

Audubon Society of Omaha Board Meeting June 3, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:08 pm by Anne.

| Board members present | Board members absent | Others present |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
| Anne Maguire, President Conor Gearin, 1 st VP Bennett Amdor, 2 nd VP Melissa Sitze, Treasurer Amy Campagna Katy Simmons Roger Carroll | Virginia Stauffer, Sec. | Sarah Shepherd Glenn Pollock Betty Fullerton Kellie Hayden Bill Bossman Derek Comba Alex Wiles |

OLD BUSINESS

Approve minutes from previous meetings: Betty moved to approve February minutes with changes, Conor seconded. Katy moved to approve May minutes Roger seconded.

NEW BUSINESS

Melissa read card from Terry Strauss – issue with our mailing list vs. national; also would like to be involved in birding, etc. but can't drive. Conor will get in touch.

ANNE

Welcome visitors.

Upcoming Programs

6/12 Sustaining Birds, Bugs, Wildlife, and Bees with Trees

7/12 bird friendly backyard tour, 4 homes 8-noon, Audubon members homes

Need sponsors for each home

June 12: Sustaining birds, bugs, wildlife and bees with TREES!

July 12: Bird-friendly backyard tour

August 14 at new venue Vincenzo's 157th and Pacific (min tab of \$200): Bluebirds and chimney swifts – presented by Bluebirds Across Nebraska President

CONOR

Marketing/Communications update – new website beta version; speak up with suggestions

Committee chairs/members for 2025-2026:

Need chairs: for DEIB (Bennett is currently);

Education/Field Trips: Sheila Glencer has offered and Bill Bossman

Finance – led by Melissa

Fundraising and Bird Seed Sale – Betty continuing but would like to get John out of recruiting

Habitat – Steve stepped down but still interested in contributing – Roger will chair
Legislative Affairs – Bennett will chair (cousins with Cavanaughs in legislature)
Marketing and Outreach will continue with Conor as chair; Anne will continue to participate
Membership is covered
Natural Areas stewardship – currently Glenn and Kayla; Roger, Derek, and Bennett interested in participating
Nominating – Bennett is chair
Programming – Anne would like someone else to take over
Student Art – Virginia will continue as chair, Katy will continue serving

ASO phone – Sarah figured out issue with phone caller ID not working; using call forwarding now

MCC window strikes – member has noticed many strikes at South campus; Conor talked w/someone at S campus about it and they will look into it; Kellie noticed big issue at Lewis and Clark landing (NP headquarters) and mentioned maybe working with new mayor to get incentive for buildings.

AMY

Education Update

Earth Day – thanks to Roger, Sarah, Virginia

Nebraska Monarchs Native Plant Sale –

- Virginia and Glenn hosted the table
- Quiet day, most people were aware of ASO

Mindful Birding Retreat - Anne:

- at Waubonsie State Park in conjunction with Natural School
- Jack Phillips led around 15 people
- Met at lodge then morning of group activities, poetry, yoga, canoeing. No phone or binoculars – get in touch with nature.

Upcoming Field trips

June 21: Cumming City Cemetery prairie walk with Glenn and Amy

July 26: Photo walk at Cunningham Lake with Sheila Glencer – small group (6)

GLENN

Land stewardship update:

1. Needs help with sweet clover pulling; Bennett got Ian Rincon; we will pay; Glenn has one other guy
2. Using Fish and Wildlife grant to set up Motus tracking stations and Iowa State grad student (Kat) is tagging birds. Has 7 more to set up somewhere; will be setting up at Offut. Will be needing help at zoo for adjustments.

ALEX WILES (NEW Multimedia)

- Promotional video discussion
- Former board member; made led toxicity video in raptors for Audubon; developed large scale promo films, TV, etc. Lately mostly large projects: filmed

a lot of the Nebraska section of The Americas (NE section); trying to get focus back to our region with the series Habitat at Home/Embracing the Wild Around Us

- Working with Lucky Toad to help people create habitat in their yards
- High end visuals; short form content (3-5 min) on how to bring in critters
- Could do community level things like bird strikes on buildings
- How to amplify ASO message and get to digital media age group
- Offered to do pro-bono head shots for bd members

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS

Amy's last night on board; Anne leaving as President but still on board

Glenn: presentation about using goats to eat invasive species, June 17 at Vincent Bluff, Council Bluffs

June 14 plant talk at Fontenelle Forest

Adjourned at 8:19.