

SOUTH MOUNTAIN AUDUBON SOCIETY  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
January 10, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Deb Siefken at the Agricultural Extension Office building. Others present were Vice President Linette Mansberger, Treasurer Carol Deardorff, Judie Hogan, Nancy Locher, Carole Simon, Cy Deitz, Evan Vaeth, Tony Arnold, Kathy Gelner, and Liz Smith. Sarah Fretz was not in attendance.

**President's Report**

Deb introduced four new board members, pending their election at the January meeting: Tony Arnold (Vice President), Sarah Fretz (Education), Judie Hogan (Conservation), Liz Smith (Secretary). Deb submitted the annual report to National Audubon.

**Vice-President's Report**

Linette reported on Birding for Conservation (B4C) and expressed hopes for increasing the amount of money SMAS can contribute this year.

**Secretary's Report**

In Kathy Gelner's absence at the last board meeting, Linette served as secretary. Minutes from that meeting were presented and approved with no changes. Kathy sent thank you notes to the Griffiths for their many contributions to the SMAS Board.

**Treasurer's Report**

Carol presented the 3-month expenditures since the last meeting, including the CD accounts and year-end donations. Linette confirmed thank you/acknowledgments have been sent out to those who checked the correct box on the year-end donation form.

**Committee Reports**

**Education:**

In Sarah's absence, Carole and Linette gave updates. Carole has emailed and sent out fliers to gauge interest in *Audubon Adventures*, but so far no one has responded.

Carole contacted Steve Glassmann and found out that the deadline for students to apply to the Wildlife Leadership Academy is March 1, 2023.

Questions were raised about the purchase of library books to the Montessori School. The books have been bought and the school has sent a thank-you letter. Deb and others discussed the possibility that the books be delivered in-person by representatives from SMAS, and photos taken for publicity purposes.

In regard to SMAS sponsorship for Hershey Zoo America program for a local school, no one has responded from Lincoln Elementary.

**Programs:**

January 23: "Beekeeping" by Galen Stauffer

March 20: "Local Nocturnal Bird Migration" by Andy Wilson

April 17: "The Beloved and Charismatic Bluebird" by Dean Rust , President of the PA Bluebird Society

May 15: "Birds, Beasts, & Beauty - The Bountiful Island of Papua New Guinea" by Linette

June 19: JF Therrien from Hawk Mountain will present research on American Kestrels

### **Field Trips:**

January 28: Big Spring, led by Tony Arnold, 9 a.m.

February 18: GBBC at Eisenhower Farm, led by Deb Siefken, 9 a.m.

March TBD: Geology Walk at Plum Road with Jeri Jones (to be confirmed)

March TBD: Walk at Eisenhower Farm, to be led by Eva (to be confirmed)

April 1: Taneytown Road near Mead's HQ, to be led by Cy Deitz

April 13-14: Conoy Wetlands Nature Preserve/Mt. Cuba Native Gardens; overnight trip, to be organized by Linette

May 6: Knox Road, to be led by Tony Arnold, 7 a.m.

May 13: IMBD at Spangler's Spring, to be led by Linette, 7:30 a.m.

June 17/18: B4C, Linette will organize

Pending/Discussed:

Late February/Early March: Overnight trip to Middle Creek for first-light viewing of snow geese migration. Linette will send out email to gauge interest. Judie suggested that Linette include brief reports about recent SMAS field trips and walks in the email to encourage interest and attendance at other events.

April 29: TBD, led by Mike Bertram

May 20: Plum Run Road

May 27 or 28: Harrisburg State Hospital Grounds, led by Don

Early June: Codorus, Mary Ann Furnace trail, led by Evan

Fall: South Middleton park, Dean Schultz's property and a hawk watch trip

### **Old Business**

Reprinting the South Mountain Birding Brochure cannot move forward until the issue of errors in the text has been resolved. The board agreed to table for now. In the meantime, Linette has offered to find out how much it would cost to reprint. Evan has access to the pdf version of the brochure.

### **New Business**

Approval for applying for GNMP permits for field trips was granted by the board.

Thank-you letter from Red Creek for SMAS donation to help rebuild was circulated.

Next board meeting – March 14, 2023

Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Liz Smith