

Loess Hills Audubon Society Meeting

Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center

6 February 2020

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

Chaper Executives Absent: Rex R.

**Honored Guests: Bob & Phyllis N., Bill Z., Chuck J., Jan N., Jody M., Anna R.,
Dawn S., Bill H., John & Sharon P., Carol B.**

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

6:15 pm

- I. Call to Order at 6:18 PM
- II. Approve minutes from December and January meetings
 - A. Additions or corrections to Dec/Jan minutes?
 - B. Motion to approve minutes from both meetings moved and seconded.
 - C. Minutes approved
- III. Secretary's Report – Randy W.
 - A. See Communication Committee report below
 - B. Mail in PO Box : Thank you from Laura VanderMeer with donation of \$100 – see associated .pdfs (total of 2) included with this report.
- IV. President's Report – David H.
 - A. Information shared about heart surgery for Rex R. in Omaha. Rex and Maria have a temporary apartment in Omaha
 - B. Year-end report was finalized and submitted to National Audubon on 26 Jan 20
 - C. Official Board vote to approve Bill Huser as the new Outings Chair?
 1. Group did not feel this was necessary
 2. This change met with everyone's approval
 3. Thank you, Bill, for agreeing to do this for us
 - D. Nominations committee is required
 1. President, Vice-President, and Directors 2 and 4 (see below for the people involved) are up for re-election
 2. Bill Huser volunteered to be part of the committee
 3. Supplement: Randy W. emailed Bill H. and David H. on 7 Feb 20 and agreed to help Bill.
- V. Vice-President's Report – Paul R.

- A. Paul R. e-mail from 5 Feb 20 stating he will step down from all current positions at LHAS effective 8 May 2020 to pursue several Madagascar mission outreach related activities.
- B. Paul – thank you for all of your hard work to help us out!
- C. Committee statements, committee goals, and committee action plans remain outstanding.
- D. Handouts were provided regarding:
 - 1. Bookkeeping and Budget Questions
 - 2. Budget Meeting Preparation Sheet
 - 3. Mission Statement, Chapter Goals, and Action Plans
 - 4. There was no discussion regarding these documents
 - 5. No electronic copy was made available. The hard copy documents have been scanned as .pdfs and are included with this report (total of 4 .pdfs).

VI. Treasurer – Jeri W.

- A. Meeting times change to 6:00 PM (board) and 7:00 PM (general program)?
 - 1. No real objections among Board Members to start earlier next season
 - a) Tabled to March? Everyone please consider this proposal for its pros and cons
 - b) Reminder: A board meeting can be called at any time provided there is sufficient notice.
- B. Name tag reimbursement to Paul R.
- C. Debits: \$157.62
- D. Credits: \$20
- E. Balance: \$6171.26

VII. Membership Committee – Donna P.

- A. New membership report from National will be out in mid-February
- B. Webinars from National Audubon
 - 1. Invitations out to LHAS members by e-mail
 - 2. These are recent developments from National
 - 3. Dotty Z., Donna P., and David H. signed to a couple
 - 4. Anyone else interested?

VIII. Chapter Activities Committee – Dotty Z.

- A. Meetings
 - 1. Tonight's meeting regarding bird migration
 - 2. David H. and Dotty Z. in March for native plants
 - 3. April – Botswana
 - 4. May – The Loess Hills of China

- B. Loess Hills Prairie Seminar is fast approaching
 - 1. Request from Dianne Blankenship to continue support for the seminar
 - 2. Past contributions of \$250
 - 3. Motion to contribute \$250 for 2020
 - a) Motion by Dotty Z.
 - b) Second by Donna P.
 - c) Approved by unanimous vote

C. Outings

- 1. Feb – Sat 15 Feb
 - a) Birds and breakfast at Ponca State Park
 - b) Van tours of areas around the Park will be available in the AM.
 - c) Other areas may be visited by the LHAS group based on who wants to do what and when.
 - d) Meet at the Singing Hills Walmart at 7:30 AM to car pool to Ponca
 - e) A park permit – daily or annual – will be required.
 - f) Or, meet at Ponca State Park at 8:30 AM.
- 2. March – Ponca State Park again
 - a) March Madness for morning and evening trips for waterfowl blinds.
 - b) Will have to meet earlier in order to get to the blinds in the AM
 - c) More information forthcoming

