

Loess Hills Audubon Society Meeting  
Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center  
January 3, 2019

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

6:15 pm

**Members Present:** David H., Paul R., Randy W., Leesa M., Donna P., Rex R., Bill Z., Jody M., Jerry V., Dotty Z., Carol B., Gary H.

**Members Absent:** Jeri W., Dawn S., Ann S., John P.

**Honored Guests:** Jan N., Chuck J., Maria R., Bob N., Phyllis N., Jon N.,

- I. Call to Order at 6:25 PM
  - A. A quorum was not immediately available
  - B. Need to watch the number of people who can attend to obtain a quorum.
- II. Moved and seconded to approve minutes from December meeting
- III. Secretary's Report – Randy Williams: No specific report, see other sections below.
- IV. President – David Hoferer
  - A. Iowa Public Radio reporter wishes comments from someone in LHAS regarding the closure of Federal offices/lands/sites.
    1. DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge is the closest site
    2. DeSoto is closed
    3. Contact Paul R. for more comments regarding the closure.
  - B. Jeanne Bockholt, Northwest Iowa Sierra Club
    1. Looking for a short presentation to share information about Sandhill Crane migration and crane festival
    2. Presentation on 1/24/19
    3. Some county conservation boards do have trips to the cranes, one suggestion to contact area county conservation board naturalists.
  - C. Chapter Services web site for National Audubon Society
    1. Mentioned in notes from John P. for the LHAS annual report
    2. Reports submitted online to NAS using this part of the NAS website.
    3. Forms are becoming standardized for chapters
      - a) There is a new Excel format form for listing of LHAS Board Members
      - b) This new Excel form to be used when submitting our annual report.
    4. Rosters, mailing labels, financial statements, general chapter contact information is all available from this section of the NAS website.
    5. One must request access to the site and be granted log in privileges.

- D. Audubon Works website is also part of NAS
  - 1. Chapters can share information and work together
  - 2. Needed to get onto Audubon Works in order to finish the Annual Report for Chapter Services
  - 3. One must request access to the site and be granted log in privileges.
- E. David H. will send info about both sites to LHAS Board Members
  - 1. Board Members can then request access
  - 2. Information may be useful to LHAS
- F. Update on biennial filing for nonprofit status
  - 1. Due in April. Will contact with Jeri W.
  - 2. Will use previous information.
- G. Update on yearly report for National Audubon Society
  - 1. Could not find a specific due date for NAS
  - 2. All comments from NAS regarding the due date are "we will contact you".
  - 3. Annual Report is required by NAS or we are no longer an official chapter
  - 4. Upload a plan for the upcoming year
  - 5. Keep track of accomplishments on the basic plan
- H. Possible work with business and environmental organizations for a discussion on healthy Iowa rivers and agriculture
  - 1. Jim Redmond with Sierra Club asked if LHAS would wish to be involved
  - 2. Roundtable discussion with business and environmental groups in this area.
  - 3. Land O'Lakes environmental report started the idea for this
    - a) Discuss agriculture and the Missouri River watershed with the Land O'Lakes CEO
    - b) Would provide a seat at table to help Land O'Lakes shape their business practices and policy
  - 4. Bring back up in April or May
  - 5. Bring in some of the out-of-state corporations as well as other local businesses.
- V. Vice-President - Paul Roisen
  - A. First drafts of job descriptions still coming in
  - B. Leesa M. still has ideas for programs for next season and is willing to pass them along
  - C. Revamp member slide show for next Christmas
  - D. We need a media representative to work with DPNC for instruction on how to help set up/take down the projectors/computers at DPNC
  - E. Per Leesa M., connectivity is discussed with speakers for the chapter.
- VI. Treasurer: Debits, Credits and Balance - Email from Jeri Watkins
  - A. Deposits - \$97.00 related to bird food

