Audubon Society Omaha

March 3, 2020

Called to order at 7:01 pm by Bob Wells

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Present | Notes |  | Name | Present | Absent |
| Bob Wells | X | President |  | Bob Fuchs |  | Other members in attendance |
| Jackie Scholar |  | 1st VP |  | Clem Klaphake |  |
| Virginia Stauffer | X | 2nd VP |  | Rick Schmid |  |
| Matt Miller |  | Past President |  | Mike Benkis |  |
| Betty Fullerton | X | Treasurer |  | Nelli Falzgraf |  |
| Shannon Engberg |  | Secretary |  | Kathy Schwery |  |
| Ruth Bentzinger | X | Elected Directors |  | Glenn Pollock | X |
| Mark L. Cave | X |  | Eric Scholar |  |
| Elizabeth Chalen | X |  | Helen Bartee |  |
| Grace Gaard | X |  | Tisha Johnson |  |
| Anne Maguire | X |  | Stacey Coury |  |
| Meagan Deichert | X |  | Laurine Blankenau |  |
| Christine Jacobsen |  |  | Alex Wiles |  |
| Kayla Johnson |  |  | Austen Hill |  |
|  |  |  | Candy Gorton | X |

**Minutes:** Minutes of February 4thmeeting are on file. Ruth moved, Virginia seconded. Approved? Yes

**Informational Items**

1. Betty –
   1. Bird Seed report is also attached. Ended up pretty well after all. Had a really good winter sale. There was discussion of size of seed bags. There was a suggestion that we have a program on bird feeders and bird houses. Betty suggests doing the program in September so there’s time to order bird seed.
   2. Conflict of Interest (continued from Feb meeting) – copies available in the ASO office. Please complete and return to board meeting. All officers and board members need to complete them and return to Betty.
2. Elizabeth –
   1. Tisha is rocking it with getting all of the programs put together and scheduling coordinated for the after school programs. Programs are set to start the first week of March. Five afternoons a week at five schools. Kyle is a part-time educator who will be doing some of these.
   2. Field trips have been going well, and we appreciate people stepping up to offer these opportunities to the public.
   3. I need to propose a budget adjustment for the amount of planning time that we will be paying Tisha for. In the budget originally we did not think there would be much needed for updating and writing programs, but with the funder requesting some adjustments, Tisha has spent more time than we planned for. I would like to propose altering the budget to cover program development from
   4. $400 stated in the current budget for development of educational programs, to the estimated cost at $1200. This $1200 would be covered by Collective for Youth's payment. Requires board approval to raise from $300 to $1200. Mark moved to increase budget for educational costs to $1200, Megan seconded. Unanimous approval.
   5. Glenn stated that Washington County is interested in a joint field day project at Cuming Cemetery, sometime this summer.
3. Jackie –
   1. Will be out of the country for the meeting
   2. We are set to sponsor Earth Day and have donated our free booth to the state Audubon to use.
4. Bob – I would like five minutes to talk about the issues going on regarding the Nebraska Environmental Trust and ask for some attendance at a committee meeting in Lincoln on April 2nd. Omaha World Herald is where Bob found out about this. New senator wants to move some of the NET money to prison reform. That was squashed. In grant review, the NET board defunded saline wetlands grant; Ducks Unlimited had three projects defunded, and land trust conservation easements grants were also zeroed out, so that grant for ethanol blending pumps for Greenplains can be funded instead. Need people to call/write to protest this. Send email comments to: [marilyntabor@nebraska.gov](mailto:marilyntabor@nebraska.gov). Marilyn Tabor runs the grant program. Anyone who can attend the April 2 meeting, please do. Bob and Mark offered to drive.
5. Virginia – Art Show update. Had 484 entries. Art has already been judged. Ribbons have been ordered. One teacher submitted over 100 entries.
   1. April 18 - Art Show and Earth Day on same day
6. Anne – Banquet update.
   1. May 14 - DJ’s Dugout 114th and Dodge, will have folks register and prepay online, heavy snack buffet. Jason will do program on bird calls. Casual. Cash bar. Plenty of seating in room and on attached patio.

**Consent Agenda**

1. Betty – Financials: We had an excellent year; way more than usual. Grants were up. And we got a nice bequest.
   1. Attached is Form 990 for 2018-2019 fiscal year. Also, attached are the pages of Form 990 supporting schedules on which data is required to be entered. This 990 is required to be filed by May 15 and will be presented for Board approval at the March 3rd meeting. Bob has signed the form already. Glenn made a motion to approve; Mark second. No discussion. Unanimous approval.
2. Bylaws amendment – 5 consecutive years and would like to go back to 6, it’s something that all board members should review and bring to a vote during the March 2020 meeting. Virginia moved that we amend the bylaws to change 5 consecutive years to 6 consecutive years. Anne seconded. Unanimous approval.
3. Need to discuss changes necessary to allow Bob to remain president this upcoming year (would then be on the Board for a 6th year)
4. Megan, Betty and others may be requested to review the bylaws and correct some of the language (Treasury details and others) sometime in the next calendar year

**NEW BUSINESS?**

Glenn called for Adjournment, Virginia Seconded

Discussion? none

Approved? yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Minutes submitted by Candace Gorton