

Audubon Board Meeting 6/4/2026

1. Meeting called to Order at 6:07 PM by Ron McCullick
2. Roll Call
 - a. Present –Kathie Wiley, Jared Gugnitz, Kirk Waterstripe, Ron McCullick, Kathy Flegel
 - b. Absent –Jenny Young, John Imboden
3. Approval of April Board Meeting Minutes
 - a. Meeting minutes unanimously accepted
4. Consideration of the Agenda
 - a. No additions
5. Treasurer's and Membership Report - Kathie
 - a. Balances
 - i. Main – \$3,735.76
 - ii. WH –\$2,593.52
 1. \$875.50 of this is from 2026 birdathon, and will be donated to the Long-eared Owl project
 2. \$1,718.02 is the total without the birdathon money
 - iii. CD – \$2,195.93
 - iv. Total in all accounts - \$8,573.69
 - v. Total without birdathon donations - \$7,698.19
 - vi. Balance over \$5k benchmark - \$1,031.75
 - b. Treasurer's report unanimously accepted
6. Membership report
 - a. A couple newer members have joined
 - b. 134 members total currently
7. Old Business
 - a. Long-eared Owl Project
 - i. FoWP were able to buy 3 tags this year
 - ii. Our birdathon donations will go toward this
 - iii. One tag is \$3500, we're about halfway there
 - b. Monthly Meetings
 - i. September – Avian flu, feeder cleaning and maintenance, bird botulism
 1. Kathy to contact Mary Ellen about speaking on bird botulism. How much time would we allocate to this presentation?
 2. Bring in cleaning supplies for people to bring their feeders for cleaning
 - ii. October –
 1. Officer Election
 2. Steve Jessmore?
 3. North Sky?
 - a. Ron will talk to North Sky to see if they're available Oct 8th
 - b. Ron will reach out to GTRLC to see if we can host the event there
 - iii. November – Technology night, silent auction
 1. Ebird
 2. Merlin
 3. Discord

4. Have people sign up and interact in person with “experts” walking around helping
 - iv. December – member photo night
 - c. Auction
 - i. Kathie was able to secure item donations from McGough’s, Wild Birds Unlimited, and Men’s Shed
 - ii. Kirk and Nova talked about the possibility of auctioning birding trips by local experts.
 - iii. Gift Certificates to local businesses
 - iv. Online – Planning to start bidding early online. Close online bids at the start of the in-person meeting
 1. Ron will follow up with his friend who does online auctions to get some help
 - d. MAS conference – Sept 19 in Lansing. Jared will plan to attend this.
8. New Business
 - a. Fall Outings
 - i. August bird walks are scheduled. We will schedule further out at the next meeting.
 - b. Shirley Mesch will be the member spotlight interview in the next newsletter
 - i. For the next spotlight we should try to highlight a new member
 - c. We should set up an archive of GTAC mentions in local media. Does
 - d. Have we ever contacted local tribes to see if they would be interested in partnering with us? Maybe they would be interested in giving a presentation on birds in Anishinaabe culture?
9. Upcoming Board Meetings
 - a. August 6th – at John’s house
10. Adjournment at 7:05 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.