

Loess Hills Audubon Society Meeting  
Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center  
November 1, 2018

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA

6:15 pm

**Board Members Present:** David Hoferer, Paul Roisen, Randy Williams, Jeri Watkins, Donna Popp, Ann Shaner, Rex Rundquist, Bill Zales, Jerry Von Ehwegen, Dotty Zales, Dawn Snyder, Gary Heineman, John Polifka

**Board Members Absent:** Leesa McNeil, Jody Moats, Carol Blair

**Honored Guests:** Sharon Polifka, Chuck Johnson, Maria Rundquist, Bob Nickolson, Phyllis Nickolson

- I. Call to Order 6:17 PM
- II. Approve minutes from October meeting with the following corrections (**bold** and underlined) below:
  1. Item XIV, B, 3: "...Bomgaars **and Feed Shed**" for bird food suppliers
  2. Item XIV, C: "... October **24**" for newsletter due date
  3. Approve and second for the corrections.
- III. Secretary's Report - Randy W.
  - A. One terabyte external hard drive purchased for backup of the LHAS laptop with receipt submitted for reimbursement.
  - B. Available hard copies of:
    1. Tonight's agenda
    2. Tyler Harms letter
    3. Paul R.'s request for job descriptions.
- IV. President - David H.: see new business
- V. Vice-President - Paul R.
  - A. Request for job descriptions from officers and committees heads
  - B. There are inconsistencies and tweaks need to be made to the bylaws
  - C. Everyone to write a job description and submit to all 3 of us (Paul, David, Randy)
    1. Good start provided by an excellent job description from Ann S.
    2. Descriptions will allow a smooth transition from
      - a) Election to election
      - b) If a member cannot complete a term and someone needs to take over.
  - D. Everyone to get a copy of the most recent bylaws.
    1. It appears there are some older copies available.
    2. Older copies need to be replaced with the most recent version
  - E. Please consider this revision of the bylaws as interactive for all officers and committee chairs
  - F. Will have to notify general membership of changes.

- VI. Treasurer – Jeri W.
  - A. Credit - \$1935.20
  - B. Debit - \$3060.90
  - C. Balance - \$5112.38
  - D. Letter from Dawn S. for our contribution to the trumpeter swans.
- VII. Membership – Donna P.
  - A. No real changes from October
  - B. It is not easy to work with National Audubon.
- VIII. Conservation – Bill Z.
  - A. Try to have a look at the recent *National Geographic* magazine article regarding the pervasiveness of plastics.
  - B. David H., a recent report on bird populations shows individual bird numbers are down by 60%.
- IX. Naturalist/Education – Jody M., no report.
- X. Outings – Jerry V.
  - A. 12 people saw 54 species on the 20 Oct (date corrected from 10 October to 20 October) outing with a wonder lunch at the home of John and Sharon Polifka
  - B. Next outing is 11/10 and we'll meet at 7:30 AM at the Singing Hills Walmart.
  - C. LHAS website is up to date
  - D. A scheduling conflict was noted with our November outing date and the Adams Homestead Christmas celebration.
- XI. Publicity – Dawn S.
  - A. Need dates and some background information or contact information for area Christmas Bird Counts
  - B. Dates in newsletter but no details for individual counts
  - C. More information provided later by Jerry Probst.
- XII. Social – Carol B. No report.
- XIII. Audubon Adventures – Gary H.: *Audubon Adventures* are essentially no longer available
- XIV. Old Business
  - A. LHAS manual - Dave, Paul, Randy
    - 1. Committees
      - a) Should have 3 members per bylaws
        - (1) Many committees have only 1 member
        - (2) Possibly combine some committees
        - (3) Spread the work from committee chair to others interested in the committee
        - (4) Reach out to our membership to involve them in our committees and become inclusive with our membership
      - b) Based on past bylaws
        - (1) There should be a large number of people on the LHAS Board of Directors.
        - (2) This calls into question the ability to make a quorum.

- (3) Board decisions could be impacted by whether a quorum was reached under the current bylaws.
  - 2. By-laws – See V, above, for details.
  - 3. Job descriptions – See V, above, for details
  - 4. Ask for one submitted report from the Board members and committee chairs
    - a) Might facilitate the Board meetings
    - b) Prevent misconceptions during verbal reports
    - c) Alleviate transcription errors in the Board minutes
  - 5. Post Office box
    - a) Remains available
    - b) Keys with David H. and Jeri W.
    - c) Can this be better utilized?
  - B. Budget
    - 1. Needs to be put together
    - 2. Plan for things as well as have a buffer for unexpected things
    - 3. In times past, an August meeting called by the President and was used to put together a budget every year.
    - 4. LHAS should continue to follow a fiscal year
    - 5. Will need to set a deadline for submissions.
  - C. Holiday protocol discussion - tabled
  - D. Potential VP to President transition - tabled
  - E. Iowa Young Birders
    - 1. Email from Tyler Harms
    - 2. Donation request to Iowa Young Birders
      - a) Unique programs starting in 2019
      - b) New field notebook or guide for attendees
      - c) Will wait for budget to be determined before responding to the donation request.
  - F. Bird Food Sale – Dotty Z.: There are a few extra bags available of some bird foods.
- XV. New Business
- A. Nature Center Renovation & LHAS Meetings – Dawn S.
    - 1. New HVAC system replacement for DPNC starts after 1<sup>st</sup> of the year
    - 2. Offices to move upstairs
    - 3. LHAS can continue with DPNC if our meetings can be compacted in one room, if possible, for Feb., Mar. and maybe April?
    - 4. Alternatives could be
      - a) Briar Cliff?
      - b) Adams Homestead?
  - B. Christmas Bird Count – Dotty and Jerry Probst
    - 1. Date, time, place, etc. for Dawn S. for publicity.
    - 2. Jerry P. has sign up sheets available for the counts
  - C. Format for General Meetings – David H.

1. Share sightings, questions, announcements, etc.
  - a) Call to order
  - b) Announcements
  - c) Program
  - d) Questions from general membership
2. Annual meeting format
  - a) Formal presentation of this past year's activities/accomplishments to general membership?
  - b) Election of officers
  - c) Review of what we did for the general membership
  - d) Add a report to the newsletter
- D. End of calendar year report due in December for National Audubon
  1. Jerry V tracks many things for this, based on his prior experience.
  2. Another reason for monthly tracking of committee reports
- E. End of year fiscal report for the chapter (and National) in June
- F. Butterfly ID from Gracie's garden
- XVI. Adjourn - Moved and second to adjourn at 7 :15 PM

## General Meeting

- I. Call to Order 7:30 PM
- II. Announcement
  - A. Christmas Bird Counts - Jerry P.
    1. Dates, times, and contacts for the region.
    2. Sign up sheet going around
  - B. Bird food extras - Bill and Dotty Z.
- III. Bird sightings in the area
- IV. Upcoming programs - Leesa M.
- V. Tonight:
  - A. Jordan Giese - Prairie Strips and Birds
  - B. Have a look at: [www.prairiestrips.org](http://www.prairiestrips.org)
  - C. Project also reviewed on National Audubon Society website and in *Audubon* magazine.
- VI. 38 attendees
- VII. Adjourn - 8:33 PM