

Alabama Ornithological Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of Fall Meeting
October 12, 2019
Dauphin Island, Alabama

President Harry Dean called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

The following members signed in: Harry Dean, Joan Dixon, Larry Gardella, Ken Hare, Andrew Heffenden, Geoff Hill, Annabel Markle, Anne Miller, Kathryn Palmore, Bob Reed, and Pat Reed.

Minutes of the Spring 2019 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Jean Dixon reported for the period January through September income of \$15,363.93 less expenses of \$25,206.06 leaving a net income of minus \$9,842.13; however when added to existing assets the total assets are \$52,945.12. The report was approved as submitted (complete copy attached to these minutes).

PayPal costs, refunds and administrative fee charges were discussed. Bob Reed requested any wording relating to this be furnished him, in writing, for inclusion in *The Yellowhammer*.

President Dean stated Geoff Hill, as the new president, should be authorized to sign checks, etc. along with the treasurer. President Dean called attention to the CD, which matures effective January 27, 2020. There was no recommendation from those on the committee to decide how to use CD funds. The CD is in Compass Bank in Birmingham, and the checking account is in PNC Bank in Mobile. Larry Gardella moved Geoff Hill be added to AOS accounts. Ken Hare seconded and the motion was approved. President-elect Hill agreed to work with the treasurer on accomplishing this matter.

President's Report.

President Dean presented a card, along with acknowledgment for official record of charitable contribution, from DIBS expressing the appreciation for the \$10,000 contribution.

He thanked Board members for their assistance during his tenure as president.

Vice President's Report:

Geoff Hill reported Lorna West can no longer travel and has requested the speakers' presentations be recorded. All agreed this to be a good idea, and Geoff Hill volunteered to see this accomplished. Stan Hamilton moved that Geoff Hill move forward to have video and audio of the speakers' presentations recorded. Bob Reed seconded and the motion was approved.

Geoff Hill stated Tom Haggerty is no longer editor of *Alabama BirdLife* as he has moved out of state, and presented an award to be given to Tom Haggerty. He also stated Eric Soehren would

like to nominate Tom Haggerty for the Imhoff Award. Upon motion of Bob Reed, seconded by Andrew Haffenden, the Board approved the Imhoff Award be given to Tom Haggerty.

Geoff Hill reported Eric Soehren is interested in becoming editor of *Alabama BirdLife* with the remainder of the team continuing. He also reported Emma Mires received the award for the membership drive competition. He took Miss Mires and some of her college friends, who are just becoming interested in birding, on a bird walk. Bob Reed requested an article relating to this for publishing in *The Yellowhammer*, and Ken Hare asked for pictures for social media.

Geoff Hill reported the winter meeting will be held in Auburn. There will be field trips, skins on display and skin preparation demonstrations and a tour of the raptor center.

Geoff Hill noted a \$500 donation had been given for student membership and stated a poster presentation campaign is planned for schools with \$250 for first prize, \$100 for second and three \$50 prizes, and he would like to offer free registration and banquet tickets in hopes of communicating more about AOS and its functions. Bob Reed stated in the past AOS money has been given to students with the request they give a report; however, there has been little if any feedback from the recipients. Ken Hare suggested any future recipient come to AOS meeting to give report or give a written report for *The Yellowhammer*. Andrew Haffenden stated AOS needs some avenue to create interest for younger people.

Geoff Hill reported Chris Wood has been asked to be the spring speaker. Chris Wood is very involved with eBird and ways to make it better. Geoff Hill inquired if meetings could be held in other venues than Dauphin Island and was informed the Bylaws state all Spring and Fall meetings are to be held at DI. He stated he will make every effort to work with John Dindo and the staff at the Shelby Center.

Andrew Haffenden reported on the proposed condo, marina, etc. planned near the RV park, stating the plans now are very good compared to the original.

Education

Shirley Farrell was not present but sent information that there will be Flying Wild Workshops in the spring, and there will probably be another auction.

Anne Miller stated Jean Folsom was concerned some new members joined, sent in registration and received no response. Larry reported the latest new members were sent an email or were called. Bob Reed reported there is a definite disconnect at some point. Mrs. Dixon reported the membership paperwork and payment comes to her, she makes a photo and emails it to Susan Barrow. Bob Reed stated there is a place to check if one wants to volunteer and suggested this be taken off if we are not going to follow up. Also, he has been informed by some they never received anything. He stated the Bylaws state the method for handling new members, and we should not pick and choose how we are to follow the Bylaws. Geoff Hill suggested Larry Gardella, as membership chairman, be copied on every new membership or membership change and he will take care of it from that point.

Discussion on ALBirds and the AOS web site followed. Ken Hare asked that Anne G. Miller be given any information such as our meeting program for the web site as soon as possible in order to keep it current.

Catherine Palmore, Meetings Chair, stated the catered mixer Friday evening went well. The charge for this at the Spring meeting will be \$18.00. Also she stated a good quality screen and audio speakers are needed. She also reported on future catering and gave instructions for cleanup.

Greg Jackson reported on censusing and the bird checklist. He inquired as to the need for a paper checklist. After discussion it was decided these may be of use and could be inserted in the new member packets. However, everyone should be encouraged to use eBird. Greg Jackson reported the habitat at Fort Morgan is coming back and no further AOS intervention is needed, and as of this date he did not know the exact status of the educational sign. He reported for the Records Committee, stating two new species have been accepted, the White-crowned Pigeon and Cassin's Kingbird, making the official list at this time 448.

Andrew Haffenden reported on field trips, stating it would be a help to have a list of those attending in order to arrange leaders. Also, of help would be email addresses so that last minute changes could be communicated.

President Dean reviewed the following slate of officers to be presented, stating a quorum of 10% of the membership must be present for a vote.

President	Geoff Hill
Vice President	Barry Fleming
Treasurer	Joan Dixon
Secretary	Pat Reed

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Reed
Secretary