

PSO Board of Directors' Teleconference Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2019

The PSO Board of Directors conducted a teleconference meeting with the following members participating: Mike Fialkovich, Deb Grove, Greg Grove, Vern Gauthier, Frank Haas, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Chad Kauffman, Evan Mann, and Emily Thomas. Mike called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Evan began the meeting by announcing that David Yeany emailed him and several other board members that the Pennsylvania Biological Survey's Ornithological Technical Committee has some funds remaining in their account (~\$1500) which they would like to donate to PSO for conservation or research. The board agreed that this could be used for a good purpose and that perhaps we could wait until David is elected to the board this fall to allow him to suggest possible uses of the money within the confines of the suggested areas.

Conservation Committee – Laura Jackson

Although Laura was not able to attend the meeting, in an email she suggested that PSO become involved in monitoring a Motus Tower somewhere in Pennsylvania. She wrote that the actual visits to the tower are only four times a year, twice in the spring and twice in the fall. If we are interested, she volunteered to research how PSO could get involved in Motus by “adopting” a Motus tower.

After some discussion, Vern suggested that we ask Laura to present more information.

2019 Annual Meeting Update

Vern reviewed the registration numbers and said that if the current registration rate continues, approximately 90 people will attend the meeting. He estimated this by using the two previous years' registration and attendance. He also said that about 100 people who registered the past two years have not yet registered. It was suggested that these people be emailed directly to remind them. Vern said that he would write the message and send it for review to Chad who will then forward it to Frank to email. We need to use all social media as a reminder about the annual meeting and that the registration deadline is August 25.

A discussion concerning feedback from last year's meeting ensued. Several mentioned that the financial report should be presented at the annual meeting. Evan offered to present the report at the meeting. A small number of printed copies will be available. It was also requested that the board members be recognized which Mike said that he will do.

Evan said that several non-vendor groups will have tables at the meeting. One of them, the Seven Mountains Audubon Society, would like to raffle off a Roger Tory Peterson book. We decided that Evan should get back to them and suggest that they should use a silent auction instead of a raffle since a minimum bid will be placed on the book.

Evan said that the only nomination for the Conservation Award is Lycoming County Audubon. Three nominations for the Earl Poole Award have been received. We will request additional nominations in both categories.

A new format for the annual meeting checklist will be tried this year. Drew Weber said he could set up a group account so that field trip leaders or someone designated in each group can enter their lists

on eBird. The list from the group account could then be projected at the social and the banquet so that participants can see the list and review it.

Deb volunteered to write an article for the newsletter summarizing the events at the annual meeting. She expects everyone to contribute information to her. Chad will post pictures of groups at the meeting on PA Birders website.

2020 Annual Meeting

Vern commented that the board should select the meeting site for 2020 before this year's meeting so that the location can be announced at this year's meeting. After some discussion, the board decided on Lancaster County, September 11-13 or one of the following two weekends. Chad said that he will contact Roger or Derrick Stoner of the Lancaster Bird Club to see whether they are interested in hosting the meeting or helping with it. Vern volunteered to find a meeting place and accommodations for the 2020 meeting so that an announcement can include a few details.

Other Business

Evan brought up future board meetings. He wants to have two face-to-face meetings and four zoom meetings during the next year. He would also like to have a board meeting at the annual meeting at 4:00 on Saturday afternoon to welcome the new board members and get them involved immediately.

With no further business to conduct, Frank made a motion to adjourn which Vern seconded. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Higbee
Secretary