

## Minutes (Approved)

### Sacramento Audubon Society

#### Board of Directors Meeting

Date / Time: November 29, 2022 @ 6:30 pm

Location: Virtual

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Approval of Minutes
  - A. Call to Order 6:36 pm
  - B. Roll Call
    1. Board Members Present: Paul Miller, Harriet Saeck, Nancy Gronert, Mary Forrestal, Jane Van Kessel, Susan Goodrich, Taylor Florence, Bill Weaver, Bill Bianco
    2. Board Members Absent: Eric Johnson, Anthony Asay
  - C. Approval of Minutes (October 2022) approved by consensus with changes
- II. Guests / Public Comments: None
- III. Presentations: None
- IV. Officer Reports
  - A. President
    1. Business Cards
      - a. Motion to purchase 500 business cards for less than \$100. (Paul 1<sup>st</sup>, Susan 2<sup>nd</sup>) Approved unanimously.
      - b. Distribution and providing them to field trip leaders will be discussed at the next Field Activities Committee meeting.
    2. Storage Unit
      - a. Considering 10x10 storage unite at Life Storage at Folsom and Howe. Initial quote is \$60/month there will probably be additional fees.
      - b. Motion to rent a 10x10 storage unit at Life Storage for no more than \$80 a month. (Paul 1<sup>st</sup>, Jane 2<sup>nd</sup>) Approved unanimously.
    3. Galt Winter Bird Festival: Motion to sponsor the Galt Winter Bird Festival at \$500. (Nancy1<sup>st</sup>, Paul 2<sup>nd</sup>) Approved unanimously.
  - B. Treasurer
    1. Dues from July to December are up over last year at this time.
    2. Expenses: Paid for Bufferlands calendar and Effie Yeaw booklet. Nature in the Classroom is at \$3100. Observer costs appear higher due to an increase in pricing and timing. Harriet will review the Observer printing costs. A short article in the Observer reminding folks how to sign-up for the electronic Observer might be appropriate.
    3. Money has been moved to the checking account, so that \$75,000 can be invested in the U.S. Bank Certificate of Deposit with a 2.9% interest rate as approved at the September 2022 board meeting.
  - C. Other Officers: None
- V. New Business
  - A. Big Day of Giving is May 4, 2023. Registration and \$85 fee will need to be submitted in January. Motion to allow Jane to pay \$85 for the Big Day of Giving registration. (Nancy 1<sup>st</sup>, Harriet 2<sup>nd</sup>) Approved unanimously.

## VI. Old Business: None

## VII. Committee Chair and Board Member Reports

- A. Membership: From Jane's email dated Nov. 16, 2022
  - 1. Currently, there are 658 dues-paying SAS members. 405 of these members are receiving e-newsletters. There were 11 new SAS members this month and 2 inactive members came back. 8 SAS members were made inactive this month because they hadn't paid their dues.
  - 2. There are 2,454 NAS members that live in our chapter area. There were 22 new NAS members this month that live in our chapter area. The new NAS members have either been emailed or sent letters about SAS and how to join.
- B. Education: From Education Committee Report 11/27/22
  - 1. Last education committee meeting was 11/7/22
  - 2. Family Nature Walks - Sue Darst has dates set and leaders committed for walks. Dates are Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, Apr. 15, May 20, and Jun. 17. Walks are at Effie Yeaw.
  - 3. Upcoming Presentations
    - a. Gardeners of Elk Grove, Feb. 6, 2023. Cliff Feldheim doing presentation.
    - b. Organic Garden Club of Sacramento County. Date 1st Friday in April or May.
  - 4. Beginning Birder Trips - Cathie LaZier has dates set; 11/13, 12/4, 1/8, & 2/12. Locations: William Pond and Cosumnes River Preserve.
  - 5. Outreach: Galt Winter Bird Festival, Sat. Feb. 4. Bill will send out request for volunteers on helping with the event.
  - 6. Kids Bird Count: Committee will be reviewing requirements for kids count at up-coming meetings. Nicole Barden is interested in being the coordinator for the counts, which would likely be 2023.
  - 7. Next committee meeting mid-January 2023
- C. Website: Historical calendar of events is on Google Drive if anyone has anything add.
- D. Conservation
  - 1. Measure A failed. This is the primary project ECOS has been working on.
  - 2. Group of concerned birders and community members are tracking the bird usage at Quarry Pond. Concern that levee mitigation may impact the pond which appears to be a night time resting spot for Canvasback and potentially have a mated pair of Bald Eagles. The group of concerned community members is next meeting on 12/15.
- E. Field Trips: From Field Activities Report, November 2022
  - 1. Recent Field Trips and other birding activities by month
    - a. November - 7 field trips plus a Beginning Birder trip; 5 local, 2 more distant. Additional events include Ducks and Scopes and CVBS.
    - b. December - 7 field trips plus a Beginning Birder trip; 4 local, 3 more distant. Additional events include EYNC Birding with Families 1x/month and Christmas Bird Counts in Greater Sac area: 3 (Dec)+ 1 (Jan)
  - 2. 2022 Field Trips Summary: 5 beginning birder trips, 5 accessible/birdability trips, 10 Family Friendly trips, and 64 regular trips. 84 total trips for an average of 7 field trips per month for 2022
  - 3. Partially completed Name tag/pin distribution: After the 10/27/22 Volunteer Appreciation Event, 27/37 FT leaders have both name tags and pins; 10 need to be delivered. For other volunteers, 5 need to be delivered.
  - 4. Goals for 2023 include: possibly increasing the number of FAC members, possibly increasing number of FT leaders or increasing active participation, exploring mentor program for new leaders, exploring collaboration with other groups and Audubon chapters, exploring sites for field trips, exploring CBC options. Add to those goals tracking how many participants per trip.
- F. Accessibility
  - 1. Leading one accessibility trip per month.
  - 2. Mindful birding trip on 12/10 currently has 14 people planning to attend.

