

**Audubon Society of Omaha Board Meeting
January 7, 2025, Via Google Meet video conference**

Present:

Anne Maguire
Conor Gearin
Bennett Amdor
Melissa Sitze
Virginia Stauffer

Amy Campagna
Roger Carroll
Kyle Finley
Betty Fullerton
Glenn Pollock
Trevor Pellerite
Katy Simmons

Meeting called to order at 7:09 pm

OLD BUSINESS

November meeting minutes approved. Roger moves to approve and Melissa 2nd

NEW BUSINESS -AGENDA ITEMS

ANNE - Board Member Update

Steve Geddes has resigned his Director and committee positions from the board. Since ASO already has one open position, we currently have 2 Director openings. Anne nominated Sarah Prescott - Sr. at UNO Environmental Studies. Her focus on conservation and wildlife habitat and travel with family of environmentalists makes her an ideal candidate. Her advisor says her board membership will count as her required internship. After discussion about internship requirements, the board voted and elected Sarah to the board of directors.

ANNE - Committee

She was contacted by Mark Harberg who is interested in being on land stewardship committee
GLENN says he is welcome to join committee. BETTY says Mark would be a good board member as he volunteers for Bird Seed Sale

PROGRAMS

January 9: Conor will present How backyard habitat helps

February 13: Glenn Pollock and Jerry Toll will present the MOTUS tracking system growth

BETTY - Bird Seed Sale

Dates: sale opens online on Jan. 7, orders due by Feb. 12, order pickup Feb. 22. Sale will need volunteers to help unload truck and then fill orders for customers.

MELISSA - Office Lease is up for renewal.

She has contacted our land lady, current rent is \$1200/month and Melissa will ask if new lease can be at same rate for new lease. TREVOR concerned with timing of planning budget

VIRGINIA – Student Art Contest

Call for entries flyers have been mailed to area schools, ASO website has been updated as well. Virginia has contacted area school superintendants and after-school programs with personal letter to encourage participation from a wide variety of diverse students.

AMY – Field Trips

January 25: De Soto to see Snow Geese inside visitor center

February trip scheduled for March 1- Glen lead birding at Forest Lawn

CONOR – possible joint field trip with Astronomical Society for last week in March

GLENN prairie updates - Glenn meeting with contractor for mowing sumac at Cuming City Prairie

Also let us know that Wachiska chapter was contacted about GREEN BURIAL but could not help Glenn suggests we could offer green burial at Cuming Prairie, since it was plotted as a cemetery originally.

ANNE – National Audubon Chapter Leadership Conference

Conor and Anne attended video call for Leadership Conference in Canada Montreal

Christine went a few years ago and ASO helped pay for trip

ANNE: Meeting adjourned at 8:04