*.
 2. On the back, put the QR code and a list of general activities like field trips, beginning birder, monthly programs, family friendly and accessibility programs.

- E. List of duties not in Committee and Officer Descriptions
 - 1. If anyone still needs to send in duties or has any additions or changes, please send to Harriet.
 - 2. The goal of this project is to have a list of everything Board Members do, regardless of if it falls under their specific job description. This way if something happens, someone will know what they are doing and be able to pick up the project.
- F. Protocol for approving articles submitted to *The Observer*
 - 1. Add following statement to Policies and Procedures

“Articles not reflecting the mission of Sacramento Audubon, shall be reviewed by the board prior to publication in *The Observer*.”
 - 2. Keep statement currently in *The Observer*

“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. Bill will formalize and send to Nancy to be added to the Policy and Procedures
- G. Spending Ideas: Nothing new at this time.

VI. New Business

- A. Grant request: William Jessup University, Rocklin Campus - Burrowing Owl nesting project
 - 1. Motion to approve the grant request for \$1500 for the Burrowing Owl Nesting project. (Nancy 1st, Paul 2nd) approved unanimously.
 - 2. Bill will inquire about getting a link to video for our website and possible updates of the project progress to be included in the Observer.

VII. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports

- A. Membership - Numbers from Jane’s email to the Board on May 14, 2022.
 - 1. There are currently 672 dues-paying SAS members. 408 of these members are receiving e-newsletters. There were 5 new SAS members this month. 15 members were made inactive this month - 14 hadn’t paid their dues and 1 member, Howard Whitaker, passed away.
 - 2. There are 2,728 NAS members that live in our chapter area. There were 41 new NAS members this month that live in our chapter area.
- B. Education: Successful presentation given to local senior home. Second presentation for May was cancelled. Additional presentation scheduled for July.
- C. Website
 - 1. Number of visits has increased dramatically compared to the same 30 day period last year.
 - a. 9.9K visits for the 30 days ending May 31, 2022
 - b. 5.3K visits for the 30 days ending May 31, 2021
 - 2. For the 30 days ending May 31, 2022 - 6,783 visits came from internet searches. Examples of searches that lead to our site include:
 - a. Search for “sacramento audubon” leads visitors to the home page
 - b. Search for “birds that sing at night in California” leads visitors to /kids-corner/northern-mockingbird-the-great-imitator
 - 3. Sacramento Area Birds Checklist continues to be the most visited page.
- D. Conservation
 - 1. Reichmuth Park:
 - a. On May 16th Bill met with Shawn C. Aylesworth, Manager, Park Maintenance Division, City of Sacramento; Remy Martin, President Reichmuth Park Disk Golf Association; Dan Airola; Kim Oldehoeft; and Robert Burness, H2020/ECOS, at Reichmuth Park.

- b. The Disc Golf Association plans to take down all the disc nets during the rainy season – either Dec 1 to March or Jan 1 to April. This will help reduce the widening of trails and allow some of the growth back in the disk area.
 - c. According to Shawn Aylesworth, the city may not currently have the money to take the BMX course out. It will need to be brought before the city council. The city may decide rather than removing it to make it an official part of the park. Dan Airola suggested an alternative site for the BMX track but was told it was too far away.
 - d. Bill will write another letter to Shawn, requesting to be informed as to when the issue will be brought to the city council's attention. Bill will also ask for recommendations on next steps at the next ECOS/Habitat 2020 meeting.
2. Delta Tunnel: Not expecting the release of the Draft EIR in June. When it is released, Paul will help with writing comments.
 3. Natomas Airport: ECOS is trying to setup a meeting with council member, Shawn Roberts to discuss the project.
 4. Coyote Creek: SMUD did not follow the appropriate screening process in approving this process. ECOS's goal it to avoid allowing this to set a precedent for future projects.
- E. Outreach
1. June 11, outreach table at Camp Pollock's 100th Anniversary Festival
 2. Aug 16, Harvest Festival with the UCCE Master Gardeners
 3. Chalk it Up is Labor Day Weekend. Still need to give them the artwork preference. Recommend "local birds in local Sacramento Region" Refer them to the Sacramento Birds of Note page on the website. <https://www.sacramentoaudubon.org/birds-of-sacramento>
 4. This year's Lodi Crane Festival is expected to be an in-person event on November 4-6. They have contacted SAS about interest in participating. In the past we have done a \$500 sponsorship.
- F. Accessibility: June 15 field trip to Humburg Creek is full.
- G. Bobelaine
1. California Chapter did not make their field trip due to COVID.
 2. Maintenance is ongoing.
 3. Grant process has been delayed.
- H. Other Committee Reports
1. Big Day of Giving (BDOG) raised \$5500. This was the first year since 2018 that the donations from the BDOG did not increase.
- I. Board Member Reports: None

VIII. Adjournment 8:18 pm