

AUSABLE VALLEY AUDUBON MEETING, MAY 7, 2024

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, OSCODA MI

At approximately 5:00 pm, the Au Sable Valley gathered for a lovely potluck and social hour. The Business meeting opened at 6:50 pm. President Bill Roth welcomed members and guests, Joan Luther from Flat Rock and Jennifer Pavlat from Oscoda.

BIRD SIGHTINGS: Rare Black throated grey warbler, Indigo bunting, Summer tanager, Scarlet tanager, Eastern bluebirds, Chestnut sided and Bay breasted warblers, Barred owls, Rose breasted Grosbeaks, White crowned sparrows, Redheaded woodpeckers, Vesper sparrow, Sharp shinned hawks, Brewers blackbird, Whippoorwills, and Eastern phoebe.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Donna Piche reported a Checkbook balance of \$5060.76., 106 members; which required a quorum of 39. John Gontarek moved to accept the report and Kathleen Swindlehurst seconded. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes of the April 9, 2024 meeting were read by Secretary Dawn Hooper. Bob Wagner moved to accept the minutes as read, Maggie Berch seconded. Motion carried.

EM'S BIRDY LESSON OF THE DAY: Emily reminded us that with the earlier sunrise, we should get up and get out to hear the early Dawn's chorus. Perhaps you would appreciate the Merlin App for sound recognition. Go out later in the am and listen to the whole orchestra!

Peggy Ridgway introduced guest and new member Jennifer Pavlat who told a wonderful story about finding an owl chick on the ground, fallen from a nest far up in a tree, with flies buzzing around it. Jennifer made contact with Ashley from Alpena Bird Center (ABC - Ph. (989) 590-2046). The video/story of recovery and hope for this chick was shown by Bob Kemnitz. This video can also be viewed on the ABC website.

Peggy kept us abridged of the effort of Mayor Jeff in Harrisville. He is responsible for the installation of signage for the Sunrise Coast Birding Trail in Harrisville. His influence and support for birding in the Harrisville area is appreciated.

Peggy also announced a new 'Special Species Series' that will be held at the Alcona Co. Library in Harrisville. The first presentation on trumpeter swans titled 'Unspoken Devotion' will occur on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 1:30 pm.

The second presentation on Thursday, August 15th, 2024, will feature 'Protecting Plovers'.

Later in the Fall, Bill Roth will speak on Waterfowl.

SPRING MIGRATION EVENT MAY, 17-18. Amy Kohlhepp, coordinator for the event, thanked all volunteers that have signed up for the event and also the volunteers that have fed the birds at the feeder station. Even though all the spots are covered for the 17th and 18th, if you want to help, she can find a spot for you.

President Bill Roth recognized Donna Piche for her outstanding service to AVA as Treasurer; because of health concerns and illness, she is unable to serve out the second year of her term.

Donna Piche nominated Dawn Hooper to serve as treasurer for Year 2024-2025. Bob Wagner seconded. Motion carried.

ELECTIONS for 2024-2026 were approved as follows.

Member at Large - Nancy Myers.

Motion - Maggie Berch

Second - Donna Piche

Secretary - Amy Kohlhepp

Motion - Kathleen Swindlehurst

Second - John Gontarek

President - Bill Roth

Motion - Amy Kohlhepp

Second - Donna Piche

Bill Roth again recognized Donna Piche and Past Member at large, Dee Morand for their service.

Amy Kohlhepp moved to adjourn at 7:45 pm

Respectively Submitted, Dawn Hooper

Notes:

President Bill Roth announced field trips.

Flower Walk at Nancy Myers home on Goddard Rd. June 11, 2024, 10:00 am

Shiawassee Refuge - date to be announced

Potluck in August to start off a new year

Next Meeting Sept