**Loess Hills Audubon Society**

**Board Minutes**

**April 13, 2023; 6:00 PM**

**Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center**

**Present:** Rex R., Randy W., Sharon P., Jody M. Jerry V.

**Absent:** Marla K., Jerry P., Bill H., Dawn S.

**Honored Guests:** Kari S., Jan N., Seth B., John P., Dotty Z., Bill Z.

1. Call to order at 6:05 PM by Rex
2. Seth Brooks - Golden Hills RCD and Siouxland Bird Guide mini-grant
   1. Other grants for an updated guide have been applied for -- Iowa Audubon awarded one to pursue this project.
   2. Questions were reviewed that were submitted to Golden Hills during the application process.
   3. This project would help with designation of Bird Friendly Sioux City status
   4. This guide revision is a stated goal for this chapter.
   5. Timeline: possibly late summer or fall for a digital version.
      1. Printed copy will vary with funding availability.
      2. Once the digital version is ready, then move to physical copy.
      3. Data would be ready to go, just find a printer and choose materials.
   6. Motion to provide $1000 for initial development by Randy
   7. Second by Jody
   8. Unanimous vote to approve the funds
3. Review of Minutes (2/02/2023, 3/02/2023, 3/23/2023)
   1. No further additions or corrections noted for the three
   2. Motion to approve the February compiled minutes by Jody M.
      1. Second by Sharon P.
      2. Approval passed by unanimous vote
   3. Motion to approve the March regular meeting minutes by Randy W.
      1. Second by Jody M.
      2. Approval passed by unanimous vote
   4. Motion to approve the minutes from the supplemental board meeting on March 23, 2023 by RW
      1. Second by Sharon
      2. Approval passed by unanimous vote
4. Accomplishments – none noted at this time
5. Officer reports:
   1. President - Rex R.
      1. KWIT Fundraiser 4/28/2023, 9-10 AM
         1. Randy W. willing for an interview but does not want to answer telephones
         2. Rex also willing for an interview
         3. Rex will pass information to Jeanne B. since she was first contacted by KWIT for this event.
         4. Supplement: per telephone call with KWIT representative, Rex and Randy will be at KWIT studios at 2:00 PM on 4/28/23
      2. Date for June Board Retreat at Adams Homestead
         1. Evening in June for Board Retreat at Adams
         2. June 15th at 5:00 PM
         3. We will have a potluck
         4. Inside in the community room if there is adverse weather
         5. Shelter if nice weather
         6. Ask the new board members for agenda items try for May meeting.
      3. Budget Rough Draft by May meeting?
   2. Vice President - Bill H.
      1. See submitted report regarding walkie-talkies and Birdathon.
      2. Decision on 15 April 2023 outing
         1. Bill H. and Jerry P. in COVID quarantine
         2. Proceed with a different outing or postpone one week?
         3. Board decided to postpone the April outing to Saturday, 22 April 2023.
         4. Bill and Jerry should be out of quarantine by then and proceed with original destination – Greater Prairie Chickens and Buckskin Hills
   3. Treasurer - Sharon P., transcribed from corrected email report, 4/16/23.
      1. $9289.09 - Beginning balance for month of March
      2. Deposits
         1. $249.15 - Donation from Jan Null towards the purchase of one box of *A Warbler’s Journey* books from The Gryphon Press
         2. Total Deposits: $249.15
      3. Debits
         1. $100.00 – March speaker compensation for Mark Dixon
         2. $75.00 – February speaker compensation for Brian Hazlett
         3. $249.15 - Payment for one box of A Warbler’s Journey” books from The Gryphon Press
         4. Total Debts: $424.15
      4. $9114.09 - Ending balance for month of March
      5. Donation/pledge to INHF - $3,000.00 (3 payments of $1,000.00 each)
         1. 1st payment of $1000.00 made December 2022
         2. 2nd payment due December 2023
         3. 3rd payment due December 2024
      6. Possible donation/pledge of $1,000.00 for USD Motus project with Dave Swanson
      7. Mini-grants to be distributed at April meeting:
         1. $1000 to Golden Hills RCD (pending board approval – see above)
         2. $1000 to WCCB for new Eastern Screech-Owl mobile enclosure
         3. $350 to Plymouth County Historical Museum for admission for Middle School children to a late-September Birds of Prey show.
   4. Secretary - Jerry P.
      1. Randy W. substituting
      2. See above for review and approval of February, March regular, and March supplemental minutes
6. Committee Reports:
   1. Nominating Committee report - Maria R., Randy W., Jody M.
      1. Jerry Probst – continuing as Secretary
      2. Sharon Polifka – continuing as Treasurer
      3. Director 1 – Kari Sandage
      4. Director 3 – Pamela Miller-Smith
      5. Director 5 – Jeri Watkins
   2. Membership Committee report - Marla K., See submitted report
      1. Outreach events
         1. KWIT Fundraiser - April 28, 2023 – See above, President’s report.
         2. Prairie Park Event with the City of Sioux City
            1. May 6, 2023, from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
            2. Randy and Marla will be at SC Prairie Park
            3. Everyone is welcome to attend!
            4. Co-sponsored with the City of SC to promote our relationship with the city.
            5. City will provide advertising and will not charge us for use of the shelter.
         3. Loess Hills Prairie Seminar: June 2-4, 2023
         4. City of Sioux City Health Fair: October 2023
         5. NW Iowa Sierra Group Chili Social 2024 – most likely will participate.
      2. Sources of revenue for chapter
         1. Birdathon 2023 letters have been sent to prospective sponsors regarding donations.
         2. Signature Item sale idea - Marla K./Jody M.
            1. Coffee – will need to check with local roasters.
            2. Light bulbs with wavelengths to minimize nighttime pollution.
            3. Window tape or other mechanism to prevent bird strikes
         3. Do we need to designate a subcommittee / working group for more ideas?
         4. Bring ideas to the Board Retreat in June.
   3. Chapter Activities Committee report
      1. Outings report - Bill H., see submitted report.
         1. See above for April outing postponement.
         2. May Birdathon
            1. Saturday, 13 May
            2. Should have permission to survey the Little Sioux Scout Ranch
            3. Letters sent requesting corporate pledges, see above.
      2. Programs report
         1. April 13, 2023: Anna Buckardt Thomas, “Tracking Bird Migration”
            1. Per Sharon P., since this is a Zoom presentation should we modify our donation since there is no travel?
            2. Motion by Jody to donate $75 for this Zoom meeting

