AUSABLE VALLEY AUDUBON MEETING, December 10, 2024
East Tawas Senior Center, 312 Newman Street, East Tawas, MI 48830
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES:
Board Members Present (all), Absent (none):

Bill Roth, President
Kathy Swindlehurst, VP
Dawn Hooper, Treasurer
Amy Kohlhepp, Secretary
Nancy Myers, Member at Large

Sign Up Sheet was presented to members at Welcome Table, a quorum was present.

Guests Present:

Kathy and Duncan Lawrence
Dave

MOTIONS:
Motions Made, Results of Voting, Agreed upon Actions

- Acceptance of Treasurer's Report
- Acceptance of November Meeting Minutes, with Amendment regarding Wild Rice Presentation.

REPORTS:
Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer's Report provided by Dawn Hooper. The Chapter has $7,430.96 reconciled. However: $401.86 was spent on benches for Tawas Point (of the $1000 grant). That leaves $598.14 of grant for bird feeders. In addition, we owe $2,234.20 for audio visual equipment. (Dawn Hooper)

Reminder that dues are owed, send checks to Dawn Hooper at 2414 N. US Hwy 23, Oscoda 48750.

Motion made to accept report, seconded and passed.

Minutes Report:
Minutes from the November 11, 2024 meeting were read by Amy Kohlhepp.

Motion made to accept minutes, yielded discussion. Request to add information about the Wild Rice Presentation was discussed (Ed Davis). Motion to approve with update as to the Wild Rice Presentation was motioned, once, twice then voted into acceptance.

MEETING SUMMARY/DISCUSSION

At approximately 3:05 pm, the Au Sable Valley gathered for a monthly meeting. President Bill Roth welcomed members and guests. We had a large group, enough to establish a quorum.

BIRD SIGHTINGS: Tundra Swans (Sam Burckhardt) likely same pair as last year in area, Yellow Throated Warbler hanging out at a local feeder in Oscoda, two rafts of Red heads, Snow Buntings at Tawas Point (Nan Ulman), Killdeer and American Pipets at Gateway Park (Bill Roth), Mixed Mergansers (common and Red breasted, around 300) (Bill Roth), Trumpeters.

EM'S BIRD LESSON OF THE DAY: The Red Poll species were consolidated into one species (formerly Common Redpoll, Hoary Redpoll and Eurasian). Bird Watchers Digest is now BWD and there is an old article recommended if you are looking at binoculars called 10 Myths.

PRESENTATION
Waterfowl by Bill Roth. Bill did a great job showing the normally found dabbling and diving ducks in the area as well as geese and swans. He then summarized the migratory birds in these categories. Very educational.

10 MINUTE BREAK

OLD BUSINESS

MEMBERSHIP
AVA yearly membership is due by January 1, 2025. Please see Dawn, $15 single or $20 for family. Non-renewals will be taken off email list. (Dawn Hooper)

TAWAS POINT FEEDER STATION
Tawas Point's new feeder station benches and viewing area is complete. Larry VanWagoner, Bob Kemnitz and Tim Morand did an amazing job. Bird food was donated by Roger's in Oscoda, Jason Shaw delivered it to the benches. If anyone stops there, feel free to put out bird food in the feeders. (Bill Roth)

NEW AUDIO VISUAL SYSTEM
The new projector, speaker system and screen were purchased and being used. Thank you to Amy Kohlhepp and Bob Kemnitz for research and follow-through. (Bill Roth)

NEW BUSINESS

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Christmas bird count is December 18th for Tawas. Group will meet at Big Boy at 7:00 am, and at the Lodge for lunch at 12:30.

Christmas bird count is December 21st for Oscoda. Group will meet at Mama's Kitchen at 7:00 am and at Tates for lunch at 12:30.

Call Larry VanWagoner at 989-701-5470 if you haven't signed-up yet. (Dawn Hooper)

NO MESS BIRD SEED
No Mess bird seed can be bought at Gingrich's for $5 less per bag than buying at the Standish Mill. (Bill Roth)

FACEBOOK PAGE
Our Facebook page is very active. Posts with photos are very helpful and giving us notoriety in Facebook. (Carol Cole)

LAKE HURON FOREVER PLEDGE
Huron Pines presented to the East Tawas City Council to join into the Lake Huron Forever Pledge. The pledge addresses stormwater runoff and land conservation. It could provide grant funds to the communities. Maddie Khuri from Huron Pines and our own Donette Spiekerman presented. (Donette Spiekerman)

TRUMPETER WEBINAR
Free Webinar on Trumpeter Swans and lead contamination is at noon (Eastern) on Wednesday December 11th. Preregistration is needed. If you miss it, Bill Roth plans to have the recording for sharing. (Bill Roth).

NEXT MEETING:
February 11, 2025 at 3:00 pm at the Oscoda Baptist Church, 5589 N. US Hwy 23, Oscoda. Presentation by Sam Burckhardt on Raptors.

Potluck will be held on January 14, 2025 at noon. Oscoda Baptist Church, 5589 N. US Hwy 23, Oscoda. Bring a dish and your own table service.

Meeting Adjourned by motion.