IX. Communications Committee – Anne S. and Randy W.

- A. Newsletter articles are needed by 25 Feb for Anne S.
- B. Randy W. provided a demonstration of the new public website draft by Samuel Castro as well as an overview of the private (LHAS-only) section of the website, including MailChimp, in order to provide an integrated public and private working and communications environment for this chapter.
 - 1. A robust discussion ensued
 - 2. Some felt the new public site was difficult to navigate
 - 3. Some objected that the site looked different depending on the device used (desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone) and the web browser used on the specific device.
 - 4. Some liked the new look and the fact that the site will customize itself for best presentation no matter the device or web browser used.
 - 5. It was also noted that not all information was accurately moved from the current website to the new site
 - 6. Some form of cross check would be required prior to the new site going live.

7. Objections and errors would be shared with Samuel for further work and revision.
8. Randy W. volunteered to lead on the new site with training provided to and assistance from David H. and Donna P. Others are welcome to participate.
9. The private (LHAS-only) side would operate via G Suite for Business from Google
 - a) Chapter business would be conducted in this half of the site, including
 - (1) Chapter documents
 - (2) Committee work and appropriate documents
 - (3) Citizen Science data could be stored here for easy retrieval by board and committee members
 - b) Samuel would provide integration services between these halves and include training for future updates and maintenance
 - c) Integration would include newsletter, MailChimp, Bird Hotline and calendar functions among others
 - d) This would provide a centralized database for all chapter activities, reports, forms and communications.
- C. A domain name (most likely "loesshillsaudubonsociety.org", this name is currently available) would need to be purchased from Google.
- D. A Communications Committee report from 9 Jan 20 was e-mailed to board members and members of the communication committee prior to this meeting
 1. It contained a motion for further developmental work on the website, see below.
 2. The motion included a request for the purchase of a domain name and for the purchase of G Suite Basic (Google Drive Basic for Business) for development and integration of the private LHAS-only portion of the new website
- E. The Communication Committee moved to
 1. Pay Samuel Castro the remainder of the funds due him for the development of the new LHAS website on SquareSpace.
 2. Reimburse David H. for \$144 paid to SquareSpace to continue Samuel's development of the new website.
 3. Another robust discussion ensued.
 - a) The board was reminded that:
 - b) Funds for Samuel (\$300 total) and
 - c) Paying for development of the new website on SquareSpace

- d) Were approved by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions at our December meeting
- 4. The motion to reauthorize \$200 in payment to Samuel for funds due him (see E., 1., above) was approved and passed with 5 members in favor and 2 opposed.
- 5. The motion to reimburse David H. for \$144 (see E., 2., above) for one-year access to SquareSpace for the development of a new LHAS public website was approved and passed with 5 members in favor and 2 members opposed.
- F. The Vice-President of the chapter withdrew from participation in any further actions.
- G. Funding for the G Suite Business portion of the motion for the LHAS-only section of the new website was tabled.
- H. The Domain name purchase for the website was also tabled.
- I. Comments were noted regarding board members being able to resolve their differences.
- X. Conservation Committee – tabled to March
- XI. Projects Committee - Request to support Loess Hills Prairie Seminar – see above, Dotty Z. and Chapter Activities report.
- XII. Old Business – see above
- XIII. New Business - Audubon Campaigns webinar – Donna, Dotty and Dave, see above, Membership Committee report.
- XIV. Tabled Business
- XV. Adjourn at 7:25 PM

GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

7:30 pm at 7:35 PM

- I. Announcements - Feb & March outings to Ponca
- II. Recent sightings? - Pileated Woodpecker at Adams Homestead
- III. Intro of speaker - Anna Buckhardt, "Tracking Bird Migration for Conservation" - Paul Roisen
- IV. Adjourn at 8:49 PM

Attendees: 34

LHAS Chapter Executives

President

David Hoferer

Director 1 Jerry VonEhwegen

Vice President Paul Roisen
Secretary Randy Williams
Treasurer Jeri Watkins

Director 2 Donna Popp
Director 3 Anne Shaner
Director 4 Rex Rundquist
Director 5 Dotty Zales