

BOARD MEETING 11/13/24

11 November 2024 / 7:01 PM Meeting start

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rob Pendergast, Susan Schuller, Willow Pingel, Joe Schulz, Bob Lane, Scott Reilly, Jan Seiler, Brad Baum, Janet Smith, Sarah W., Anthony Martynski, Steve Hall, Midge Hall

NOTES

- **Approval of Minutes** Motion by Janet S., seconded by Rob P.; carried & approved
- **Brad ordered walkie talkies** \$257 motion to cover additional costs by Susan S., seconded by Jan S., carried & approved

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bird Seed Sale (Midge and Steve)

- 2024 Sales Results
 - Total down from last year
 - 82 orders, 60 online via WIX
- Changes to consider for next year
 - Raise markup to account for fees
 - Pre-sale permanently in September
 - Pick up always 3rd Friday & Saturday of October
 - Pick up times to start earlier on Friday & later on Saturday
 - Ask Jaymar for smaller bags; 25lb instead of 50 lbs
 - Midge would like to log into ALAS account to look at orders?
 - Invoice from Jaymar should go directly to ALAS
 - Have advertised in other orgs. newsletters: Friends of Mead, Friends of Schmeckle & add page on website

Guest: Sarah Wood, Grad Student

- Early stages of research project on efficacy of strategies to get more people involved in birding
- Partner with ALAS

Program: Jen Price – Bridging the Gap Between Black Bear Science and Policy

- Date: Nov. 20th, 7:00pm – 8:00pm
- Will be recording with flash drive

Jewels of Nature Book Signing

- December 7th @ Bound to Happen Books
- More information coming soon

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Statewide National Audubon Collaborative Initiative

- Continuation of discussion points from last meeting
- Audubon Great Lakes Chapter Network has \$6000 to disperse to chapters for Collaborative Community Engagement Programs
- Further reflection?
 - Event/s for our chapter and community only?
 - Meet with other chapters?

Platte River Trip (Brad B.)

- Field trip to Platte River over Spring Break in March
- Overnight; camping, AirBNB, hotel
- Info session next month? Ruby or SentryWorld? December 15
 - Want to have RSVPs so ALAS can book for attendees
 - Cover costs, give suggestions where to stay, organize carpooling and all come together in blind
 - More info soon

Wood County Christmas Bird Count (Susan S.)

- Current coordinator willing to stay in position for one more year
- Hoping to find someone to take over (Portage County may also be looking for someone else)

Create a Possible Legislative Committee (Rob P.)

- Brainstorming for Environmental Advocacy Committee
 - Serve as watchdog and keep members informed about new legislation and ways they can help
 - Reach out to representatives, education and outreach
 - Network with other orgs that share goals, Prairie Chicken Project, etc.
 - Discussion forum with updates, questions, info
- Trump resuming office makes environmental future more uncertain
 - His EPA pick Lee Zeldin has environmental scorecard of 14/100 (League of Conservation Voters) & votes mostly against environmental policy
- Potentially expand conservation chair duties to be advocacy and outreach focused

Window Collisions (Susan S.)

- Identifying key windows on campus causing highest mortality
 - Estimated 3,480 square feet of windows need work
- Next step is cost estimate for bird friendly treatment
 - Molly Moder's report can help
- Work through Sustainability office at UWSP or offer partnership

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Almanac (Lora H.)

- Newsletter deadline 11/22/2024
- Rob's advocacy for conservation idea, info about Platte River field trip into next newsletter

Website (Rob P.)

- New laptops

Field Trips (Brad B.)

- Migration on Mississippi field trip Saturday November 16th
 - Meet at Chase Bank parking lot 7 a.m. and pool over to river
 - Last year saw many different birds, over 1,000 tundra swans
 - 6 RSVP's currently
- Snowy Owl field trip out to Buena Vista
 - 6 RSVP's currently

Publicity (Brad B-Z.)

- Upcoming events now on Facebook

Education (Bob L.)

- Bob primarily sent info to Stevens Point schools, now branching out
 - Sending info to Marshfield, Waupaca schools, etc.
- Received some replies but no grant applications currently

Conservation (Ned G.)

- Action item for future

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm