

## *North Cascades Audubon Society Board of Directors Meeting Minutes*

Zoom Meeting, October 5, 2020 7-9 pm

Board Members Present: Steven Harper, Jamie Huson, Sue Parrott, Kristin Murray, Robert Kaye, Owen Bamford, Pam Borso, Paul Woodcock and Deborah Kaye. Guest: Doug Brown.

1. **Additions to the Agenda** - Grants to community organizations
2. **Approval September Board Minutes** - Approved
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Sue gave the Treasurer's report noting that our expenses are minimal and that our revenue is lower than expected for this point in the year. Both of these trends are likely a result of our inability to do in-person community outreach. Steven also noted that due to permitting delays, it is likely that funds allocated for the Harrison Reserve Project will not be distributed until 2021.
4. **Communications**
  - a. September Zoom Presentation Feedback - Board members agreed that with the exception of some minor technical difficulties, the meeting and question and answer session went very well. A total of 28 people attended the presentation. Chris has reached out to the Whatcom Museum for contact information of the people who asked questions in the hopes of engaging them in community efforts to reduce plastic pollution.
  - b. Audubon Council of Washington (ACOW) Meeting Feedback - Participating Board members agreed that this year's virtual ACOW meeting was a well run, informative event. Everyone especially enjoyed the keynote speaker as well as learning what other local Audubon chapters are doing to connect with their members during the pandemic.
  - c. November Membership Meeting - Steven reminded Board members that the date of our November membership meeting and presentation has been changed to November 17th to accommodate our guest speaker.
  - d. Newsletter Deadline - Submissions for the November/December newsletter are due October 15th. Steven will reach out to Kirsten about sharing the template with Jamie in case she is unable to publish the newsletter this month. Articles should be submitted to Steven, Jamie, Lynne and Alison.
5. **New Business**
  - a. Advertising in the Newsletter - Sue will contact the businesses that currently advertise in our newsletter to see if they plan to continue their ads.
  - b. New Guide for Education, Equity, Inclusiveness and Distance Learning - Sue suggested that members of our Education Committee review the new guidelines for education, equity, inclusiveness and distance learning that National Audubon has made available in Audubon Works.
  - c. Article About the Impact of Wildfires and Smoke on Birds - The Board agreed with Sue's suggestion to add a link in our upcoming newsletter to an article on National Audubon's website entitled How Wildfires Affect Birds.
  - d. Community Grants - Sue noted it is time for the annual review of local organizations we would like NCAS to support with a community grant. Our budget is \$1,500. Sue will share a list of organizations we have awarded grants to in the past prior to the November Board meeting. Board members are encouraged to offer additional suggestions as well. The Board will vote on community grants at the December Board meeting.
6. **Old Business**
  - a. Christmas Bird Count (CBC) - Doug Brown shared National Audubon's COVID-19 guidelines for the 121st Audubon CBC with the Board. The Board agreed to have Doug go ahead with organizing this year's count provided the activities comply with all current state and municipal guidelines at the time of the count, all participants follow Audubon's stated COVID-19 guidelines (social distancing and masks required at all times, carpooling only within existing familiar or social pod groups, no in-person compilation gatherings allowed) and that all participants sign Audubon's Release of Liability form prior to participating. Doug agreed to distribute the Release of Liability forms to CBC participants, collect the signed documents and return them to the Board for its records.
  - b. Potential Field Trips on Private Land with a Conservation Easement - Paul and Pam have arranged to meet with Leslie Powers to view her property for potential NCAS field trips.
  - c. Safe Start Survey Results - Summaries of the results of survey questions 1-8 were provided by select Board members. Following a brief discussion, the Board asked for members to provide a written review of the results of their assigned survey question along with a list of recommended action items for the Board to consider prior to the next Board meeting. Survey questions 9 and 10 will be reviewed at the next meeting.
  - d. National Audubon List Solicitation Letter - Owen will send our previously approved letter to the email addresses on the list Steven provided.
  - e. Training for Little Green Light (LGL) - Board members interested in learning more about LGL are asked to email Steven so that he can set up a Doodle poll to schedule a training session (1 to 1.5 hours) at the end of October.

## 7. Pending

Audubon Action Grant - To help NCAS generate ideas for proposals, board members are asked to view the following link to learn about other projects that have received Audubon Action Grants in Washington State:

<https://wa.audubon.org/news/congratulations-audubon-grant-awardees-washington>

Adjourn - Next Meeting: November 2, 7-9 pm, Zoom meeting

### **Upcoming Presentations, Programs & Events**

#### *Membership Meeting Zoom Presentations*

October 27: The Great Goat Roundup: Translocation of Mountain Goats from Olympic National Park to the Cascade Mountains - David Wallin

November 17: Birdwatching the easy way: Tracking seabirds in the Pacific Ocean - Jonathan Felis

#### *Other Presentations*

October 24: Native Plants for Birds - Pam Borso, 2:00-3:30pm Zoom Presentation

#### *Audubon at the Museum*

October 25: 1:00-3:00, Paul Woodcock