

Audubon Society Omaha Board Meeting

January 2, 2024

Board members present

Christine Prescott, President
Kayla Johnson, 1st VP
Michelle Foss, Treasurer
Anne Maguire, 2nd VP
Kyle Finley
Betty Fullerton
Melissa Sitze
Steve Geddes
Virginia Stauffer
Bennet Amdor

Board members absent

Amy Campagna
Katy Simmons, Secretary

Other members present

Julia Ramsley
Trevor Pellerite
Conor Gearin

Meeting called to order at 7:20 pm by Christine

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Approval of 11/7/2023 board meeting minutes
Michelle moved to approve and Virginia seconded. Minutes approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2) ANNE- Programs
 - A) January 18 program will be "Pocket Prairies" by Trevor Pellerite
February 15 program will be "Backyard Bird Photography" by Albert Rhea
 - B) ASO member Tom Neneman has proposed a new program, "Bird-friendly habitat certification" for homeowners in the Omaha area. This is a National Audubon initiative which has been successfully implemented in Pittsburgh, PA and Portland, OR.
- 3) BETTY - Bird Seed Sale
 - A) Orders for the birdseed sale are due by February 8 and pick-up will be Saturday, February 17th. Volunteers are needed on Thursday, February 15 to unload the truck and stack birdseed. We also need volunteers to work on the 17th to fulfill orders, load vehicles and to provide food for the volunteers. Betty passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers.
 - B) This is a smaller sale than our fall bird seed sale. It is an opportunity for customers to replenish their stock.
- 4) VIRGINIA- Art Contest and Newsletter
 - A) Entries for the art contest are due by February 24th
 - B) The awards program will be held at Creighton University on April 20th.
All entries will be on display and receive an award. There are usually more than 600 entries. Families attend with their students.
 - C) Articles for the March/April newsletter are due January 25th.
Christine will write an article from the president. Kayla will write about invasive species. Conor Gearin is joining the newsletter committee.
- 5) JULIA - Diversity committee DEIB
 - A) Bennet and Julia have discussed adding Land Acknowledgement on signage at our prairie properties. Kayla said the final draft for new signs is almost complete and she can add the acknowledgment before the signs are produced

6) MICHELLE - Finance

A) Our 990 has been extended

B) Michelle has applied for exclusion from property tax on the Steffes addition to the Audubon prairie and the Cumming City Prairies.
Washington County has been great to work with.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.