LOESS HILLS AUDUBON SOCIETY

REGULAR MEETING via Zoom

Minutes for 7 JANUARY 2021 AT 6:15 PM

**Chapter Executives Present:** Maria R., Jeri W., Randy W., Jerry V., Anne S., Dotty Z., Donna P., Jody M.

**Chapter Executives Absent:** Bob L.

**Honored Guests:** Michael O., Jan N., Rex R., Dawn S., Bill H., Jeanne B., Sharon P

1. Call to order at 6:17 PM by Maria
2. Thank you DPNC and Dawn Snyder for hosting this Zoom meeting
3. Nominating Committee and Elections
	1. Chapter Executives with terms expiring in June 2021
		1. Treasurer - Jeri Watkins
		2. Secretary - Randy Williams
		3. Director 1 – Jerry Von Ehwegen
		4. Director 3 – Anne Shaner
		5. Director 5 – Dotty Zales
	2. It should be noted that all of these executives are eligible for another 2-year term according to Chapter by-laws.
	3. Known potential transitions:
		1. Sharon and John Polifka have stated an interest in being Treasurer for 6/21 to 7/22
		2. Randy W. has stated an interest in becoming a Director if a position becomes available. He does not want to remain as Secretary due to hearing issues.
		3. Dotty Z. has stated she wishes to retire from the board but will help when needed and attend meetings.
		4. Anne S. has stated she wishes to retire from all responsibilities.
	4. We need a nominating committee to start recruiting now
		1. If interested, please contact Maria R. or Bob Livermore.
		2. Chapter by-laws state a nominating committee needs to be formed by the February meeting.
4. Annual report to National Audubon
	1. Submitted 12/29/2019 by Maria
	2. Thank you to Jerry V. for all of your help with this!
5. Bird Flight and Music Concert Program (virtual)
	1. Video-Program Cost: $150.00
	2. Discussion: Do we want to learn more about this program and purchase the video?
	3. Email for Terry Wolkowicz was sent to the board: twolkowicz@nbsymphony.org
	4. A copy of the information will be re-sent with the minutes of this meeting.
6. Secretary’s report - Randy W.
	1. Approval of December minutes
		1. No additions or corrections were noted for the December minutes.
		2. Motion to approve by Dotty Z. and Second by ~~Jan N~~. Jerry V. and approved by unanimous vote.
	2. SquareSpace website
		1. Renewal coming up 1/31/21
		2. Credit card information moved from David H. to Randy W. Approximately $150.
		3. Samuel has turned ownership of the site to Randy W. and LHAS
		4. We need to find a back up for Randy W.
			1. Rex R. has expressed interest
			2. David H. has expressed interest
			3. Anyone else?
			4. Will need to provide training at some point.
		5. Question was brought up regarding direct payments for credit/debit cards
			1. Not at this time
			2. Membership form is on the website
			3. Print the form and mail to Donna P. or the PO Box along with a check.
			4. Need to check with Paul R. regarding connection to PayPal account.
		6. Need to obtain CBC reports
		7. Working on member slide show for a page on the website.
		8. Question was brought up regarding website link to the LHAS Facebook page.
			1. There is a link but it is not very prominent.
			2. Randy will work on that.
	3. Program tonight
		1. A short “proof of concept” to see about a Zoom program for the general membership.
		2. This was a short back up in case a live speaker cancelled.
7. Treasurer’s report - Jeri Watkins.
	1. Budget
		1. Sent to everyone via email
		2. No vote on the budget noted at this time.
	2. Credits – None at this time
	3. Debits –
		1. $96.95 for our Post Office Box. This is a price increase.
		2. $4.95 for the Tripod website.
	4. Balance - $11,493.47 as of 12/31/2020
8. Outings and Christmas Bird Counts - Bill Huser, Coordinator
	1. Outings
		1. January 16 – Winter Owls
		2. February 13 – Great Backyard Bird Count participation
		3. March 13 – To be determined, possible waterfowl migration
		4. Will provide more information for Facebook and website platforms
