

Loess Hills Audubon Society Meeting
Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center
5 December 2019

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

6:15 pm

Chapter Executives Present: David H., Paul R., Randy W., Jeri W., Jerry V., Donna P., Anne S., Rex R., and Dotty Z.

Honored Guests: Dawn S., Bill H., Jan N., Chuck J., Bob and Phyllis N., Bill Z., Maria R., Jan N., Gracie W., Anna R., and Gary H.

- I. Call to Order at 6:21 PM by David H.
 - A. We will juggle tonight's schedule as necessary
 - B. Need to provide time for Samuel Padilla Castro regarding website update
- ~~II. Approve minutes from October November meeting — moved and seconded to waive the minutes to provide time for Samuel's presentation.~~
- II. Approve minutes from October meeting
 - A. Moved and seconded and approved.
 - B. Waive the November minutes
 1. To provide time for Samuel's presentation.
 2. The November meeting was for committee work with minimal chapter business.
- III. Secretary's Report – Randy W
 - A. Information distributed regarding:
 1. NAS-approved templates for chapters to use for websites
 2. Square Space frequently asked questions and pricing scheme for web-hosting services
 3. Samuel's projected cost estimate for updating our site
 4. These are .pdf documents and will be attached to these minutes when they are submitted for review.
 - B. Still require committee reports from November's evening for committee work. Will gladly accept reports tonight, written or verbal.
 - C. Post office box rent is due by 31 December 2019. Bill to Jeri W.
- IV. President's Report – David H.
 - A. The LHAS Annual Report to National Audubon is coming due
 - B. Get appropriate information to David H. covering events and activities from 1 July 2018 through 30 June 2019.
- V. Vice-President's Report – Paul R. is preparing for tonight's slide show, no report available.
- VI. Treasurer – Jeri W.
 - A. Debits - \$154.95
 - B. Credits - 0
 - C. Balance - \$6363.83
 - D. Bill submitted for post office box rent of \$80 – moved and seconded to pay the rent.
 - E. Proposed time change for LHAS meetings

1. Move board/committee meetings up to begin at 6:00 PM instead of 6:15 PM
 2. Move general programs to begin at 7:00 PM instead of 7:30 PM
 3. This could provide earlier hours for DPNC staff
 4. Any decision to change times will not take effect with this season
 5. Think about this. Further discussion is tabled to allow Samuel's presentation.
- VII. Membership Committee – No report - Donna P. is at the welcome table and Paul R. is working with tonight's presentations.
- VIII. Chapter Activities Committee – Dotty Z.
- A. Publicity for the upcoming Christmas Bird Count in the "Weekender" and subsequent front page headlines in *The Sioux City Journal*. Thank you to Dawn S.!
 - B. All programs for the rest of the season are set, thank you Paul R.
 - C. Outings are set for December and January – Christmas Bird Counts in the area!
 - D. Paul R. will be taking charge of the upcoming Birdathon!, more information forthcoming.
 - E. What can we do for another fund raiser?
 1. Discussion with the Feed Shed to provide vouchers.
 - a. The vouchers could be used for products at the store
 - b. Feed Shed has not yet fully committed to this
 2. Work with Loess Hills Wild Ones to provide native plants for birds?
 3. Should we set something up similar to the Sierra Club chili feed?
 4. Look at other Iowa chapter websites for fund raising ideas.
 - F. Other ideas
 1. Better promote Project Feederwatch participation
 2. Do we need to re-do the *Siouxland Bird Guide* map. Provide a printed version as well as an online version for the website.
 - G. The greeters are working well for our meetings – thank you!
 - H. Still need volunteers for treats for the March meeting. Will ask for volunteers at the general meeting.
- IX. Communications Committee – Anne S.
- A. Need newsletter articles by 31 December before the partying begins!
 - B. See secretary's report, above, for website revision information
 - C. Thanks to Dawn S. for the excellent publicity for the upcoming CBCs.
- X. Conservation Committee – Rex R.
- A. Committee members
 1. Rex R., chair
 2. Bill Z.
 3. John P.
 4. Dave H.
 - B. Establish goals for our outings, such as data collection or education
 - C. Create a recurring LHAS podcast perhaps through Siouxland Public Media.
 - D. Develop a bird banding program
 - E. Prepare an educational presentation that could be easily repeated and shared at local schools and nature centers
 - F. Strategize how to meet Bird Friendly City goals for Sioux City

- G. Educate members and the public about state and local conservation bills and issues.
 - H. Contribute regular conservation messages for the newsletter and website
 - I. Work toward the reintroduction of some once common species to our area
 - J. Help maintain local Eastern Bluebird nest boxes (or boxes for other species).
- XI. Projects Committee
- A. No committee report available.
 - B. Still looking for a chair for this committee
- XII. Old Business – no further discussions.
- XIII. New Business
- A. Samuel Padilla Castro - new LHAS website
 - 1. Introduction by Maria R.
 - 2. Samuel looked at our current website and examples of where we wish to progress with an updated site
 - 3. Email from Samuel with examples of sites he has developed as well as a general example of how he performs billing for his services.
 - 4. A brief demo of the sites he has developed was offered but could not get connected to the DPNC system. Brief views were provided on his laptop. Have a look at:
 - a. <https://www.stevenmentor.com/>
 - b. <https://lilamaeshouse.org/>
 - 5. He will set up the new site
 - a. Some revisions are included once the site is running
 - b. He will provide training to at least one LHAS representative in order to perform routine maintenance and revisions.
 - 6. We need to figure out our wants and needs for a new site
 - a. Start with basic features then see about fancier options, where workable
 - b. Randy W. and David H. – and others? – will meet with Samuel
 - i. Wednesday, 18 December at Noon
 - ii. Stone Bru coffee house on the corner of Gordon Drive and Stone Avenue
 - B. Questions and a brief discussion of wants and needs
 - a. Answers may be deferred to a later time when more information becomes available.
 - b. Does the Square Space cost seem reasonable?
 - c. Which Square Space option might work best for LHAS?
 - d. Provide an area for data sightings and have those sightings automatically relayed to interested members.
 - e. Maintain membership rolls for NAS-based members and local members.
 - f. Work with PayPal for chapter-only membership
 - g. Post and automatically distribute our newsletter.
 - h. Expand our conservation footprint.
 - i. Move data from our current site to the new site as seamlessly as possible.
 - C. Move and second to work with Samuel and his services to provide an updated website.

D. Announcements

- a. The Garden Club is looking for a speaker regarding attracting birds to backyards
- b. Dawn S. and DPNC is contemplating an outing to Moorhead Park, Ida Grove for saw-whet owls.
- c. There are attacks on funding for Iowa's water and land legacy in the state legislature.

XIV. Adjourn at 7:25 PM

GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

7:30 pm

I. Announcements

- A. Need one or more individuals to provide treats for our March program
- B. Garden Club is looking for a presenter for attracting birds to backyards
- C. Area Christmas Bird Counts

II. Recent sightings?

III. Intro of presenters, slides, & format - Paul Roisen

- A. Carol Blair
- B. Gracie Wagoner
- C. John and Sharon Polifka
- D. Mike Greiner
- E. Jan Null
- F. Paul Roisen
- G. Brian Hazlett
- H. Rex Rundquist

Attendees: 32

LHAS Chapter Executives

President	David Hoferer	Director 1	Jerry VonEhwegen
Vice President	Paul Roisen	Director 2	Donna Popp
Secretary	Randy Williams	Director 3	Anne Shaner
Treasurer	Jeri Watkins	Director 4	Rex Rundquist
		Director 5	Dotty Zales