

PSO Board of Directors Meeting

Boalsburg, PA

November 15, 2014

The PSO Board of Directors met with the following members present: John Fedak, Mark McConaughy, Frank Haas, Sandy Lockerman, Shonah Hunter, Marjorie Howard, Chad Kauffman, Mike Fialkovich, Flo McGuire, Carmen Santasania, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Wayne Laubscher, Mike Lanzone, Emily Thomas, Scott Stoleson, Vern Gauthier, Chuck Berthoud, and Andy McGann. Mike called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

Treasurer's Report & Membership Report - Frank

Frank distributed the treasurer's report. It was noted that membership has decreased slightly. Frank also noted that we made approximately \$1200 on the annual meeting.

Newsletter – Margaret

Margaret commented that she needs articles for the December newsletter.

Certificates of Appreciation – Sandy

Sandy had one new COA to be approved.

Harry Goshan

Any nominations should be sent to Sandy.

Field Trips - Chad

Chad said that the field trips have been very successful and that there are only three hawk watches left to visit. Three were visited this fall. He also commented that the shorebird trip was very successful. He feels that PSO needs to interface with other birding groups for field trips.

He questioned if any major field trips should be limited to PSO members and have upfront funds for these trips. It was suggested that the major trips be conducted by a vendor and be limited to PSO members only.

Wayne will probably do the Ontario trip this winter and limit it to a maximum of 25 people. He will contact the waiting list first and any PSO members on the waiting list first of all.

Awards Committee - Mike F

He will begin taking nominations for the awards.

Research and Conservation - Scott Stoleson

Scott said that we need to decide what conservation issues we will address.

Nominating

It was noted that we need active board members in the future, especially new members. Anybody recruiting should advise the prospective members that there is a lot to do.

Breeding Bird Blitz – Vern

Vern reported that the Breeding Bird Blitz doubled the number of birds reported over the same period last year and increased the number of eBird checklists by 400. The dates for 2015 will be June 27 through 30. Some possible changes could be the addition of breeding codes, add PSO's name to records submitted, and consider moving the dates a week earlier. This effort should fall under the Research and Conservation Committee.

Annual Meeting 2015 -- Shonah

The next Annual Meeting will be at the Days Hotel in West Chester, from May 29 through 31, 2015. It will cost \$300 for the meeting room, and the rooms will be \$99. The Friday social and the Saturday afternoon break will be about \$5 per person and the bartender will cost \$75 per hour. The charge for the banquet will be \$35 per person. Continental breakfast will be \$12 per person. Registration will be \$35 and we need at least 60 people.

Bill Curry would be a good banquet speaker. It would be good if we can get local speakers to minimize costs. We will get free admission into Longwood Gardens. We should think about a Friday night field trip for a kite and shorebirds. Let Shonah know about any potential vendors.

New Business

There was a discussion on how PSO fits in with local Audubon chapters and other local bird clubs. Some of them feel as if we are moving in on their territory. We need to talk to them to assure them that we are not in competition with them. One suggestion was to make all local presidents honorary members of PSO.

The ABA Mid Atlantic Bird Club Conference was discussed. PSO may pay for a few people to attend the conference. We need to find out the costs and then vote.

It was suggested that the cost of golf shirts be investigated with an embroidered PSO logo on the pocket.

Access to the PSO website was discussed. It seems that the links on the website will not connect with phones. We decided that there should be a committee, including Frank and Drew, to discuss how to make the links work with phones.

Vern said that he is going to highlight each county with a site guide in the newsletter. He will be visiting the counties before writing the guide for a county.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Higbee
Secretary