

SOUTH MOUNTAIN AUDUBON SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 21, 2016

The meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the Adams County Agricultural Center and was convened at 4:00 pm by President, Linette Mansberger. Those in attendance were Mike Bertram, Betsy Griffiths, Jon Griffiths, Nancy Locher, Deb Siefken, and Kathy Gelner. .

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Linette met with the York Audubon Society president, Carolyn Mathur. The York Society would like to have a joint meeting with SMAS once a year. We discussed this and agreed but decided that, given the size of the York chapter, it should not be the banquet. We will also begin putting the York Society's meeting and bird walk dates on our website calendar, and will ask that they do the same for ours.

The Adams County Heritage Festival will be held in Recreation Park on September 18 from 12-5 pm. We can rent a spot for \$15, \$20 for a spot with a table, and a tent is another \$10. The deadline to sign up is August 15. We decided to rent a space but to provide our own table and tent. Mike moved that we participate and Deb seconded. The motion carried.

The Pennsylvania Society of Ornithologists will meet September 15-17, 2017 (next year), according to an email from Vern Gauthier. He requested suggestions for local organizations that might be given recognition as a conservation organization in the area and it was decided that Linette would send information to him about the Adams County Land Conservancy. Kathy suggested that Strawberry Hill might also be recognized. Mike said that he would be willing to lead a bird walk in Michaux State Forest for those interested who might be attending the meeting as well as one on the Battlefield. Deb moved that SMAS participate in the meeting and Mike seconded. The motion carried.

Bonnie Portzline – SMAS encourages her to write articles on local birds and birding for The Gettysburg Times, as she did in the past.

Christmas Bird Count (CBC) – Who will be in charge? – Mike O'Brien or Mike Bertram? It might be a joint effort. It will probably be scheduled for December 17.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Secretary - Nancy Locher's minutes from the April 5, 2016, Board Meeting were approved as distributed with one correction. On third page it should read that Mike O'Brien will lead the members' favorite bird walk – not Ralph Siefken. A thank you note will be sent to Mary Ronan for her stream study presentation.

Treasurer – Several possible fundraising ideas were discussed. We will continue to use the Christmas Bird Count as a fundraiser. Laura Stover gave a memorial in memory of Frances Parker. The secretary will send an acknowledgment of this donation to Frances's husband. There has been a resolution reached on who can sign checks drawn on the SMAS bank account. The president will not seek permission to sign checks.

Programs -

September 19 – Linette Mansberger, Deb and Ralph Siefken - Tanzania Birds & Other Wildlife
October 17 – Mike Bertram and Kathy King – Bhutan & Cambodia

November 21 – Ian Clarke – Gettysburg College Hatter Planetarium (Masters Hall) – to start at

regular meeting time.

January 2017 – a program on winter tree identification was suggested for January. We do not know if Carole was able to check with a person she knows who might be willing to present such a talk in January or in another winter month, if January will not work for him.

March 2017 – Linette will contact “Bug Man” Ryan Bridges to see if he can present a program.

Publicity – Cynthia Chambers has sent notices to the paper but they have not been published.

Newsletter – Mike O’Brien will send a newsletter at the end of July or early August for August-September. The deadline for submissions will be July 25.

Field Trips – Linette will lead a field trip to several York County parks, including Nixon County Park, possibly in November, to see ducks and other waterfowl. We will try to have some field trips to different places than previously visited. We will work together as a board to suggest other venues so that we can share the responsibilities.

Education – Betsy Griffiths said that there is a new principal at Lincoln Elementary. Last year three teachers were contacts and it cost \$40 per classroom for subscriptions to *Audubon Adventures*. She said that she plans to contact the principals at James Gettys and Franklin Schools to see if they would like to receive subscriptions to the magazine as well.

Rachel Cluck, a rising high school senior, was nominated by Steve Glassman, an Environmental Science teacher, to receive the SMAS scholarship to attend a summer environmental program. She will attend the September meeting to tell us about her experiences studying *Ursids* – bears.

OLD BUSINESS

As a follow-up to Green Gathering, we will have a simple handout that includes our website and upcoming events available for the September 18 Heritage Festival, as well as a backyard bird ID that can be sold for \$1. Jon will make a banner and sign we can use on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

The nominating committee will be announced at the October meeting and the slate will be announced at the November meeting.

Next board meeting – Tuesday, October 18, 4 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn L Gelner, Secretary