

WEMINUCHE AUDUBON SOCIETY
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2023

- I. **Call to Order** - Board President Jean Zirnhelt called to order the regular meeting of the Weminuche Audubon Society Board of Directors at 4:05 p.m.
- II. **In Attendance** - In person: Jean Zirnhelt, Herb Grover, Anne Stevens, Lisa Tedder. Via Zoom: Loyette Stewart, Becky Herman, Diane Cirksena, Brenda Breding. Absent: Keith Bruno.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - The minutes of the January 2, 2023 meeting were amended to note that Becky Herman was present via Zoom. The minutes were approved.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Anne Stevens reviewed the January Treasurer's Report. Total Income \$651.50 (membership dues, National Audubon). Total Expenses \$600 (Audubon Rockies). Total Balances \$58,113.10 (checking, savings, petty cash, supplies)
- V. **New Business** -
 - A. **Zoom Account** - WAS had been using Keith's Audubon Rockies Zoom account, but to facilitate other meeting hosts, Herb made a motion and Lisa seconded to subscribe to a Pro Account for approximately \$150/yr. The motion passed unanimously. Herb volunteered to be the administrator.
 - B. **Sierra Club Event Invitation** - Fort Lewis College Sierra Club invited WAS members to attend the Restoring Waterways with Beavers seminar at 6:00-8:00 p.m. on February 21. Jean will find out if it is available on Zoom.
 - C. **Jackson Mountain Landscape Project Comments** - Herb encouraged Board members to express opinions in the public comment forum regarding concerns about how the gravel pit might affect the bird populations in that area. The WAS bird monitoring program has identified bird species with declining populations in that area and the gravel pit could negatively affect the survival of the species. Jean, Herb and other Board members will draft a consensus letter representing the views of the WAS board, to be submitted to the public comment forum.
 - D. **Audubon Colorado Council Report** - Becky summarized the most recent ACC meeting. Dolly and Abby spoke about upcoming legislation, stream restoration needs in Colorado and the CWCB water plan. ACC meetings are open to the public. Herb will speak at the next ACC meeting about the bird monitoring project.
- VI. **Old Business** -
 - A. **Monte Vista Crane Festival** - Jean is still researching details on the booth. WAS will provide informational brochures and perhaps show Diane and Darryl's Pagosa video. Brenda, Herb, Jean and Chuck will be there to help set-up and man the booth on March 10-12. Herb moved and Loyette seconded that WAS

pay for a hotel for WAS members who work in the booth. The motion was unanimously approved.

- B. **Colorado Camp Scholarship** - There still have been no applications for the scholarships to attend the camp this summer, despite advertisement in the schools, to the Boys and Girls Club, and an article in the Pagosa Sun.
- C. **Spotted Owl Project Update** - WAS applied for the grant from the Lois Webster Fund to help fund the Mexican Spotted Owl monitoring project. Four autonomous recording units have been ordered. Keith and some other volunteers will install the monitors on February 26.
- D. **Bird Monitoring Project Presentations** - Herb is making final edits to the bird monitoring video and will present it to San Juan Headwaters and the ACC in April. He will email board members a copy to preview.
- E. **Bioblitz/ Bird Sanctuary Updates** - Keith arranged a meeting with the Wyoming Bioblitz organizer. Several board members attended the Zoom meeting to learn how they ran the event in Wyoming. He will set up a second meeting to continue the discussion. Near the end of February, Katie Giam, Keith and Jean will meet with the Town Parks and Rec. Dept. to continue discussing a potential bird sanctuary near Yamaguchi Park.
- F. **Archuleta Bird Checklist** - Bob Endres created an Archuleta County bird checklist. Jean will check prices to print it so it can be distributed by the Chamber of Commerce.
- G. **Chapter Meeting Programs** -
 - 1. February - Herb will talk about the photography club trip to Bosque del Apache to see the cranes and provide information on the March Monte Vista Crane Festival.
 - 2. March/April - Presentations on the various WAS projects and volunteer opportunities, including PWP, bird monitoring, native plant garden and FourMile Ranch environmental education.

VII. **Adjournment** - The next Board meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. March 6, 2023, at the Methodist Church and available via Zoom. Meeting adjourned at

Minutes submitted by Lisa Tedder