Second by Jerry V.

Motion passed by unanimous vote

Sharon will contact Anna regarding where the funds should be directed.

* + - 1. May 4, 2023: Mark Haindfield, “Birding Adventures”
      2. Speakers for 2023-2024 (Randy W., Bill H., Jody M.)
         1. See report from Randy

Thursday, 7 September 2023 – Don Poggensee

Thursday, 5 October 2023 – Tim Sesterhenn and Morningside University students

**Thursday, 2 November 2023 – Open**

Thursday, 7 December 2023 – LHAS slide show and Christmas party

Thursday, 4 January 2024 – Tyler Flammang

Thursday, 1 February 2024 – Dave Swanson

Thursday, 7 March 2024 – Dave Hoferer

**Thursday, 4 April 2024 – Open**

**Thursday, 2 May 2024 – Open**

* + - * 1. Others suggested:

“County Parks”, Dan Heisel

“Bees/Pollinators”, Phil Breed

“Bumble Bee Atlas Project”, Stephanie Shepherd, Iowa DNR.

* 1. Projects Committee report - Randy W.
     1. South Dakota Motus proposal by Dave Swanson: No update
     2. Mini-Grants to be presented tonight, see above
     3. *A Warbler’s Journey* - Randy W. & Jan N.
        1. Book plates are made.
        2. Jan N. has a display tonight.
        3. Will donate books to whichever organization wishes to have a copy.
        4. Remainder to be sold for $12.00 per copy.
     4. Safe(ty) Deposit Box - Randy W. and Sharon P.
        1. Deferred to June Board Retreat
        2. Will need to work into 2023 to 2024 budget.
        3. Randy will prepare a list of documents to be included.
     5. Google Working Group
        1. To maintain electronic files for the chapter
        2. Randy W. and Marla K. will continue working on this
  2. Conservation Committee report - Bill Z. & Marla K.
     1. Bird Friendly Iowa Update – see submitted report by Marla K.
     2. City of Sioux City/LHAS event at SC Prairie Park 6 May 2023
  3. Communications Committee report – Randy W.
     1. Bird Friendly Community page on LHAS website now active
     2. Cats Indoors web page also now active
     3. Working on other pages for Bird Friendly status
     4. Need to work with Dawn S. regarding contacts for traditional media notifications.

1. Old Business – tabled to May
   1. LHAS Archives and Display Case: Disposition
   2. Committee Organization (will discuss at June Board Retreat)
2. Adjournment
   1. Motion by Jody
   2. Second by Jerry V.
   3. Adjourn at 7:04 PM

**General Meeting**

1. Called to order at 7:08 PM by Rex
2. Anna Buckardt Thomas, “Tracking Bird Migration with Motus” ZOOM presentation
3. Announcements
   1. Board Candidates announced
   2. April Outing moved to the following Saturday, 4/22
   3. Dave Swanson will have USD class at Adams 4/15 about 8:00 AM
4. Adjourn at 8:07 PM

Attendees: 24

President: Rex Rundquist Secretary: Jerry Probst

Vice-President: Bill Huser Treasurer: Sharon Polifka

Director 1: Jerry VonEhwegen Director 4: Jody Moats

Director 2: Marla Kerr Director 5: Dawn Snyder

Director 3: Randy Williams