

**WEMINUCHE AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**June 3, 2024**

- I. **Call to Order** - Board President Jean Zirnhelt called to order the regular meeting of the Weminuche Audubon Society (WAS) Board of Directors @ 4:30 p.m. at Keith Bruno's house.
- II. **In Attendance** - In person: Jean Zirnhelt, Keith Bruno, Becky Herman, Lisa Tedder, Diane Cirksena, Anne Stevens. Absent: Herb Grover and Loyette Stevens.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - The minutes of the May 6, 2024 meeting were accepted.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** - Anne Stevens reviewed the May 2024 Treasurer's Report. Income \$276.61 (membership dues and City Market Rewards). Expenses \$78.00 (to Herb Grover for fishing line box repairs). Balances \$61,616.84 (checking, savings, Ed Jones Cds, petty cash and membership supplies).
- V. **New Business** -
  - A. **Audubon Rockies Chapter Newsletter** - Audubon Rockies has started publishing a monthly newsletter to highlight individual chapter programs and activities. The board discussed whether WAS would provide monthly summaries or highlights and who might be willing to be responsible for doing that. The board will decide at the next meeting.
  - B. **Website Hosting Renewal** - The board decided to renew the three year website hosting contract for \$539.64.
  - C. **Support for Riverwalk Tour Guides** - The tour guides might need some helpers on some of their tours to assist when the group size is large.
  - D. **Recognition of and Farewell to Josh Pike** - Josh has been accepted into a graduate program at Montana State University for Environmental Journalism. Jean suggested that WAS host a gathering in early August to honor him. She will talk to Josh about a convenient date.
  - E. **Riverwalk Tour Signs at Native Plant Garden** - Jean ordered two signs to post at the NPG to advertise the Tuesday and Saturday riverwalk tours.
  - F. **Tracks Across Borders (TAB) route through Navajo State Park** - Becky mentioned that along the TAB route in Navajo State Park, in the wildlife viewing area, there are informational signs that were put up by WAS, but they are in bad condition. Jean will look into getting new signs to replace the old ones. Becky also suggested that a bird list for the route be created to be included in the TAB app.

**VI. Old Business -**

**A. WAS Charitable Donations** - In the past WAS supported Loaves and Fishes, but that program has ceased operating. Anne suggested donating to the Methodist Church's food bank since we hold our meetings there. Diane motioned that WAS donate \$300 to the Methodist Church's food bank. Keith seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Anne will talk to Linda Grover to arrange payment.

**B. Annual Meeting Plans** - Diane proposed a potluck to be held at the Methodist Church. At the meeting, various WAS members will give summaries of ongoing WAS projects - Keith on the Mexican Spotted Owl project and environmental education, Lisa on water monitoring, Herb on the bird monitoring project, Pat on the Dipper project and Anne will give the financial statement and speak about the Native Plant Garden. Loyette and Brenda are going to resign from the Board. Becky, Keith, Diane, Herb and Jean will retain their positions. Anne and Lisa have another year on their positions. The Board discussed recruiting new Board members to be voted on at the annual meeting.

**C. Project Updates -**

1. **Mexican Spotted Owl** - Keith has three monitoring devices at the Audubon office and San Juan Alliance has one. They are still looking for someone to analyze the second year of data. Diane moved and Anne second that the Board allocate a maximum of \$1500 to hire someone to do the analysis.
2. **Pagosa Wetlands Partners** - Josh Kurz and his students presented their plans for their wetland drainage project. David Dronet and others are intrigued and may be interested in doing something like that in the future, but for now they are focused on completing construction on the new site.
3. **Bird Monitoring Project** - Herb reported that the teams are continuing to monitor and have almost hit their target number of sessions.
4. **Native Plant Garden** - Anne reported the garden is growing well. She will establish a watering schedule with the volunteers.
5. **Dipper Project** - Jean reported that nests were sited at West Fork (2), East Fork (2) and the Hot Springs (1) bridges. The observers try to observe the fledglings leaving the nest, but it is hard to know when that will happen.

**D. Chapter Meeting Programs** - June is the annual meeting. The July speaker is TBD.

**VII. Adjournment** - The next Board meeting will be held July 1, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church and via Zoom. The meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Lisa Tedder.