**Loess Hills Audubon Society**

**ZOOM BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, 8 April 2021**

**Executives Present:** Bob L., Jeri W., Randy W., Jerry V., Donna P., Anne S., Jody M., Doty Z.

**Executive Absent:** Maria R.

**Honored Guests:** Dawn S., Bill H., Jeanne B., Jan N., Bill Z.

1. Call to Order at 6:09 PM – Bob L.
   1. Zoom bomb of the March program
      1. Thanks to Randy for sending an apology to members RE: Zoom Bomb.
      2. Suggestion to perhaps change the title of the program?
      3. “China” in the title may have triggered the actions.
      4. Communication on who we need to share our zoom programs.
   2. Dawn S. spoke with IT representatives regarding more stringent protocols on screen sharing.
   3. Set up an email link in order to pre-register for the program via email to allow screening of participants.
   4. Thank you to Dawn for all of the follow up work
2. Report from Jody M. since she has other obligations this evening
   1. Will work on communications to help prevent future program hijacks by zoom bombers
   2. Send more photos and other contributions for our Facebook page.
   3. Include permissions if you are sending photos.
3. Vice President - Bob L.
   1. Thank you for filling in for Maria R. tonight
   2. No report on Blackbaud Giving Fund and their donation to LHAS – will do some more digging.
4. Secretary’s Report - Randy W.
   1. March minutes
      1. Two corrections reported and modified appropriately
      2. Moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the March meeting – motion passed unanimous.
   2. Website update
      1. Bird sightings are up to date
      2. Activated regional birding location maps with brief descriptions
         1. Local areas highlighted by state
         2. Iowa and South Dakota pages are active
         3. Nebraska page is in progress
      3. Only public locations are listed
         1. Based on hotspots documented in eBird
         2. eBird does include private property
         3. Only eBird members have acess by password protection
      4. Will gladly accept suggestions to expand all three pages
5. Treasurer’s Report – Jeri W.
   1. Debit - $4.95 to PayPal for the Tripod website
   2. Credit - $25.00 from National Audubon
   3. Balance - $12,196.79
   4. Moved and seconded to accept the report by unanimous vote
6. Outing Report - Bill H.
   1. March outing summary has been documented to eBird, our website and our Facebook page
   2. April outing is set for Saturday, 10 April with a route similar to March but we’re looking for shorebirds and waders (and anything else of interest).
   3. Birdathon! Coincides with International Migratory Bird Day on Saturday, 8 May
      1. Primary birding will be on Saturday, 5/8
      2. Will continue with a broader window from Friday, 7 May through Monday, 10 May for Birdathon! Bird sighting contributions.
   4. We will continue with outings through the summer
   5. To enhance the experience of new birders to our outings:
      1. Would like permission to find used or discounted field guides
         1. These would be used on outings
         2. Mainly for newcomers who may not have the resources
      2. Suggestion was brought up to expand this for binoculars as well
         1. Newcomers may not have brought anything with them
         2. A good idea to not share your binoculars in these pandemic times
         3. The extras can be cleaned and stored until the next trip
      3. Bill will look at some options for both and bring them to the board.
7. Directors Reports:
   1. Jerry V. - April Bird of the Month is posted: Cinnamon Teal
   2. Donna P. –
      1. Has anyone checked the PO box for any chapter-only memberships?
      2. No, but Randy W. will check tomorrow, Friday, 4/9 and report
   3. Anne S. – no report
   4. Jody M. – see above since she had other commitments
   5. Dotty Z. - Programs
      1. April and May are set
      2. Will reschedule Graham’s program on China and US loess hills for next season.
      3. Bluebird boxes
         1. 80 boxes surveyed
         2. 27 bluebird nests
         3. 20 house wren nests
         4. 14 tree swallow nests
         5. 2 mice
         6. 3 wasp nests
         7. 10 are empty
         8. 4 are new
8. Other reports or announcements
   1. Dawn S.
      1. See above regarding future zoom-based meetings
      2. Building Better Birders workshop
         1. Saturday, 8 May – International Migratory Bird Day
         2. Indoor programs and outdoor activities
         3. Pre-registration is required, please contact Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center
         4. Information is posted to our website and Facebook page
   2. Jan N. – no report.
   3. Jeanne B. –
      1. Advertising assistance for a Zoom-based program sponsored by Northwest Iowa Sierra Club
      2. Bicycling with Butterflies by Sara Dykman on Tuesday, 27 April at 6:30 PM.
      3. Need to register through Sierra Club website
      4. Book of the same title is available through Book People.
      5. Sara was here in 2017 as part of her bicycle trek following Monarch butterfly migration.
      6. Will post registration information via MailChimp, Facebook and website
9. New Busines – none reported
10. Old Business
    1. Nominating committee report
    2. Elections to take place in May
    3. No volunteers for Secretary or the open Director position – a few more names were suggested for the committee to contact.
11. Adjourn – motion and second and unanimous vote to adjourn at 6:50 PM to prepare for the general program.

**LHAS General Meeting**

**Thursday, 8 Aprli 2021**

1. Call to Order at 7:10 PM
2. Recent bird sightings were noted
   1. Pileated Woodpecker sighting just north of Stone Park and into Plymouth County
   2. Red-breasted Merganser at Bacon Creek
3. Announcements
   1. LHAS upcoming outing on Saturday, 10 April
   2. Building Better Birder workshop at DPNC on Saturday, 8 May
4. Red-tailed Hawk Identification by Bill Huser and Jerry Probst
5. Adjourn at 8:15 PM

Zoom log in participants for the general program: 20

**LHAS Chapter Executives**

President Maria Rundquist Director 1 Jerry VonEhwegen

Vice President Bob Livermore Director 2 Donna Popp

Secretary Randy Williams Director 3 Anne Shaner

Treasurer Jeri Watkins Director 4 Jody Moats Director 5 Dotty Zales