Loess Hills Audubon Society Board Agenda

September 7, 2023; 6:00 PM

Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center

**Members Present:** Rex R., Kari S., Marla K., Jody M., Sharon P., Pam M-S., Jeri W., Bill H.

**Members Absent:** Jerry P.

**Honored Guests:** Randy W., Dotty Z., Bill Z., John P., Chuck J., Donna P., Bob N., Phyllis N.

1. Call to order at 6:00 PM by Rex R.
2. Review of Minutes – Randy W. filling in for Jerry P.
	1. 6/15/2023 – LHAS Board Retreat Minutes
		1. Tabled due to submitted corrections and additions.
		2. Jerry P. is away from Siouxland for 3 weeks.
		3. Randy will proceed, with board approval, to make corrections and re-format for the October meeting.
	2. 7/11/2023 – Bird Guide Zoom Minutes
		1. Marla motion to approve.
		2. Second by Pam
		3. Approved
	3. 7/27/2023 – Finance Working Group Minutes
		1. Marla motion to approve.
		2. Second by Pam
		3. Approved
3. Accomplishments:
	1. Marla K. and Kari S. “Bird Friendly Community” presentations
	2. Jeanne B. bird presentation with Rex R. at Agape Gardens
4. President - Rex R.
	1. Contacts for Audubon Minnesota – Iowa – Missouri Regional Office
		1. 2355 Highway 36, Suite 400, Roseville, MN. 55113
		2. Rob Schultz, Executive Director, Audubon Minnesota, Vice-President, Upper Mississippi River
			1. Office: 651 – 340 – 2390
			2. Cell: 612 – 385 – 8114
			3. Rob.schultz@audubon.org
		3. Lindsay J. Brice, Policy Director
			1. 651 – 731 – 1330
			2. Lindsay.brice@audubon.org
		4. DJ Langefels, Engagement Manager
			1. 651 – 340 – 2350
			2. Dj.langefels@audubon.org
	2. Audubon Leadership Conference, November 2 through 5, 2023
		1. YMCA Camp of the Rockies, Estes Park, CO
		2. Information to be posted to LHAS website: <https://www.loesshillsaudubonsociety.org/conservation-notes>
		3. Anyone interested in attending? Pam M-S?
		4. Scholarships are available.
		5. Please notify Rex if you wish to attend.
	3. Iowa Nature summit, November 16 through 17, 2023
		1. Drake University Olmsted Center, Des Moines, IA
		2. Information is posted to the LHAS website: <https://www.loesshillsaudubonsociety.org/conservation-notes>
		3. Please notify Rex if you wish to attend.
	4. Committee Organization 2023 – 2024, from printed agenda and website: <https://www.loesshillsaudubonsociety.org/constitution>
		1. Standing Committees
			1. Membership Committee – Marla K. (chair), Pam M-S., Randy W.
			2. Chapter Activities Committee – Bill H. (chair), Randy W., Jeanne B., Maria R., Jody M.
			3. Conservation Committee – Bill Z. (chair), Marla K., Kari S.
			4. Communications Committee – Randy W. (chair), Jody M., Kari S., Marla K.
			5. Projects Committee – Randy W. (chair), Sharon P., Dotty Z., Jody M., Pam M-S.
		2. Ad Hoc Committees
			1. Finance Working Group – Sharon P. (chair), John P., Randy W., Rex R., Maria R., Pam M-S., Bill H., Marla K.
			2. Nominating Committee – as needed.
5. Vice President - Bill H.
	1. Outings
		1. Stone Park in August
			1. August well-attended with 6 new individuals
			2. Challenging to find birds at this time of year.
			3. Mississippi Kite was the highlight of the day.
		2. September 23rd
			1. Hitchcock Nature Center for Hawk Watch
			2. Meet at 8:00 AM (? – will check with Hitchcock and maybe adjust start time) to get there about 10:00 AM.
			3. Will meet at Singing Hills Walmart
		3. Saturday, 14 October – Fall Migratory Bird Day
			1. 7:30 AM meet at Singing Hills Walmart
				1. Will check area cemeteries and South Ravine Park and then:
				2. Meet at Prairie Park to support Bird Friendly City designation.
				3. Perhaps go elsewhere following Prairie Park visit.
			2. Prairie Park from 9:00 AM to Noon
				1. To support Bird Friendly city designation
				2. Easy access area with available field guides and optics for beginning birders.
	2. 162 species on the LHAS eBird group account since 10/2022.
	3. Siouxland Bird Guide
		1. Bird list is complete and submitted to Seth Brooks.
		2. Sites and Facilities list is submitted for review.
			1. A couple more areas will need to be added.
			2. Updated facilities information obtained by organization, county, state, or municipal websites.
			3. Copy of the facilities spreadsheet will be sent to board members.
		3. Seth is progressing on the map.
			1. Cannot use all the old files.
			2. Challenge of having the old files work with new but similar software.
			3. Progress is being made.
6. Treasurer - Sharon P.
	1. Below information copied from email sent at the end of August.
		1. August beginning balance = $7307.10
			1. Deposits
				1. Chapter Membership = $20.00
				2. Total Deposits = $20.00
			2. Withdrawals
				1. None
				2. Total Withdrawals = $00.00
		2. August ending balance = $7327.10
		3. Little Sioux Scout Ranch pledge status – Total $3000.00
			1. First payment of $1000 made December 2022
			2. Second payment of $1000 due December 2023
			3. Third payment of $1000 due December 2024
		4. Pledge of $1000.00 for USD Motus tracking project remains dependent on additional funding sources.
