

SOUTH MOUNTAIN AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD MEETING  
November 14, 2017

The meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the Adams County Agricultural Center and was convened at 4:04 pm by President, Deb Siefken. Those board members present were Linette Mansberger, Mike Bertram, Mike O'Brien, Betsy Griffiths, Jon Griffiths, Nancy Locher, Carole Simon, and Kathy Gelner.

President's Report

Kim Schubert, Project Coordinator for Audubon Pennsylvania, has moved to Gettysburg and will attend the next meeting.

SMAS did not nominate anyone for the vacancies on the Adams County Conservation District Board of Directors.

Deb submitted a collaborative Audubon grant application today for \$1000. SMAS received \$400 last year. The money supports purchase of subscriptions to *Audubon Adventures* and library books for local schools as well as tuition for a local high school student to attend an Audubon leadership camp.

Vice President's Report

Linette attended the November 13<sup>th</sup> York Audubon meeting where she met their Vice President, Andrew Wolfgang. He would like to invite SMAS to participate in a joint Big Day which York would set up. He also asked her for a contact at Gettysburg College and it was agreed that Linette would send him Andy Wilson's information.

Secretary's report

The minutes from the previous board meeting were approved unanimously with no changes.

**Resolved that: the minutes from the September 12, 2017 board meeting be approved by the board.**

Treasurer's report

Mike noted that funds resulting from the Christmas Bird Count will be used to buy *Audubon Adventure* subscriptions for more classrooms. \$400 was paid for insurance and \$321 for subscriptions.

**Resolved that: the Treasurer's Report be approved by the board.**

## Committee reports

### Programs –

November: 20 Andy Wolfe - “Rattlesnakes on South Mountain” He has asked for \$50 to cover his costs.

December 16: Christmas Bird Count followed by a Tally Rally at Mike and Charlotte O'Brien's

January 8: Film – Deb and Nancy will choose a film; Kathy will provide refreshments

February: No meeting

March 19: Members' best photos [no refreshments]

At the last Board meeting there was a discussion about the fact that, although it was an excellent program, only about ten children came to the “The Bug Man” entomology program for which SMAS paid \$100 for the presentation. It was decided that we would sponsor a presentation at one of the schools next year instead, since it appears hard to get children to come to a program on a school night. So far, Lincoln Elementary has not responded; Arendsville Elementary already had all their assemblies planned for the entire school year; and we are waiting for a response from James Gettys.

### Publicity –

There was a photo taken at the October SMAS meeting published in the *Gettysburg Times* of Deb and Sarah Hardy, who attended the Leadership Camp.

Bonnie Portzline is open to suggestions about topics to cover in her “Bird's Eye View” column published in the *Gettysburg Times* and she will continue to publicize SMAS meetings.

### Field Trips –

November 17 – Oakside Park, 8 am

November 30 – Wildwood Park north of Harrisburg, rain date December 5

December 8 – Oakside Park, 8 am

December 16 - CBC

Deb will schedule field trips while Mike is out of town in January and February

Newsletter - The next issue will be sent/posted in late December or early January

Membership – Mike O'Brien reported that the official membership figure is 234.

### Education –

Betsy reported that Franklin Township has been added to the list of schools receiving subscriptions to *Audubon Adventures* from SMAS.

There was a request from Dustin Brace for a beginning bird class and walk in Caledonia State Park for homeschooled student in Waynesboro, aged 5 to 11.

### Conservation –

Carole said that she had received an e-mail from the president of the National Audubon

Society, David Yarnold, regarding HR 4239, The Secure Energy Act, which would allow the gas and oil industry to contravene the Migratory Bird Treaty Act by obviating liability for the incidental or accidental killing of migratory birds. Audubon members were asked to contact their representative in Congress [Rep. Scott Perry] to protest.

Hospitality – Betsy and Jon will provide refreshments in November and Kathy in January.

### OLD BUSINESS

The slate of officers will be announced at the November meeting. There are no volunteers for field trips, programs, or publicity.

Reports from board members regarding their research of other possible venues for the April 21<sup>st</sup> spring luncheon showed that none was found to offer the facilities or price available at Hickory Bridge Farm, so it will again be held there this year.

### NEW BUSINESS

The end-of-year fundraiser was discussed. Our treasurer noted that few people actually base their donation on the number or variety of birds seen during the Christmas Bird Count and the calculations for doing so are complicated so members will be asked to make a contribution but will not be asked to base it on the CBC figures.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm.

The next Board Meeting will be March 13, 2018, at 4 pm.