

SOUTH MOUNTAIN AUDUBON SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 19, 2020

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 4:07 pm by President Linette Mansberger. Due to Covid-19 considerations, it was held on Nancy Locher's porch and all participants wore face masks. Others present were Deb Siefken, Mike Bertram, Cy Deitz, Nancy Locher, Carole Simon, and Kathy Gelner.

President's Report

Library books were ordered for Shalom Christian Academy. The beautiful SMAS bookplates, designed and printed by Jon Griffiths using a photo of a Great Blue Heron taken by Linette, will be placed in each book.

SMAS sent a donation to The Land Conservancy of Adams County in appreciation of the tour led by Dean Schultz.

Due to the cancellation of meetings because of Covid-19 this year, it was agreed that the current SMAS officers will remain in their jobs through 2021.

Vice-President's Report

Because of SMAS's status as a non-profit, we would be eligible to participate in the Adams County Giving Spree. It is too late for this year, but Deb plans to explore becoming a recipient next year.

Secretary's Report

Minutes from the last board meeting, which Deb drafted, were presented and approved with no changes.

Resolved that: the minutes from the June 29, 2020 board meeting be approved by the board.

Treasurer's Report

Mike presented the Treasurer's Report. He said that he has received a bill for \$580 for insurance for next year from Nuncio and Associates. We must have insurance because the Ag Center will not allow us to hold meetings in their building without it. Although we are not meeting there anyway, it was agreed that since we are still sponsoring field walks, we should have it for liability reasons. He will continue to find a cheaper alternative.

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

Committee Reports

Wildlife education: Betsy Griffiths sent in a report. There were no Adams County participants this year at the Wildlife Leadership Academy, which was held virtually due to Covid-19, but we did sponsor a scholarship.

Competitions: Mike is running the currently on-going Fall Migrant Competition again this year. He noted that most summer residents have left but it will continue into November.

Christmas Bird Count: The CBC will be held on December 19 this year. Because of coronavirus restrictions, individuals must travel in separate cars rather than as teams, and there will be no tally rally at the end of the day. Mike will tabulate and report all sightings.

Meetings: It may be possible to hold outdoor meetings in 2021 at the Gettysburg National Military Park Amphitheater during May, June, and July. We would have to pay a \$100 application fee but that would cover all events we hold there. Possible speakers include Bonnie Portzline's on local birds and Laura Jackson who gives a presentation titled Mexico - Birds and Monarchs.

Spring banquet: We will consider having a picnic in Oakside Park in late April, depending on virus conditions at that time. We will discuss further at the next board meeting.

Field trips -

Saturday, October 31 – Camp Michaux at 9 am

Saturday, November 14 – Strawberry Hill at 8 am

Saturday, November 21, Duck Drive – meet at the Gettysburg College Quarry Pond at 9 am;
Sunday, November 22, is the rain date

Friday, November 27 – Oakside Park at 8 am

Thursday, December 3 – Conowingo Dam – wagon train from Gettysburg and New Oxford at 7:30 am. RSVP required so that participants don't have to wait to see who might show up.

Membership report: Linette stated that more than 200 people currently receive our e-mails. There are 28 on the report from National that are not on ours. Linette sent an email asking that they be added to our list.

Old Business

National Audubon has extended grants until next year.

Rather than asking for donations based on the number of species seen during the CBC, Linette will send an email around Thanksgiving asking for donations to be used for our education fund.

New Business

Next board meeting – probably in late March. It will be scheduled later.

Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kathryn L. Gelner, Secretary