

PSO Board of Directors' Teleconference Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2022

The PSO Board of Directors conducted a teleconference meeting with the following members participating: Dan Brauning, Eli DePaulis, Tony DeSantis, Deb Grove, Greg Grove, Frank Haas, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Laura Jackson, Chad Kauffman, Wayne Laubscher, Julia Plummer, Emily Thomas, and Carole Winslow. Dan called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Minutes – Roger

The minutes of the January 25, 2022, meeting were distributed prior to this meeting. There were no corrections or additions. Dan said they are approved as reported.

Annual Meeting – Dan

Dan announced that the venue for the 2022 annual meeting will be Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area managed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. It will be held on September 16 - 18. PGC has agreed that PSO can use their facility and equipment charge free. It was agreed that there would be no formal banquet this year. Present plans include two speakers on Saturday afternoon; in addition one of the scholarship awardees will also speak. The keynote speaker will also present late in the afternoon on Saturday with all programs completed by 6:00. The possibility of having food trucks come both Friday and Saturday was suggested.

Scott Weidensaul was suggested as the keynote speaker. Possible afternoon speakers include Robyn Bailey from Project NestWatch and Lauryn Benedict of the University of Northern Colorado who would discuss bird songs. Carole will contact the two afternoon speakers, and Deb will ask Annie Lindsay to present a summary of her research associated with her PSO scholarship. Dan will contact Scott Weidensaul to see if he will be the keynote speaker.

Field trips will be led by the Lancaster County Bird Club. It was agreed that field trip leaders will not have to pay the registration fee. If members want t-shirts or mugs with this year's logo, they will be able to order them online directly from the printer. Someone will have to pick them up and distribute them to save shipping costs. The other alternative is to have them shipped directly to the member. Ted Nichols will need to contact the printer to see what arrangements can be made. The purchasing of pins in the shape of Lancaster County with a Barn Owl on it was discussed. The cost will be about \$3 per pin for 100 pins. Frank made a motion to purchase the pins which was approved. The fees that the speakers charge will have to be determined soon so that the registration fee may be calculated. This will have to be done before registration can begin. Vern Gauthier needs to be contacted to find out what software he used for registration. Anyone who knows vendors who may be interested in attending the meeting should contact them. Deb said she will coordinate the Friday night business meeting. Chad volunteered to coordinate the field trips and the trivia game on Friday night after the business meeting. Tony and Wayne agreed to assemble a packet of materials for registrants such as motels, agenda, maps, etc. Deb agreed to man the registration table Friday and Saturday.

Journal - Greg

Greg announced that he will be quitting as the editor of *Pennsylvania Birds*. A new editor will have to be found by early 2023. Minimally, the person will have to know Pennsylvania's birds, meet deadlines, and know the Pennsylvania birding community.

Conservation – Laura

Laura began by reminding everyone to mark their calendars for the 2022 Breeding Bird Blitz June 17 - 20. The website is now active so that teams may register. The three groups that the B4C will be partnering with are the Erie Bird Observatory, Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art, and the Lewisville Land Trust. The birds of

special concern are the Piping Plover, Golden-winged Warbler, and Northern Saw-whet Owl, respectively. We are hoping to raise \$15,000 this year. It was suggested that possibly members could come early on Friday to plant trees. Brian Davis needs to be contacted to make arrangements. The board agreed this is a good idea and it will be added to the registration form so that anyone wishing to participate can check it.

Education – Tony

The first webinar had 240 viewers. The next one will be March 28 on the Breeding Bird Blitz for Conservation presented by Brian Byrnes. We need to make sure that the annual meeting is recorded. The annual meeting speakers will be available only to registered participants live, but the recorded version will be available to everyone later. See Tony's email of March 15, 2022, with the Education Committee report attached.

Events and Field Trips – Chad and Brian

The Cambria County turnout for the "county spotlight" was a success with a number of people participating. The next county will be Adams County from April 22 -25. The South Mountain Audubon Society has already scheduled field trips every day for anyone wishing to participate.

Brian Byrnes was not able to attend the meeting but sent an email to the board outlining the progress that has been made with setting up out-of-state field trips through a tour guide. Please see his email dated March 15, 2022, with a listing of potential field trips and possible events during the trips.

Treasurer's Report – Frank

Frank said there was no interim treasurer's report but that PSO is in good shape financially.

Newsletter – Margaret

The deadline for newsletter articles for the June newsletter is May 20. This may have to be extended because the next board meeting is not until May 24.

General Discussion

The use of Zoom was discussed as the platform for webinars and other PSO business. It was decided to have Frank setup a Zoom account for PSO at the cost of \$200 per year for 300 participants. Three hundred seems reasonable if preregistration is required for any of the PSO programs. Frank will also include up to 9 or 10 administrators on the account.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday May 24, 2022, at 6:30 pm.

The meeting ended at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Higbee, Secretary