

Audubon Society Omaha  
February 4, 2020

Called to order at 7:05pm by Bob.

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

**Minutes:** Minutes of January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting are on file. Bob moved, Virginia seconded. Discussion? none  
Approved? yes

### Informational Items

- 1) Bob -
  - a. UNO Chapter report -
    - i. grants awarded - \$2500, \$1500, \$1000
    - ii. \$2500 & \$1500 require a project and reports
    - iii. \$1000 applied for independently - can use for part of the gift to McCarty \$2000/yr promised for transportation assistance
    - iv. UNO ASO birding at DeSoto this weekend with McCarty 10am-1pm Saturday
  - b. Hitchcock HawkWatching scope bought
    - i. Jeff Franco at Hitchcock, got a good refurbished Vortex scope, lifetime guarantee
    - ii. \$525 total spent
  - c. Legislative report from Audubon Nebraska
    - i. Have been giving \$5k/yr to Audubon NE to advocacy annually
    - ii. They found a bill that wanted to cut NETF and put to prison reform - our lobbyist found this and talked to new representative about the significance of NETF and he ultimately withdrew the bill
    - iii. Bob Fuchs asked Virginia for the email membership list to communicate some of the legislative list - Virginia will send email request to Bob Wells
  - d. Lead Poisoning in Wildlife
    - i. Fontenelle Forest is partnering with ASO to present this video and a panel discussion after in the Forest Room on Thursday February 13th at 7-9pm. REMEMBER TO REGISTER IN ORDER TO ATTEND FONTENELLE FOREST TALKS
  - e. Earth Day Omaha, 50th anniversary of Earth Day to discuss next month - maybe UNOmaha chapter can help with this? Kayla may be drafted to take charge

- i. Can support with financially (normally budgeted anyway) but not have a booth due to the conflict with the art show
    - ii. We're celebrating Earth Day at an art show
- 2) Elizabeth - Education Committee:
  - a. Great news! We received word that our afterschool programs through Collective for Youth are a go for this spring. The committee met on Thursday January 30th to look over the curriculum for the session. ASO will be working with 5 elementary schools starting in March, and will have 7 weeks of in school programming and 1 field trip to Heron Haven.
    - i. Funder requested for a focus on water
  - b. Tisha is working on adapting the curriculum to fit the funder's requests, and will be looking for another person to help with programs a couple of days a week. update on afterschool programs, but we still haven't heard back from Collective for Youth on whether or not they received their grant to fund our after-school program.
    - i. Kyle doing the work, helping Tisha
    - ii. To start in beginning of March
    - iii. Need to get a contract together for these folks
  - c. Bat houses and bird houses to be donated, brand new, reserve for the banquet, handmade from a group of masons - Elizabeth will share info with Anne
  - d. Beadle middle school in Millard, doing planting for birds, Hubbard supporting, Ratzlaff to help, other funding available - Bob has info on those sources
- 3) Virginia - Art Contest is under way, flyers have been mailed, emails mailed for call for entries. ASO website should be updated to include all information for the 2020 contest and show.
  - a. Art Show date conflicts:
    - Feb 22 - Art Show entry drop-off and Bird Seed pick up same day
    - April 18 - Art Show and Earth Day on same day
  - b. Art Show BEST Teachers
    - i. Only 6 that does this every year, would like to give them tickets to the banquet
  - c. I would like to invite them plus 1 to our Banquet and would like ASO to cover the cost of registration. We currently do not have "prizes" for the teachers. If need be, I can probably fit the registration cost into my prize budget since Anne found sketchpad donations (will save approx. \$500)
  - d. Zoo Academy senior Raptor Club, asked if could set up table at the art show, Virginia will share the expected behavior and require adult chaperone
  - e. Virginia needs volunteers to help put stickers on the art
  - f. Happens to fall on Earth Day Omaha this year - April 18<sup>th</sup>
- 4) Anne - May 14 banquet, DJ's Dugout 77<sup>th</sup> and Dodge, likely have folks prepay online, heavy snack buffet
- 5) Candy - Lauritzen Gardens Arbor Day
  - a. Apr 22-23 - 1400 Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade kids, 9am-3pm, with a conservation message
  - b. Does ASO want to host a table?
  - c. Had to have a rep there the entire time over the two days
  - d. Kayla and maybe some UNO kids may be able - Kayla will share with UNO folks and hope to have an idea.
- 6) Betty - Volunteer Reporting Worksheet - Attached, please complete and return to board meeting
  - a. All board members need to fill our total volunteer hours, yellow program areas are where we are required to report
  - b. Will keep paper copies on the meeting table in ASO office, ideal if folks could use the forms on a monthly basis
  - c. Board meeting attendance is included
  - d. Need to catch up for the last 7 months (July 19 - Jan 20)
  - e. Ideally for real end of year amounts due by the end of May 2020

- 7) Betty – Conflict of Interest – Attached, please complete and return to board meeting
  - a. Only need to complete and turn in the last page
  - b. Required to complete and turn into Betty
  - c. Due by the next board meeting, Betty wants to turn in by end of fiscal year
- 8) Betty – bird seed sales a little down, more movement online orders

#### **Consent Agenda**

- 9) Betty – Financial Statements – Attached
  - a) Details added to the margin
  - b) Need to make a few budget adjustments
    - i) Bird seed revenue is down a bit from 2019 budgeted projection
    - ii) Technology changes (Firespring and cellphone) is going to be over \$200 too
    - iii) Need to have Board authorized that we are over budget on these two items
  - c) Betty moves to approve the financials noting that the budget and accept the overages we have projected, Virginia seconds, no discussion, approved

#### **NEW BUSINESS?**

- 1) Virginia – think about 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 next month
  - a) Time is short, present the new board members to the general membership in May
- 2) 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
- 3) Anne – has extra Fragments post cards for folks to disperse
- 4) Anne – new volunteer Lauren Robinson now taking over ASO's Omaha Gives

Elizabeth called for Adjournment, Anne Seconded

Discussion? none

Approved? yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:34pm

Minutes submitted by Shannon Engberg, Secretary