

# PSO Board of Directors' Teleconference Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2022

The PSO Board of Directors conducted a teleconference meeting with the following members participating: Dan Brauning, Brian Byrnes, Eli DePaulis, Tony DeSantis, Deb Grove, Greg Grove, Frank Haas, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Laura Jackson, Chad Kauffman, Wayne Laubscher, Julia Plummer, Carole Winslow, and David Yeany II. Dan called the meeting to order at approximately 6:38 p.m.

## Minutes – Roger

The minutes of the May 24, 2022, meeting were distributed prior to this meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved without corrections.

## Election of Officers and Directors – Dan

Most of the board members with expiring terms have expressed their intentions whether they wish to be nominated for another term. Those who have not should please do so soon.

The board is looking for nominations for new directors to replace those leaving the board. Nominations should be sent to Laura. It was also suggested that we put out a call to all members for nominations. Laura and Deb will write a short article asking for nominations and share it with Chad and Brian who will circulate it on the PSO Facebook page and with Frank who will send it to members via email. Dan would like to have four nominations for new directors. It was also decided that we should accept nominations from the floor at the annual meeting for both directors and officers.

Deb has indicated that she will not continue as VP. Roger and Frank will continue as secretary and treasurer respectively. Any interested VP candidates can contact Dan or Deb.

## 2023 Meeting Location and Timing

State College was suggested as the location for the 2023 annual meeting to be held in the spring on May 19 to 21. Several board members voiced their support for the location and the spring. Dan would like a full meeting in 2023 with a banquet, an in-person banquet speaker, etc. Shaver's Creek was suggested as a possible location. Deb and Julia will pursue this possibility with the Ramada Inn as the second choice. Dan would like a proposal to present to the annual meeting participants for the location of the 2023 meeting.

## Conservation – Laura

Laura thanked the board for agreeing to donate \$1000 to the B4C to help bring the total donations closer to the goal of \$15,000. Another \$505 was donated which brings the total to \$15,071.

Laura would like to hear from board members with any ideas for other conservation projects.

## Education – Tony

The next webinar will be Doug Gross on Ricketts Glen on July 25 at 7:00. The webinar for November 21 will be presented by Garrett White on John Heinz NWR. In January Steve Latta will present the webinar on the

Ivory-billed Woodpecker. It was suggested that we try to have webinars that feature big showy birds like owls that seem to draw a lot of people.

### **Field Trips – Chad**

The spotlight county for October will be Cameron. Dan commented that we should keep this going. Also, Chad said that there will be a Golden Eagle field trip to Hawk Mountain the second weekend in November.

### **Treasurer's Report – Frank**

Frank distributed the treasurer's report prior to the meeting. He said we are ok financially, but membership is down. In the future Dan would like to do some recruitment and have a membership drive. Also, we could possibly do a survey of the birding community to find out how we can serve them. Membership is connected to services provided.

We had a general discussion about whether we need a budget. Some expenditures are fixed expenses and others are associated with things like donations which can vary year to year. One of the positive things about a budget is that the committees could have a budget item which would allow them to spend a set amount without board approval. In addition, a budget would show our membership how we are spending their money. Frank will look at the past five years and compare fixed expenses versus income. Frank also said that he thought that any committee that needs a budget item could make an annual proposal for their needs, enumerating how they would spend money allotted to them.

### **Newsletter – Margaret**

The next newsletter will go out in early October, so anything to go into it will be due soon after the annual meeting. Deb will write up the Earle Poole and Conservation awards and the student scholarship awards.

### **Annual Meeting – Dan**

We need to advertise for student scholarships to the annual meeting. The information should be sent to PABirds listserv and to members but not to the Facebook page. Julia will update the form and add an email address indicating where to send the form. The possible candidates' forms should go to the Education Committee. We will award two scholarships. The awardees and a parent/guardian will have all expenses paid.

It was mentioned that another posting to the media should go out stressing that a person does not have to be a member to register for the meeting. Dan asked the Education Committee to prepare one announcement on social media announcing the annual meeting closer to the meeting date. A few vendors will attend the meeting.

Chad, Brian, and Joe Gyekis are working on the Bird Trivia game for Friday night and will have something ready by then.

The next board meeting needs to be before the annual meeting. It will be Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at 6:30. Dan ended the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Higbee, Secretary