

North Cascades Audubon Society Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Google Hangout Meeting, June 1, 2020 7-8:30 pm

Participating Board Members: Steven Harper, Sue Parrott, Jamie Huson, Kristin Murray, Kirsten Anderson, Robert Kaye, Owen Bamford, Pam Borso and Deborah Kaye.

1. **Additions to the Agenda** - NCAS message to members regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion.
2. **Approval May Board Minutes** - Approved
3. **Treasurer's Report** - Sue gave the Treasurer's report noting that we are currently receiving more membership donations via credit card and PayPal than from checks. We received a refund for our Pearygin Lake State Park campground reservation and the only expense incurred this month was the annual fee for Little Green Light. Sue also noted that we are behind our goal in both memberships and donations with both levels down compared to this time last year. NCAS has 24 new members so far this year, compared to 37 new members in 2019 and 14 new members in 2018.
4. **Communications** - WhatcomBirds, Final Update: This listserv is now officially hosted by NCAS and currently has 211 subscribers. An invitation to subscribe to WhatcomBirds has been added to the new scrolling banner on the homepage of our website.
5. **New Business**
 - a. NCAS Message to Members Regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - In light of current protests, the Board acknowledged the importance of communicating with our subscribers regarding NCAS' stance on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Kirsten volunteered to craft an appropriate message from our chapter and will share the message with Board members for their approval before emailing our subscribers.
Addendum - The following occurred later in the week after the Board meeting. Steven, Sue and Kirsten crafted a statement that included links to a statement from David Yarnold, President and CEO of National Audubon Society, followed by links to our Diversity statement and information about Black Birders Week that was sent out to newsletter subscribers. The Board also agreed to add a statement about diversity, equity, and inclusion crafted by Robert to the About Us page on our website.
 - b. Staying Connected with Membership Over the Summer - NCAS community outreach activities are typically scheduled from September through June. Although all of our organizations' in person activities have been cancelled since March due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Board recognized the need to stay connected to our membership over the summer and agreed to email members approximately once per month to keep in touch until we can resume our full roster of programs. Steven volunteered to put together a message to share with members about the heron colony at Post Point. The Board also discussed the idea of surveying our members to learn which activities we offer (i.e. membership programs, library presentations, and field trips) they value the most. Board members were asked to submit their survey question ideas to Kirsten, who volunteered to work on the survey.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. Scholarship Approval - Board members discussed each of the three scholarship applications NCAS has received. The Board had some questions on two of the proposals and Owen agreed to reach out to the appropriate individuals for additional information. The Board voted to award all three scholarships subject to the clarifications discussed at the meeting.
 - b. Update of Intern's Modifications to Website - With Jamie's supervision, Claire has added a scrolling gallery on our homepage as well as updated several other sections of our website. Jamie will have Claire submit a written report detailing all of the changes she has made to our website during her internship and share any other suggestions she has for improvements. Jamie will also invite Claire to a future Board or interim meeting to share her work with us.
 - c. NCAS Brochure - Jamie and Kirsten are working on updating this document.
 - d. Summer Volunteer Picnic - Due to the uncertainty of ongoing Covid-19 concerns, the Board agreed to postpone a volunteer picnic to the summer of 2021.
7. **Pending**
 - a. Audubon Action Grant - These grants are still delayed. Board members are asked to view the following link <https://wa.audubon.org/news/congratulations-audubon-grant-awardees-washington> to see what other projects have been awarded in Washington State and to generate ideas for proposals NCAS could submit.
 - b. Training for LGL, Mailchimp, Website - Steven is currently working on this project.
 - c. Follow-up on National Audubon List Solicitation Letter - The Board agreed to postpone this action until we are able to conduct membership meetings and outreach events.

Adjourn - Next Meeting: August 3rd, 7-9 pm, Google Hangout Meeting

Upcoming Presentations, Programs & Events

Membership Meeting Presentations

Date TBD: Deadly Deception: The Plight of Birds and Plastics Pollution - Jaco ten Hove and Chris Brewer

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