

ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Fall Board Meeting via Zoom
October 20, 2020

Participants: Harry Dean, Joan Dixon, Larry Gardella, Ken Hare, Andrew Haffenden, Stan Hamilton, Geoff Hill, Anne Miller, Bob Reed, and Pat Reed.

President Geoff Hill opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Pat Reed moved the minutes of the July 27, 2020 meeting be approved. Upon second by Anne Miller the minutes were approved.

President Geoff Hill reported the Fall meeting went well and asked for thoughts on the Winter meeting. Ken Hare expressed the need to reach more people suggesting Mail Chimp, etc. as a means to streamline the AOS email list. Discussion followed as to security and cost for the members not on the email list. President Hill stated he would look further into this possibility.

Ken Hare suggested the winter meeting follow the pattern of the Fall meeting. President Hill suggested the backyard birding be for spring and fall only. Joan Dixon suggested there be a charge of \$10.00 as AOS is going in debt and that the meeting information be furnished only to those who pay. Ken Hare suggested the registration deadline be moved up and be for members only with \$25.00 to join AOS. It was the consensus the Winter meeting follow the schedule as the Fall meeting with a \$10.00 fee, and everyone must be a member.

The Spring meeting was addressed. Bob Reed suggested we move forward with plans to meet at Dauphin Island, stating it would be easy to switch to Zoom if necessary. Andrew Haffenden agreed, and Ken Hare inquired as to the possibility of a live meeting with Zoom access.

President Hill stated he understood the consensus for the Spring meeting is to follow the normal Dauphin Island schedule meeting at the Shelby Center with online access with all details to be worked out.

Andrew Haffenden reported it was his understanding the damage to the Shelby Center is not structural but stated he would check into this.

President Hill stated AOS donated \$1,000 to DIBS for cleanup of Dauphin Island and asked if more could be given. Andrew Haffenden and Larry Gardella stated the cleanup would best be accomplished by those who care for the birds as paid crews wipe out everything. Andrew Haffenden stated he would check with Ralph Havard, DIBS president for an update as to what is needed. After discussion of DIBS needs and AOS funds, Ken Hare moved the Executive Committee be authorized to donate up to \$2,500 as needed and requested by DIBS. Stan Hamilton seconded and the move was approved.

Andrew Haffenden stated he would request DIBS furnish Ken Hare with information that can be used on AOS website and ALBirds requesting donations to cover cleanup needs. Anne Miller requested photos for use on the website as well.

President Geoff Hill stated Anabel Markle had expressed interest in recognizing Robin MacDonald for his work on the Yellowhammer. Bob Reed stated an award had been presented Mr. MacDonald a few years ago but did not have an exact date. President Hill asked if AOS had an awards committee. Bob Reed reported there was one some time ago and suggested the Executive Committee serve as the Awards Committee; he also stated he would review past Yellowhammers for more information on the mentioned award. This item was tabled for the present.

Anne Miller stated Joe Watts called her attention to the fact PayPal had turned down several people who tried to join, pay dues and register. He recommended switching to Stripe. After discussion Bob Reed moved the Board authorize the Executive Committee to examine the situation and take whatever action deemed necessary. Anne Miller seconded and the move was approved.

President Hill stated more content is needed on the AOS website, i.e. Andrew's recent workshop, videos, pictures, etc. After discussion Anne Miller agreed to look into this further with Joe Watts. Bob Reed suggested other bird organization be looked at to determine if any might work for AOS. Ken Hare suggested Anne be authorized up to \$200 should an expense be incurred. These suggestions were approved without vote, and Anne stated she would get with Joe understanding she had a budget of \$200.00.

Treasurer's Report

Joan Dixon reported income of \$8,297.79, and expenses of \$10,715.08, leaving a net income loss of \$2,417.29. AOS equity follows: PNC checking \$19,408.08, a CD \$29,086.52, and \$100 petty cash for a total of \$48,494.60. Also, \$14,858.29 in restricted funds. Joan moved the report be accepted. Larry Gardella seconded and the vote was unanimous. (A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to original minutes.)

Andrew Haffenden stated Greg Harber needed Board approval to move forward with the Holliman Research Awards. Bob Reed stated awards given in the past had rarely provided feedback from the awardee. Andrew agreed even though the poster contest did result in feedback. Ken Hare stated this includes two awards for \$1,000 each. After further discussion Ken Hare moved AOS not authorize the Holliman Awards this year. Bob Reed seconded and the move was unanimously approved.

Bob Reed stated the Yellowhammer deadline is November 10. Also, he stated he and others in AOS have been using iNaturalist and asked the Board's advice as to appropriateness of an article in the Yellowhammer. All agreed it would be appropriate and Bob agreed to write the article.

Ken Hare stated a Meeting Coordinator is needed as Kathryn Palmore has asked to be relieved of these duties. Harry Dean stated this is a two person position. President Hill stated this must be filled prior to the Spring meeting. Larry Gardella stated many people, when joining, indicate that they will volunteer. Joan Dixon suggested this be updated to provide a list of volunteer needs from which to choose. Ken Hare suggested putting something together for ALBirds asking AOS members to volunteer with results being furnished to Anne, Larry and Geoff.

Bob Reed inquired as to the need of a motion regarding the \$10 registration fee as it is different from the usual. Anne Miller moved to charge \$10.00 per person for the Winter meeting. Bob Reed seconded and the move passed with the abstention of Ken Hare and Larry Gardella.

President Hill stated the next Board meeting will be in conjunction with the AOS weekend as usual.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Reed
Secretary

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