	2. Christmas Bird Counts
		1. Westfield - Dotty Zales, compiler – see Jerry V. summary, below
		2. Sioux City - Jerry Probst, compiler - see Jerry V. summary, below
		3. Yankton - Roger Dietrich, compiler - see Jerry V. summary, below
		4. Ida Grove - Don Poggensee, compiler - see Jerry V. summary, below
9. Director/Committee Reports:
	1. Director 1.- Jerry VonEhwegen
		1. Westfield CBC – 12/16/20
			1. 11 teams of 22 birders
			2. 57 species and 5806 birds
		2. Yankton CBC – 12/20/20
			1. 31 birders
			2. 82 species and 13,282 birds
		3. Ida Grove CBC – 1/2/21
			1. 14 birders
			2. 48 species and 2908 birds
		4. Sioux City – no report yet, will contact Jerry P.
		5. Jerry V. will get the information to Randy W.
	2. Director 2 - Donna Popp – no report
	3. Director 3 - Anne Shaner – no report
	4. Director 4 - Jody Moats - Keep providing information for Facebook page updates
	5. Director 5 - Dotty Zales (Program Coordinator)
		1. Thursday, 4 February – Randy W. – Member slide show via Zoom and to be posted on the website
		2. Thursday, 4 March – Graham McGaffin
			1. Iowa and China – More in Common than Loess, US-China Exchange on Loess Landforms (UCELL)
			2. In 2019 US and China experts met in Yangling, Shaanxi Province, China to share information on the Iowa Loess Hills and the Chine Loess Plateau.
		3. Thursday, 8 April – Bill Huser and Jerry Probst
			1. Bird identification program
			2. Bird species are yet to be determined
		4. Thursday, 6 May – Diane and Warren Marton presentation on their recent birding adventure to Namibia and Botswana: Birds, Beasts and Beautiful Countryside.
	6. Dawn Snyder - Public Relations and DPNC coordinator with LHAS
		1. Unsure regarding opening of DPNC for meetings due to continuing COVID restrictions.
		2. February meeting, 2/4/21
			1. Will be via Zoom – the remaining meetings to be determined
			2. Possible conflict with an evening DPNC-sponsored hike with Kelly McKay
			3. May need to enlist David H. as a back up Zoom host.
			4. Dawn will check with Kelly regarding the hike.
		3. Question was raised regarding Zoom requirements/limitations
			1. DPNC Zoom subscription can accommodate 100 participants
			2. There is no time limit
			3. Will probably require two sessions
				1. One session for the board meeting
				2. Second session for the presentation to the general membership
				3. Probably shift the board meeting a little earlier and make sure board meeting is wrapped up by 7:00 PM
				4. This allows time for the presentation to begin at 7:30 PM
				5. Will probably require two MailChimp announcements, one for each Zoom session
		4. Question was raised about the recent Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation announcement for donations for the Oak Ridge Conservation Area addition.
10. Old Business – none stated
11. New Business – none stated, although see Addendum, below.
12. Program tonight is proof of concept for a Zoom-based program for our general membership.
13. Business meeting adjourn at 7:08 PM.

ADDENDUM:

1. This was not included in the board meeting discussion. I had to reference this email and re-discovered these items. I felt they should be brought to the Board’s attention, perhaps for further discussion in February.
2. Email from Paul R. regarding this meeting
	1. Could an inexpensive financial program could be purchased as a time saver for the Treasurer?
		1. In December Paul R. sent an Excel budget sheet as an example
		2. A copy of that sheet will be included with this report.
		3. A copy of Jeri’s financial report will also be included.
	2. Paul also stated he wants to pull back from coordinating our next Birdathon.

**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

Past President: David Hoferer Retired Director 4: Rex Rundquist

Past Vice-President: Paul Roisen