3. Working to connect California Audubon with Access Birding in hopes of creating a statewide accessible program. Access Birding provides consulting and training services on inclusion, access, disability, and birding. Access Birding was founded by former Birdability Coordinator, Freya McGregor.
- G. Bobelaine: From Bobelaine Committee Report 11/28/22
1. Last Bobelaine committee meeting was 11/15/22
  2. Committee is reviewing how the endowment was established and how funds are provided to SAS for Bobelaine. The 1975 agreement between NAS and SAS on how funds are distributed has changed, so committee will be researching this.
  3. Committee is in the process of revising the 5-year Management Plan (1995 - 2000). Committee decided that the 5-year plan should only provide direction and information for the routine upkeep and maintenance of Bobelaine Sanctuary.
  4. The Master Plan should include items that are outside of routine upkeep and maintenance. The Master Plan would include upgrades that are high cost or beyond the capabilities of the volunteer workers. Such as, bridge at South Forty trail capable of supporting the capacity of a fire truck; widening of trails for fire truck movability; environmental or habitat studies. Examples of high-cost items to consider: tractor replacement or major repair; 4-wheel drive vehicle replacement, cameras to monitor parking area.
  5. Committee will be considering what type of upgrade the kiosk will require. Cost estimates will be required for board review.
  6. Trail Maps:
    - a. A new supply of trail maps will be required early 2023. Received a cost from Carmichael Printing. 1500 copies with map and Bobelaine history on opposite side; total cost \$203.11.
    - b. Motion to print 1500 new copies of the Bobelaine trail map for \$203.11 through Carmichael printing. (Mary 1<sup>st</sup>, Paul 2<sup>nd</sup>) Approved unanimously.
  7. Received noticed today from Gretchen Umlauf with FlowWest that they were awarded 9.5M grant through River Partners. Gretchen will contact SAS with additional information soon.
  8. Request was made to replace current portable toilet with handicap/ADA model. Contacted Ben's Toilet Rental. They provided a rental quote of \$198.20 per month. Currently paying \$76.06 for the non-ADA portable toilet. Bill will investigate other providers.
  9. Suggestion was to have a donation collection box for Bobelaine. Need to look at various designs. Could also incorporate QR code for donations. Consider Venmo account – uses QR code, Harriet will investigate.
  10. Shed painting. East and west sides of shed are painted. Roof rust areas 2/3 primered. Access to roof hindering progress, weather also a factor. Dew (mornings) and leaves limit progress.
- H. Monthly Speaker
- I. Other Committee Reports
1. Request from members to return to in-person meetings for monthly speaker meetings. Add to agenda for January board meeting.
  2. Request to return to in person board meetings. Effie Yeaw's outdoor patio would be an option. Possible quarterly birding trips for board.
- J. Board Member Reports: None

VIII.Adjournment: 7:53