- B. Checks
  - 1. \$70.00 for post office box rent
  - 2. \$4.95 for PayPal for the website
- C. Balance as of 12/31/18 - \$5365.64
- D. Jeri also requested an address for tonight's speaker in order to mail his honorarium.
- E. Bird Food Sales - Dotty Zales
  - 1. Profit of \$810.39
  - 2. This is \$180.78 less than 2017 sales
  - 3. The sales are essentially to LHAS members
  - 4. More competition for bird food than in past years
  - 5. Is this project worth the chapter's time and effort?
- VII. Membership - Donna Popp
  - A. Still some issues with chapter services
  - B. Good recent experiences with online response for Chapter Services section of Audubon website.
    - 1. See David H. report above for
    - 2. Chapter Services
    - 3. Audubon Works
- VIII. Conservation - Bill Zales
  - A. Citizen Science
    - 1. Local data from area Christmas Bird Counts and Backyard Bird Counts is submitted to appropriate groups
    - 2. Have to assume the data is tabulated and analyzed
  - B. Is there a presentation dealing with Iowa bird population trends ?
    - 1. For Iowa ?
    - 2. More local ?
    - 3. How is all of this citizen science data used ?
    - 4. Could IOU or another group provide a presentation to LHAS regarding Iowa bird population trends based on this data
  - C. December 2018 is the 45th anniversary of Endangered Species Act
- IX. Naturalist/Education - Jody Moats
  - A. Facebook account updates
  - B. Email to Jody M If there is anything to post to that account
- X. Outings - Jerry Von Ehwegen
  - A. Ida Grove CBC is Saturday
  - B. 63 species for Sioux City CBC
  - C. 1/26 afternoon outing for short-eared owls [date subsequently revised per email notification]
  - D. Website is up to date
- XI. Publicity - Dawn Snyder - No report
- XII. Social - Carol Blair - No report
- XIII. Audubon Adventures - Gary Heineman - No report
- XIV. Old Business

- A. LHAS manual - Dave, Paul, Randy - will set time for smaller group to look at the bylaws and manual.
  - B. Nature Center Construction & Meetings - Dawn S. - A more intimate setting tonight due to the construction
  - C. New Business
    - 1. Christmas Bird Count update - see above, Jerry V.
    - 2. From Maria Rundquist:
      - a) Book signing at Book People on 1/19/19 at 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
      - b) *Marcher, Walker, Pilgrim: A Memoir from the Great March for Climate Action* by Ed Fallon
      - c) This is a new book dealing with climate change
  - D. Tabled Business
    - 1. Holiday protocol discussion
    - 2. Potential VP to President transition
    - 3. Iowa Young Birders
      - a) email from Tyler Harms
      - b) donation to Iowa Young Birders
      - c) Will make a decision next meeting
  - E. Format for General Meetings
    - 1. Share bird siting's, questions, announcements, etc.
    - 2. Annual meeting format
      - a) The last general meeting of LHAS in May
      - b) Formal presentation of this past year's activities/accomplishments to general membership
      - c) In addition to the regularly scheduled program
  - F. Anyone wish to assist with putting together a to-do list for updating the chapter?
    - 1. Bylaws, budgets, constitution and other forms of "housekeeping" for the chapter
    - 2. Jody M. expressed interest
    - 3. Maria R. expressed interest
  - G. Need to maintain a general repository of chapter information
- XV. Adjourn 7 :23 PM

## **GENERAL MEETING AGENDA - 7:30 PM**

- I. Call to order at 7:35 PM.
- XVI. Request from Jeanne Bockholt, Northwest Iowa Sierra Club, if someone could provide a half hour presentation regarding Sandhill Cranes
- II. Christmas Bird Count - Jerry Probst
- XVII. Happy 45th Anniversary of Endangered Species Act (as of December 28, 2018)!
- XVIII. Birds and other sightings?

- XIX. Leesa McNeil - Introduction of speaker David Swanson, from the University of South Dakota
  - A. *How Birds Tolerate the Cold* and
  - B. *The Birders Guide to South Dakota* - Introduction of a forthcoming (2019) publication from the South Dakota Ornithologists Union
- XX. Adjourn at 9:00 PM

33 attendees

### **CHAPTER BYLAWS TASK FORCE**

Tuesday, 8 January 2019

David Hoferer, Paul Roisen, Randy Williams, Jerry Von Ehwegen

- I. This group met to review and evaluate Articles I through IV of the LHAS bylaws
- II. These Articles were evaluated and proposals made in order to bring the bylaws in line with actual practices
- III. All proposals will be presented for review and evaluation by the full board of LHAS
  - A. The full board will provide input on these proposals
  - B. Revisions will be made prior to presentation to the general membership of LHAS

### **CHAPTER BYLAWS TASK FORCE**

Sunday, 13 January 2019

David Hoferer, Paul Roisen, Randy Williams, Jerry Von Ehwegen

- I. This group met to review and evaluate
  - A. Article V, Article VI and a portion of Article VII
  - B. The individual committees outlined in Article VII were not evaluated.
  - C. These individual committees will be evaluated at a future meeting of the task force as will Articles VIII through XI.
- II. All proposals will be presented for review and evaluation by the full board of LHAS
  - A. The full board will provide input on these proposals
  - B. Revisions will be made prior to presentation to the general membership of LHAS.