		5. Motion by Marla K. to approve the financial report.
			1. Second by Pam M-S.
			2. Report Approved.
	2. William Vust bequest
		1. Properties were sold
		2. Attorneys will send an amended inventory.
		3. Attorneys will then work on distribution.
7. Secretary - Jerry P., see above
8. Committee Reports:
	1. Membership Committee report - Marla K. & Bill Z.
		1. Need to approve purchase order both membership brochures and business cards require reprinting.
			1. Proposed to have 1000 membership brochures printed for $382.00 per Record Printing estimate.
			2. Proposed to have 1000 business card printed for $85.00 per Record Printing estimate.
			3. Total cost: $467.00 based on estimates provided by Record Printing.
			4. Discussion followed regarding costs and quantities.
				1. No estimate provided for business cards for quantities over 1000 cards.
				2. Estimate of $551.00 to have 1500 membership brochures printed.
				3. We have outreach events coming up (see below), both items will be required.
			5. Pam M-S. motion to have 1500 brochures and 1000 business cards printed.
				1. This would total $636.00 ($551 for brochures + $85 for business cards)
				2. 2nd by Bill H.
				3. $636 total unanimous approval
	2. Promotional items for LHAS
		1. With board approval Randy will contact American Recognition (<https://www.americanrecognition.com>) for a meeting regarding:
			1. Birding Backpacks for use by local nature centers and libraries
			2. Promotional items for outings, booths
				1. Pens
				2. T-shirts
		2. Randy, Marla and Kari will try to meet with a representative for more information.
	3. Outreach
		1. Birds of Prey Show, an LHAS mini-grant recipient.
			1. Friday, 29 Sep 2023 at 10:00 AM
			2. Plymouth County Historical Museum, 335 First Ave. SW, Le Mars. Enter through the south doors.
			3. Randy plans to attend others are also welcome.
		2. Migratory Bird Day Event: Prairie Park, Oct 14, 2023; 9 to Noon, will coincide with LHAS monthly outing.
		3. City of Sioux City Health Fair: October 26th, 2023, from 11:00 to 2:00 PM
		4. Morningside Lutheran Church, 8 November 2023 – Intro to LHAS & Birding!
		5. NW Iowa Sierra Group Chili Social: January 2024?
	4. Sources of revenue for chapter – discussion tabled due to lack of time.
		1. Birdathon 2023
			1. Sponsors?
			2. Individual contributions
		2. Signature Item sale idea - Marla K., Jody M., Pam M-S., Kari S.
			1. Coffee
				1. Stone Bru may get bird-friendly coffee.
				2. Wait until coffee comes in then speak with him.
			2. Light bulbs? Window tape?
	5. Chapter Activities Committee report - Bill H. and Randy W.
		1. Programs report 2023-2024 – see email from Randy W. Programs set for this season.
		2. Possible speakers for 2024-2025
			1. “County Parks”, Dan Heisel
			2. “Bumble Bee Atlas”, Stephanie Shepherd, Iowa DNR.
	6. Projects Committee report - Randy W.
		1. Motus proposal by Dave Swanson
			1. Will re-submit application in December 2023.
			2. Two partners in this application process did not have their sections of the proposal ready to meet the prior deadline.
		2. Mini-Grants
			1. Randy will modify announcement from past application cycle.
			2. $4000 will again be offered based on discussion in the minutes of the Finance Working Group, 7/27/23.
			3. Discussion followed regarding the grant amount. That value may no longer be workable.
			4. Due to time, discussion tabled to October board meeting.
		3. Siouxland Bird Guide update – see above, Vice-President report.
		4. “A Warbler’s Journey” - Jan N., no direct report.
		5. Record files of Director & Committee Reports in Google – Board members need to sign into their accounts.
		6. Fundraising “working group” (Finance subcommittee)
		7. Betty Strong Encounter Center Photo Exhibit.
			1. Enough photographers have agreed to provide about 30 prints for the show.
			2. Randy W. will contact Betty Strong personnel to determine show dates!
	7. Conservation Committee report - Bill Z. & Marla K.
		1. Bird Friendly Iowa (Bird Friendly Community) see “Accomplishments” above for outreach presentations.
		2. Fishing line recycling containers see Marla’s Director’s Report
			1. Will work with city.
			2. Kevin K. will make some.
			3. Locations
				1. Container placement may be critical, or they will not be utilized.
				2. Primary goal to remove the line from the environment.
				3. Bacon Creek
				4. Sertoma
				5. Prairie Park
				6. Stone Park
		3. North Floyd Prairie project – not discussed.
	8. Communications Committee report (Randy W., Kari S., Jody M.)
9. Directors’ Reports: (Jeri W., Marla K., Pam M-S., Jody M., Kari S.)
10. Old Business: LHAS Archives and Display Case: Disposition – not discussed.
11. New Business:
12. Adjourn – 6:58 PM

**General Meeting**

1. Monthly Gathering (Sept 7, 2023)
2. Announcements
	1. September Outing: (Bill H.)
	2. Prairie Park Event: (Marla K. or Randy W.)
	3. Zales’ Feed and Seed.
	4. A Warbler’s Journey available.
3. September Program: “Poggensee’s Picks”: Don Poggensee; introduction by Randy W.

Attendance: 35