

Approved Minutes
Sacramento Audubon Society
Board of Directors Meeting

Date / Time: November 24, 2020 @ 6:30 pm

Location: Virtual

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Approval of Minutes
 - A. Call to Order 6:33
 - B. Roll Call
 1. Board Members Present: Daphne Reimer, Mary Forrestal, Jane Van Kessel, Elliot Chasin, Bill Bianco, Diana Hickson, Harriet Saeck
 2. Board Members Absent: Nancy Gronert, Heather White
 - C. Approval of Minutes (October 2020) – Approved unanimously
- II. Guests / Public Comments: N/A
- III. Presentations: N/A
- IV. Officer Reports
 - A. President
 1. Construction at Bobelaine should be completed by December 1. Bill will do the prefinal site walk on Tuesday, December 1. We should receive a load of gravel and 3 metal picnic tables. Closed signs have been taken down at Bobelaine. Website should be updated to indicate Bobelaine is closed through Dec. 1.
 2. Neotropical Grassland Conservancy (<http://conservegrassland.org/>) - Contacted Maureen Geiger, requesting old optics to send students in Central and South America. Bill recommends placing information in *The Observer* and on the Website. Need to determine how donations will be collected. Revisit, after Maureen advises Bill when items need to be shipped, for Board to approve paying for any shipping costs.
 3. Education Chair needed - Place notice in *The Observer* and on the Website.
 4. Board Member needed to fill Gesna's position. Bill is asking for recommendations. Daphne suggests looking outside the membership.
 5. Protect Walker Ridge Letter – Bill has been contacted about signing a letter to secure protection of Walker Ridge as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern. He has reached out to the group and is waiting response before signing the letter.
 - B. Treasurer
 1. Comparing year to year dues, \$4,400 in dues at this time last year, currently at \$7,200.
 2. Received bequest of \$20,000 from the estate of Laurie G Isbell. The bequest came with no instructions and she was not a member. It has been placed under General Donation and in the SAS savings account.
 3. 990 is completed. Any emails being received about filing a 990 tax form are advertising.
 4. This month's financials are missing the printing costs for the December Observer. The bill arrived too late to be included.

- C. Corresponding Secretary
- D. Other Officers

V. Old Business

A. Review of Bylaws

1. No change to Article II, Section 6 – Leave past president information the same. Clarify responsibilities in Policies and Procedures.
2. Article VI – No change in the bylaws. Make any change relating to credit card usage in Policies and Procedures.
3. Article I, Section 5 – The term general membership is vague and confusing, should it be changed? At this time no change will be made to the term General Membership.
4. Article I, Section 6 - Discussed without resolution
5. Article II, Section 2 - Change email to electronically.
6. Article IV, Section 1 – Discussion of weak language, but no change at this time.
7. A copy with changes marked and a finalized copy need to be created. These should be posted on the Website for board to review. Once the board has approved it, the membership will vote on new by-laws via the website similar to the Board Elections.

B. Cat Policy

1. Motion to adopt the cat policy as proposed. (Diana 1st, Jane 2nd) approved unanimously.
2. Daphne will work on writing an article for the News blog and *The Observer* introducing the policy to membership.
3. Possible next steps: encourage other local Audubon societies to adopt similar policies, contact local shelters to ask them to change their literature and language, contact local officials, such as those in charge of the American River Parkway and local parks that have wildlife habitat, create a flyer for outreach, work with the community to implement the policy.

VI. New Business

A. Sacramento Valley Conservancy Film Sponsorship (SVC)

(sacramentovalleyconservancy.org/film-sponsorship)

1. SVC is developing two short films in place of holding their annual Treasures of the Valley Event
 - a. Film 1: Fresh, Locally-Grown Food and a Legacy of Family Farming at Elkhorn Basin Ranch
 - b. Film 2: Healthy Environment, Healthy People — Explore Sacramento's Largest Oak Woodland Preserve
2. Motion to sponsor Film 2: Healthy Environment, Healthy People at \$250(Diana 1st, Elliot 2nd) approved unanimously

- ### B. SAS Scholarship – There are a lot of question to be answered before we proceed with establishing a SAS scholarship. Alternatively, could a donation be given to a group with established scholarships. Diana will research groups we could work with such as Outdoor Afro and Latino Outdoors.

VII. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports

A. Membership

B. Education

C. Website

1. Motion to establish a \$100 discretionary photography budget for the website (Mary 1st, Elliot 2nd) approved unanimously
2. As of Nov. 24, 97 people had signed up to receive Action Alerts.
3. Ed Harper donated pictures of Black Rails for the website after seeing our request at the November Speaker Presentation. We now have pictures for all the birds on the checklist.

D. Conservation

1. Next Habitat 2020 meeting December 1.
2. Daphne requested Elliot write something up for the News Blog, outlining what's coming up for the next year in conservation.

E. Outreach

1. Outreach events for the upcoming year have been added to the Calendar of Events on the Website.

F. Other Committee Reports

G. Board Member Reports

1. Mobility Impaired Birding – Maureen Geiger is working with Paul Miller to complete a review of Stone Lakes Wildlife Refuge, using the checklist from National, focusing on accessibility. The goal is to add Mobility Impaired trips to the field trip calendar once in-person field trips resume.

VIII. Adjournment 8:13