

Audubon Board Meeting 5/7/2026

1. Meeting called to Order at 6:03 PM by John Imboden
2. Roll Call
 - a. Present – John Imboden, Kathie Wiley, Jared Gugnitz, Jenny Young, Kirk Waterstripe, Ron McCullick, Kathy Flegel
 - b. Absent – Jenny Young
3. Approval of April Board Meeting Minutes
 - a. Meeting minutes accepted
4. Consideration of the Agenda
 - a. Recap of Fresh Coast Film Festival
 - b. Spotlight for Newsletter
 - c. Walter Hastings Museum Update
5. Treasurer's and Membership Report - Kathie
 - a. Balances
 - i. Main – \$3,733.77
 - ii. WH – \$1,717.94
 - iii. CD – \$2190.08
 - iv. Total - \$7,641.79
 - b. Recent Expenditures – taken out of Main account
 - i. \$223 spent for 400 coasters to pass out at events
 - ii. \$40 on magnet supplies to make about 400 magnets
 - iii. \$8 for 600 stickers
 - c. Treasurer's report unanimously accepted
6. Fall Event ideas
 - a. Northsky is available this fall, but the cost is \$300. We would need a higher capacity venue.
 - b. Technology night – how to use ebird, merlin, discord
 - c. Auction – Ron will talk to a couple people he knows that are involved in online auctions to see if that's an option. The rock club does theirs in person.
 - d. Gull ID – Scott Sneed
 - e. Bird Botulism – Mary Ellen Newport
 - f. We should solicit feedback from the membership on ideas for meeting topics. Kathie to reach out to Jenny to have her send via bird alert
 - g. Tentative Fall Speaker Roster
 - i. September – Avian flu, botulism, and feeder cleaning/maintenance
 - ii. October – TBD
 - iii. November – Technology night and silent auction
 - iv. December – Annual members photo night
7. Other Items
 - a. Marketing
 - i. Website traffic shot up after Kirk's radio interview
 - ii. Kirk is planning to be back on the radio in August and November.
 - iii. Average of 35 people visiting per day and 65 views on the website
 - iv. Zoom feedback was all positive, everyone really liked being able to access the recording. We need to look at doing this more in the future
 - v. Facebook activity seems to be about the same level of engagement

- b. MakerFest – 640 attendees at MakerFest. We passed out coasters and magnets. Also had a lot of activity at the shrink art station. Next year Mary Ellen needs a dedicated helper to manage the shrink art station.
 - c. Fresh Coast Film Festival recap
 - i. Had a lot of traffic. Handed out chickadee magnets to the filmmakers
 - ii. Ron and Jenny attended the morning walks. About 30 people attended each one. A mix of new and experienced birders.
 - d. Arcadia Marsh trip
 - i. Good attendance. Had a lot of new birders
 - e. Young Birders walk was good. 8 people in attendance, 6 of which were younger
 - f. MAS leadership conference
 - i. This will happen September 19th in Lansing.
 - g. Walter Hastings Museum
 - i. Museum is closed for renovations this summer.
 - h. Upcoming Spotlight in the newsletter will be Kay Beerthuis
 - i. Friday night live application has been submitted. Since we are a non-profit now, we are eligible for this. We will find out in June if our application was accepted.
 - j. T-shirts – Kirk talked to a t-shirt shop out in Empire. Ron's wife is a graphic designer and has experience making T-shirts, so she may be interested in helping.
8. Upcoming Board Meetings
- a. June 4th in Study Room D, 6 PM
 - b. August 6th – need a location. John is willing to host if we can't find another location
9. Adjournment at 7:09 PM.

Appendix A: Suggested amendments to our bylaws

Under Article 3 – Affiliation

The Club is organized as a 501c3 as defined in the Internal Revenue Code. As such, it is not organized, nor shall it be operated, for pecuniary gain or profit, and it does not contemplate the distribution of gains, profits, or dividends to the members thereof, or to any private shareholder or individual other than for the purpose of reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the club.

No substantial part of Club activities shall consist of attempting to influence legislation, nor shall the Club participate in, or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for political office.