

Grand Valley Audubon Board Meeting
April 18, 2022 5:30-6:30 Presbyterian Church

Present: Cary Atwood, Larry Collins, Logan Wagner, Pam Lauman, Chuck Hunt, Janet A. Gallenstein (Minutes), Mike Campbell, Hunter Harmon

Absent: Nic Korte, Meredith Walker

Guests: None

Welcome/Appreciation:

Thank-you all! Reminder to wear name tags. Thank-you Larry for taking care of our expired ATM card and the impact to the other systems. Cary shared Peter Robinson's obituary. Peter was a very active member, board president, worked with veterans and birding. **Cary** will ask **Nic** to write up an article for the next newsletter regarding Peter's contributions.

Financials: Larry

All members rec'd financials by email. As a non-profit we don't pay property tax but Larry sent \$75/property as a donation as requested by the Assessor's Office. We have two pieces of property for a total \$150.

We have \$55,000 ear marked for wetlands restoration.

Larry would like to send out Thank-you letters for larger donations.

Chuck motioned that a Thank-you letter be sent for any amount \$200 or above. **Larry** will check how many donations over \$200 we receive. Any donation amount gives the person a local membership (not a national membership). Currently, **Cary** sends out Thank-you letters.

It was agreed that when **Larry** receives donations that are not the exact membership level but are inbetween levels, Larry will make the membership at the closest lower level. EX: \$50 donation would result in a family membership at \$45.

Vicki Nees is our volunteer for mailing out approximately 25+ hard copies of the newsletter that are requested by members. These have not yet been mailed. **Pam** will follow through to ensure hard copies are mailed out.

Minutes Approval: Janet

Minutes from March 2022 meeting were accepted. Matt Reddy/spelling. Minutes approved. **Janet** still needs to contact Tina Wilson to have minutes posted on website for transparency and informational purposes.

2002 Dike Rd.Conservation Easement Chuck Hunt

Dale Reece contacted **Cary** to be sure the easement property would be "cleaned up". The Conservation Easement property will be part of the Earth Day clean up on 4/23/22. Chuck is organizing the Earth Day work day project. Chuck has obtained 15 Cottonwood trees from Chelsea Nursery. In addition, Tom donated 10 more cottonwoods for a grand total of 25 one gallon trees to be planted on the north end of the Audubon property.

To date, Chuck has 4 general public sign ups; 11 board members sign ups, and Hunter has a crew of 10 including family members to support this effort. Chuck has the specifications as to how to properly plant the trees (soil enhancement, wire surrounding the tree, hole depth etc.) Of special concern is how to get 3 gallons of water to each newly planted tree for several weeks after they are planted. **Chuck, Larry, and Mike** will speak with Yancy regarding best practices including a raised cistern for getting water easily to the trees. They will also speak with Tom Ziola for the best placement of the trees. **Hunter** will obtain food and beverages in containers which is good for the environment. **Chuck** will do an inventory of the shed so we know what supplies are available.

Cary has one more “no overnight camping” which needs to be posted where the RV was parked. **Chuck** will ensure we have all the materials including shovels, gloves etc for all projects on the property. **Mike** will get railings to repair the fence. If we don't get to it, Mike will take care of it next week.

Chuck's friend, Yancy offered to purchase our 2000 Honda TRX model of ATV. We don't use it and it needs maintenance. Larry advised our ATV's value is \$1000-\$1200. Larry suggested we sell our ATV for \$500 including trailer and sprayer. **Chuck** will present this offer to Yancy. Yancy will be at the Earth Day work day and will bring his personal ATV for our use that day.

A future discussion of the Board will be around what sort of barrier can be put up to discourage parking between the Audubon and easement property prevent camping and parked vehicles. **Board** will observe barriers being used around town and present these ideas at the next board meeting.

Wetlands Restoration & Funding Sources: Mike Campbell

Mike reported that the land barrier between Traylor and Osprey ponds is almost non existent because the water levels have risen. A pipe has been place to control water levels to improve wetlands for birds but it can't be used with water levels this high. **Mike** needs to determine why the water has risen. Matt Reddy will be here early May for walk about and Mike will confer with Matt. Also, the north side of the pond is being reclaimed by rabbit brush naturally.

Mike Campbell spoke with Cara with Rivers Edge West who is setting up volunteer restoration work days at Connected Lakes once per month on Tuesday mornings at 9am. It was agreed that Audubon (**Logan**) will advertise this event.

Cary will meet with Rusty Simmons (preservations restoration background) on Monday 4/25/22 to discuss our property. Rusty has a very high survival rate on her plantings. Board thought we had already given her a donation but we did not follow through per Larry. Board voted to donate \$250 to Rusty because of the work she has done on Highline Lake. The Board may consider another \$250 in the future.

Program Committee Report/Plans: Pam & Cmt (Chuck Hunt, Hunter Harmon)

Audubon Programs:

May Brett Brewer's Sparrow

June

July

Bird Walks: See Website

May 21 6-9pm. Logan and Whit evening program. Devils Kitchen.

May 24 Doug Diekman

Cary has two walks for the CNM on 5/10 and 5/14 for the Monument Association. Will not be advertised on our website. **Pam** has other potential walk leaders for the entire summer period.

Social Media: Logan Wagner

Reached 1200 views.

Keep sending information to Logan to post.

Logan and Whit are participating in the CFO birding challenge and will post information regarding their adventure on bicycles from midnight at Highline Lake all the way to Hosetheif Canyon.

Board Membership/May Elections:

Mike Campbell is moving and we need a Preserve Manager. Kevin or Karen are very competent to take over this position.

Cary will step down as President.

The **Board** will talk to people on Saturday who may be interested in these positions.

Next Board Meeting: Monday 5/16/22 5:30-6:30 Presbyterian Church
(prior to Audubon program meeting)

Meeting ended 6:40pm