

SOUTH MOUNTAIN AUDUBON SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

February 25, 2019

The Board of Directors of the South Mountain Audubon Society (SMAS) met on February 25, 2019 at the Adams County Agricultural Center.

President Linette Mansberger called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm with the following board members present: Deb Siefken, Betsy Griffiths, Jon Griffiths, Cy Dietz, Nancy Locher, Mike O'Brien

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Linette reported that we did not receive the Birding Expo grant. There is no news yet about the Collaborative Grant from PA Audubon. SMAS will have a table at the Green Gathering which will be held on June 1 from 11-3:30pm at the Ag Center. Linette will contact Steve Zimmerman, the organizer. Linette will offer a Beginners Bird Class which will consist of three-one hour sessions. Location to be determined. PA Audubon is having 3 meetings across the state. Interest was low.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Deb brought up the idea of putting bluebird boxes at Oakside Park. This idea was tabled for now. Deb also suggested folks write reviews of books they have read recently and send them to Mike O'Brien for inclusion in the newsletter.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's Report for the November 5, 2018 board meeting was presented and there were no corrections or additions. Jon made a motion and Nancy seconded it and the minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mike Bertram's Treasurer's Report looked fine and was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs: Upcoming programs include:

March 11 - Marci Mowery, President of the PA Parks & Forests Foundation, will speak about birding and kayaking in state parks.

May 20 - "Birds of Prey" by Nixon Park

June 17 - Linette will present "Hidden Gems of the Neotropics"

Sept. 16 - Dr. Alex Trillo, Assistant Professor of Biology at Gettysburg College will speak about amphibians

Oct. 21 - open

Nov. 18 - open

Ideas for programs - Bill Gent - Photography (might be a speaker for the luncheon)

Program on Stony Valley which is near Halifax, PA; possible field trip also.

Cy had some ideas - Kevin Chase & insects; possible Sept. 23 meeting

Bonnie Ott - "Sparrows of the Piedmont" and Kate Livie - "Chesapeake Oysters: The Bay's Foundation & Future"

Publicity: Bonnie Portzline and Kathy Gelner are doing a great job. Deb will send announcements to Gettysburg Times for "What's Happening" column

Field Trips: Upcoming field trips:

- Middle Creek - no set date

- March 9 - Oakside Park 8am

- April 13 - Oakside Park 8am

- May 4 - Global Big Day - Harrisburg led by Don Gilbert

- May 11 - International Migratory Bird Day at Spangler's Spring 7:30am

- May - overnighter to Delaware to see Red Knots (full moon is May 18); dates not set

- June ? - State Game Lands near Biglerville

- June 14-17 Breeding Bird Blitz - Linette is getting more information

- Summer - BJ Small offered to organize a canoe trip on the Susquehanna; details to come

- Fall - Betsy & Jon are going to check into the best week to go to NJ; Stony Valley at peak colors with Tony as our guide

Newsletter & Membership: Mike O'Brien reported about the same membership numbers - 240 and 150 newsletters are sent out by email. Give information to Mike for the next newsletter by mid - late March for early April publication.

Education: Betsy said March 15th is deadline for students to apply for the Wildlife Leadership Academy. We will see if anyone is accepted from Adams County. Book donations to schools were discussed. This will depend on available funds.

Hospitality: March - Bard & Liz; May - Mark Luongo; June - Nancy

Old Business: Banquet April 27 - Linette will create the flyer; Deb will get flowers; Door prizes will be the same; Linette will ask Bill Gent about a presentation; Price is the same as last year; Pork & Sauerkraut and Oven Fried Chicken are the entrees; Deadline to reserve a spot is April 19.

Linette will ask Mike Bertram about the diversity statement that was passed at the last board meeting.

New Business: Dafna Reiner will be approached about the tree identification at the former Gettysburg Country Club. Supposedly, there is a tree from each of the lower 48 states planted in the area.

Information about Sunday hunting and how to comment on this idea will be shared at the March meeting.

Deb will write an article about SMAS's 20+ years of litter pick-up for the newsletter.

The next meeting of the SMAS Board will be at 4:00 on Monday, May 6 at the Adams County Agricultural Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Siefken