

Loess Hills Audubon Society Meeting

Zoom-based webinar

16 April 2020

**Chapter Executives Present: David H., Jeri W., Randy W., Anne S., Dotty Z.,
Donna P., and Rex R.**

Chapter Executives Absent: Paul R., Jerry V.

Honored Guests: Maria R., Bill H.

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

6:15 PM

- I. Call to Order at 6:21 PM
- II. Approve minutes from March meeting – approved as submitted, no additions or corrections.
- III. Secretary's Report – Randy W.,
 - A. See Treasurer's report – thank you notes have been sent to those who have contributed to the Leland Schmidt memorial for LHAS
 - B. Bill will be submitted for postage and thank you notes (\$14.99 - combined)
 - C. See Communications Committee report
- IV. President's Report – David H.
 - A. 7 May meeting might be questionable due to continuing Covid-19 guidelines
 - B. LHAS executives decided to cancel the May meeting due to
 1. Social distancing measures
 2. Meeting size restrictions
 3. Both might remain in place even in early May
 4. DPNC may not be open in May
 5. Many of our members could be high risk patients if they become infected
 - C. Nominating committee report – Bill H. and Randy W.
 1. President nominee – Maria Rundquist
 2. Vice-President nominee– no candidate at this time
 3. Director 2 nominee – Donna P. is willing to continue in this position
 4. Director 4 nominee – Jody Moats
 5. Several names were suggested as candidates for Vice-President, the candidates will be contacted by Randy and/or Bill.

D. Elections – How should we proceed?

1. Wish to keep Thursday, 7 May as the election date
2. We are not quite in compliance with our bylaws but we are working under an extraordinary situation.
3. A list of the nominees will be sent via MailChimp to the membership
 - a) The Vice-President's position will remain open if no candidate is found.
 - b) The membership will be asked to make a recommendation for a candidate.
 - c) The recommended candidate(s) will be contacted by a member of the nominating committee or another board member before being placed on the ballot
4. David H. will set up a Survey Monkey ballot.
5. The web address of the ballot will be sent to members in good standing of Loess Hills Audubon (not by MailChimp).
6. There will be a set date and time limit on the survey.
7. Nominees will be notified of election results by telephone and by email.

E. Dave has the LHAS display boards in his garage. Is there someone else who could store them for the chapter? He needs the room and would like to get them out, please.

V. Vice-President's Report – Paul R., no report.

VI. Treasurer – Jeri W.

A. Debits - \$4.95 for the current website

B. Credits - \$1085.00 for the Leland Schmidt memorial

C. Balance - \$7474.61

D. Leland Schmidt Memorial funds

1. A few more memorials have arrived but have not yet been deposited.
2. Total for the memorial: \$1177.00 as of 15 April 2020
3. Is there something special we can do with these generous gifts?
4. One suggestion was a re-working and revised printing of the Loess Hills bird finding map.

E. Donation for the meeting room at DPNC for September through March is \$210.00.

F. Loess Hills Prairie Seminar

1. ~~Motion was made to contribute to the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar as we have done in times past.~~ Since the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar has been cancelled a motion was made to allow the organizers of the seminar to keep the funds we donated to plan for the 2021 seminar.
 2. Second received and vote was unanimous to provide the donation.
- VII. Membership Committee – Donna P., no report
- VIII. Chapter Activities Committee – Dotty Z.
- A. See above for cancellation of the May meeting.
 - B. Suggestions for next year's programming
 1. Will try to arrange to have programs that were canceled due to Covid-19 restrictions rescheduled for the 2020 – 2021 season
 2. Some suggestions were sent by email
 3. Rex suggested Bruce Ellingson, a photographer from Buena Vista County, Iowa. See: <https://bruceellingson.com> or <https://www.facebook.com/Natures-Image-119671878075278/>. His work is from the Loess Hills, Minnesota, Arizona and western National Parks.
- IX. Communications Committee – Randy W.
- A. Question was raised at the last meeting regarding Option 2 of the new website proposal.
 1. Could we begin with the public aspect of the website and then add the LHAS-only aspect of the site later?
 2. Samuel felt it would be relatively easy to do so.
 - B. It was suggested to table any further work on the new website.
 1. Meeting size restrictions would still be in place
 2. Where would Samuel perform the training?
 - a. Morningside (Samuel) or Briar Cliff (David) facilities have very limited access.
 - b. Prior discussion have been in local coffee shops with background distractions and public wifi with potential security issues.
 3. Elections are coming up and priorities may be realigned.
 4. A decision could be made at the June retreat when current, outgoing and incoming executives could be present.

- C. Randy will contact Samuel regarding the decision and check with him for potential plans this summer and next fall if we decide to follow through with this.
- X. Conservation Committee – Bill Z., no report
- XI. Projects Committee – no report
- XII. Old Business
 - A. Birdathon! – are we still planning for this?
 - 1. No recent announcements
 - 2. Will still have to follow social distancing guidelines
 - 3. Traditionally held on International Migratory Bird Day (Saturday, 9 May, this year).
 - 4. Plans were discussed to possibly allow a range of dates
 - a. For example, Friday, 8 May through Monday, 11 May
 - b. This would accommodate weather and/or participants who have to work weekends.
 - B. A brief reminder will go out with the MailChimp announcement of the slate of officers for the election.
 - C. A second MailChimp announcement will go out closer to the date(s) of the Birdathon
 - D. The announcement will include a request for per species donation or a flat rate donation.
 - E. Bill Huser could provide compilation of the data.
- XIII. New Business
 - A. We hope to have a June Planning Retreat to plan the upcoming season provided Covid-19 restrictions are eased.
 - B. Recent bird sightings were reviewed.
- XIV. Tabled Business
- XV. Adjourn at 7:25 PM

EVERYONE REMAIN HEALTHY!

LHAS Chapter Executives

President	David Hoferer	Director 1	Jerry VonEhwegen
Vice President	Paul Roisen	Director 2	Donna Popp
Secretary	Randy Williams	Director 3	Anne Shaner
Treasurer	Jeri Watkins	Director 4	Rex Rundquist
		Director 5	Dotty Zales