

Audubon Society Omaha
January 5, 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88022479289?pwd=TG12MGY5b1h3amcyNnpRa3hNR09idz09>

Meeting ID: 880 2247 9289

Passcode: 382804

One tap mobile

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Called to order at 7:05 pm by Bob.

Name	Present	Notes	Name	Present	Absent
Bob Wells	x	President	Virginia Stauffer	x	Other members in attendance
Christine Jacobsen	x	1st VP	Clem Klaphake		
Meagan Deichert	x	2 nd VP	Mike Benkis		
Matt Miller		Past President	Nelli Falzgraf		
Betty Fullerton	x	Treasurer	Kathy Schwery		
Shannon Engberg	x	Secretary	Glenn Pollock	x	
Scott Bradley	x	Elected Directors	Eric Scholar		
Mark L. Cave	x		Helen Bartee		
Elizabeth Chalen	x		Tisha Johnson		
Michelle Foss	x		Bob Fuchs		
Grace Gaard			Laurine Blankenau		
Kayla Johnson	x		Alex Wiles		
Anne Maguire	x		Austen Hill		
Heidi Walz	x		Jackie Scholar		
			Taylor Daniels	x	

Minutes: Minutes of December 1st meeting are on file. Shannon moved, Bob seconded. Discussion? None Approved? Yes

Informational Items

1) Glenn

- Ellen Hills south of Blair, ASO owns easement, received a report of people making trails and cutting trees but couldn't find much evidence, only mowed trail and that's fine.
- Report about Cuming City cemetery – tax people call it single family housing, talking with authorities, county board not receptive to easements, hard to make progress. TNC didn't put an easement on it. What would it cost to get an easement – Wachiska wants \$10k, need to show that this land for education – hard to get proof during covid. Wachiska holds easements and pays taxes – but that's ag land and not single fam housing (more expensive). Zoning issue. UNO has used site for edu, Meadowlark article highlighted for education, Fragments video too – proof for education. Plan for next consideration – June 2021?
- Update about easement and tax
- Matt Miller wants to work on invasives, rent a skid steer. Can't use Font Forest. Cost \$3000 for a week's worth of work next spring. Fullerton made a motion to increase budget for Prairie Maintenance from \$3,500 to \$5,000; Board voted to increase budget.
- Audubon Prairie – 5 ac new acquisition, collected ~5 gallon seed, will get more in the spring. Will chem treat in late May and early June, then need volunteers to scatter seeds after treatment. Kayla can coordinate UNO folks to help.

2) Betty

- Winter Bird Seed Sale: starts Jan 7th, Orders due by Feb 10th. Pickup date: Feb 20th
 - Emails going out Jan 7th, already have a few orders
 - Social media again, less than in the fall
 - Do we want to continue contactless pick up? Need a few others to help with deliveries. Board consensus was that we should offer that option for the Winter Sale
 - Prices went up again – increased ASO sale prices because some of ASO's Fall prices would not cover the cost to purchase the seed for this sale; weather related supply issues and slower processing during pandemic
 - Less costs – only advert via electronic, not mailing
- Heidi doing Board recruitment for the bird seed sale
- Bob & Betty working on Audubon National Report, will ask questions soon - board by age and volunteer hours
- Finance committee to meet in late January

3) Scott

- Discuss bird seed supplier and RFPs. NW Grain and Feed wants to bid, but he is not familiar with the process or familiar with the history/relationship with Des Moines.
- Keep with Des Moines Seed for winter sale
- Betty & Scott will think about costs and quality comparison for future

4) Virginia

- Quick report about the art contest status - we're going to hold a virtual art contest this year.
- 3 options: move to fall in person, skip this year, or go virtual
- Virginia worked with Firespring team and it's set up, teachers already have information, Heidi doing social media announcements
- Virtual = anyone can participate but ASO cant afford to send their prize, will need to pick up
- OWH will have article in Sunday edition - Margie
- March/April Meadowlark and who might write it. Bob will write a column like normal, want more conservation articles, interpretative hike/self-guidance article for Audubon or CCC plots and ask folks to share what they are seeing, tag – Michelle/Kayla will write up.

5) Bob

- January 14th ASO meeting with Bob will give a presentation on the Great Backyard Bird count
- Ebird lists, Merlin bird ID app
- Summarized upcoming monthly ASO General meetings
- Trying to organize Bird ID talks and maybe talks as we go into spring, espec April through May

6) Kayla

- Link to Fragments to go onto website from Alex and ASO YouTube channel

7) Elizabeth

- Limited with covid restrictions, no visitors in schools, struggling to get additional topics when

Consent Agenda

- 8) Glenn –prairie maintenance - Increase budget from \$3500 to \$4000 Betty Moved, Kayla seconded, no discussion, all approved.

Bob called for Adjournment, Shannon Seconded

Discussion? none

Approved? yes

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm

Minutes submitted by Shannon