

PSO Board of Directors Meeting

Boalsburg

February 20, 2010

The board of directors met at Duffy's Tavern in Boalsburg with the following members present: Rob Blye, John Fedak, Frank Haas, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Shonah Hunter, Rudy Keller, Arlene Koch, Tom Kuehl, Geoff Malosh, Mark McConaughy, and Linda Wagner. The meeting was called to order at 11:38 a.m. by Arlene.

Mark moved and Rob seconded a motion that the minutes be accepted as received by email.

Frank reported a bank balance of \$9,243.82 as of February 20, 2010. He also mentioned that membership is down slightly. Rob moved and John seconded a motion that the treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

John reported that 38 to 40 Certificates of Appreciation have been presented. He had nine new ones to discuss.

The letter was written to the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club supporting their effort to have a portion of Cape May State Park renamed as the Witmer Stone Memorial.

Laura Jackson would like to present a display at the annual meeting concerning wind power. The board agreed that it would be OK.

The 2011 annual meeting will be in Bedford County. This meeting is being spearheaded by Tom Dick and the Allegheny Plateau Audubon Society. Tom Kuehl will work with him in the spring to organize the meeting. Shonah will begin checking for motels in which to have the meeting.

Annual Meeting

Shonah has reserved the meeting room at the Belaire Clarion in Erie for the annual meeting. Breakfast will be available for those staying at the motel for \$4. The banquet will be held in the restaurant.

The pin for the meeting will depict a Piping Plover.

Tom announced that the Poole award will be given to Jerry McWilliams. Currently no conservation award winner has been selected. French Creek Conservancy was mentioned as a possibility. Rob will contact John Tautin to see if he has any suggestions of possible worthy organizations.

At the present time no speakers have been confirmed. After much discussion it was decided that there would be no afternoon speakers at this meeting, and the time would be used to continue birding in the afternoon. This decision was made because Presque Isle is one of the premier birding locations in the state. The general feeling was that we would go back to the afternoon speaker format at our next annual meeting. Other

possible activities for those not wishing to bird all day include watching the bird banding conducted by Sarah Sargent, a trip to the Roger Tory Peterson Center, and a workshop on bird art by David Hughes. (Note: David Hughes was not available, so Mark presented a workshop on bird photography and Arlene gave a talk about hummingbirds.)

Vendors and the silent auction were discussed, and it was decided that a limited number of vendors would be invited, and the silent auction would be held at the restaurant prior to the banquet. Because there will be no speakers, the social before the banquet will begin at 5:00 which will allow additional time for the silent auction. It was suggested that Jerry McWilliams be asked to be the banquet speaker since there will be no afternoon programs.

The need for field trip leaders was discussed. Several names were suggested so leaders do not seem to be a problem. Besides Presque Isle other possible locations included Pymatuning, Erie National Wildlife Refuge, and Allegheny National Forest. Some of these would be for the trip home on Sunday. It was also suggested that Friday afternoon field trips would be nice if leaders can be found. A Friday night Whip-poor-will trip is planned on Presque Isle.

After some discussion we decided to order bright green, long-sleeved t-shirts as a new color to possibly increase the interest in t-shirt sales.

Geoff Malosh would like the PA migration counts compiled and the data published in *PA Birds*. The previous coordinator is no longer interested in doing the work so a new coordinator is needed. There are several past years of data that need to be compiled. It was suggested that we advertise on the list serve for this position. Frank volunteered to gather the data for the past counts but not analyze it, and John volunteered to do the write up.

Some of the county compilers are questioning why we are continuing to publish the county reports. Geoff questioned if we should possibly change the format of *PA Birds* to reflect the change in some of the compilers' attitudes. "Many people" think that ebird will eventually replace the county reports. Geoff would like some token of appreciation for all the time the county compilers spend on the reports.

It was suggested that the compilers should be surveyed using Survey Monkey to determine what they are thinking. Arlene would prefer that board members send her questions to get the compilers to tell us what motivates them. In this way we may be able to find out what individuals are thinking.

Frank said that about 40 of our 400 members receive the newsletter on-line.

We need suggestions for a new board member to replace Jack Solomon who does not want to be reelected for another term.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:43.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger V. Higbee, Secretary