

PSO Board of Directors' Teleconference Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2022

The PSO Board of Directors conducted a teleconference meeting with the following members participating: Dan Brauning, Brian Byrnes, Tony DeSantis, Deb Grove, Greg Grove, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Laura Jackson, Chad Kauffman, Julia Plummer, Emily Thomas, Linda Wagner, Carole Winslow, and David Yeany II. Dan called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes – Roger

The minutes of the May 24, 2022, meeting were distributed prior to this meeting.

Dan reported that Evan Mann is resigning from the board because of continuing health issues.

Annual Meeting – Dan

Ted Nichols has been contacted by a Brew Pub wanting to know if PSO would be interested in having a special batch of PSO Beer brewed for the meeting with a special name. This would be available at least on Friday afternoon. Further information concerning how long it will be available, if they serve food, etc., is needed. This will be advertised on social media but not in the newsletter.

The idea of having a caterer bring barbequed chicken after Scott Weidensal's talk was discussed, and the consensus was not to have it because it would exclude some of the attendees who don't eat chicken or meat.

Dan suggested have a food truck or trucks after the outings at noon Saturday. He will look into this. There will be no commitment ahead of time. We will advertise this ahead of time on social media if this is feasible.

Present plan is to include a link on the registration site directing attendees to another site to order mugs, t-shirts, and other merchandise with our meeting logo. PSO will handle no money, and the printer will add a markup for us. Dan will work with the printer to add a couple of dollars as profit for PSO. It will be possible to have the merchandise shipped or it may be picked up at the meeting.

A list of motels will be distributed to registrants.

Brian has contacted Ryan Davis to arrange for attendees to participate in tree planting if they wish. There will be a checkbox on the registration form so we can determine how many people are coming for this event.

Middle Creek has agreed to host our meeting and provide all necessary audio and visual equipment. They will be able to broadcast the meeting to all on-line participants.

Friday Night Events

There will be a 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in-person registration on Friday evening. The business meeting will begin at 7:00. At 7:30 the Bird Trivia game will begin.

Saturday

Saturday morning field trips will be limited to 12 people.

Afternoon speakers will be:

- 1:00 Robyn Bailey – In person
- 2:00 Lauren Benedict – Remote talk
- 3:00 Local Middle Creek talk – In person
- 3:40 Awards presentation
- 4:00 Bird reports – Use both eBird and chart that can be filled out in person

4:30 Scott Weidensal – Remote

Vendors can set up Friday night and Saturday afternoon in the hallways at Middle Creek

Sunday

Field Trips

Other Annual Meeting Concerns

Permits are needed for any field trips on state game lands.

The platform to present the Bird Trivia is expensive. If we opt for a yearly service, we could possibly do an online trivia contest monthly to justify the cost. Will someone be willing to take on this task? Chad will explore this further.

Dan is targeting a \$20 registration fee.

Third Breeding Bird Atlas for Pennsylvania

Andy Wilson gave us an update on how he is planning the next “Atlas of Life.” These are currently his ideas and not the final plan. Different portals will be available for people using eBird and INaturalist to enter data all year round which hopefully will provide data from more remote blocks. Also, Andy is looking at a winter census and volunteers conducting point counts. His suggestion is to start the atlas in January 2024.

Conservation – Laura

Laura asked everyone to sign on to a letter supporting the Recovery Act funding. Dan said that PSO should sign onto the letter which 1700 organizations have already endorsed. She also asked everyone to support the B4C since our monetary goal this year is \$15,000. Another concern is that recreational groups are pushing for more access for off-road vehicles to state forest, game lands, and park roads. Let her know if anyone hears anything about this.

Education – Tony

We are still holding webinars and will continue to hold them every other month.

Field Trips – Chad

Chad reported that there is nothing more than what has already been mentioned.

Treasurer’s Report – No treasurer’s report was available.

Newsletter – Margaret

Nothing more is needed.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday July 13, 2022, at 6:30. Dan ended the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Higbee, Secretary