**Audubon Society of Omaha Board Meeting
March 5, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by Christine.

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| **Board members present** | **Board members absent** | **Other members present** |
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| Christine Prescott, President | Virginia Stauffer | Julia Rawnsley |
| Kayla Johnson, Vice Pres.Michelle Foss, Treasurer | Melissa Sitze Bennett Amdor | Tom Neneman Betty Fullerton |
| Katy Simmons, Secretary |  |  |
| Conor Gearin |  |  |
| Kyle Finley |  |  |
| Steve Geddes |  |  |
| Trevor Pellerite |  |  |
| Amy Campagna |  |  |
|  |  |  |
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**OLD BUSINESS**

1) Approval of February 6, 2024 board meeting minutes. Katy moved to approve the minutes as amended with clarification of Glen Pollock Prairie taxes, Betty seconded. Motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1) Vote on 2nd VP – Christine

* Virginia has offered to step into Anne’s slot; no other nominations. Michelle moved to approved Virginia as 2nd VP, Steve seconded. Motion approved.

2) Michelle – Budget

* Michelle asked for any numbers for the budget. If none, she will move them over from last year.
* Steve – Backyard Habitat committee working toward National’s 4/5 $1,000 grant deadline. The budget can be amended at a later board meeting to account for any needs. Tom discussed the printing costs for signs, pamphlets, seeds for the committee.

3) Programs & Field Trips

* Thursday, March 21 at 6 pm: Glacier Creek walk will be led by Bennett Amdor, followed by Trevor Pellerite talking about pocket prairies at 7 pm in the barn
* Thursday, April 11 Conor Gearin will speak at DJ’s about BirdNote
* Thursday, May 9 John O’Keefe’s documentary “The Last Prairie” will be shown at DJ’s at 7pm

4) Art Show

* We received about 650 entries and judging will take place Saturday, March 9th at 1:30.

5) Julia – Share Omaha Request:

* The Share Omaha theme for April is the environment and they want to feature ASO. Kayla offered to answer the 3 questions for the feature. Deadline is March 18.
* We have a Share Omaha page. Environment theme days are April 16-17.

6) Christine – Grant Requests

* Please let Katy or Christine know of any committee needs that could potentially be covered by a grant (signage, outreach/education supplies): spotting scopes, tripods; Bass Pro Shops potential source for binoculars, etc.; Kayla will provide list of items and amounts for Cuming City Cemetery maintenance
* Question raised: does ASO give scholarships? Not in the past; have granted money to other organizations.

Other items:

Amy raised the issue of participation in Earth Day Omaha.

* We have to be a sponsor because it’s in the budget.
* Last year had a QR code, lift the flap trivia; other ideas? Backyard Habitat may have a presence with pamphlets, seeds.

Bird seed sale/Betty:

* Lease renewal on the office space in 2025 and must give 6 months notice if we are not renewing
* In response to questions about the need for a space with a loading dock: used to make about $5800 with the bird seed sale (without our big space), this year $28K. Also need a lot of space for art contest committee.
* Need to transition someone into coordinating the volunteers.

Kayla has Pollock prairie signage ready

* 18 x 24”
* plan to include a land acknowledgment plaque w/input from DEIB committee
* getting a quote from Glenn to include on one of the signs
* design work was donated by Dana Meyer
* there will be 7 signs plus Glenn’s and land acknowledgement
* Julia will look into plaque purchase
* Signs will be mounted on UV-coated aluminum posts

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.