



Saint Paul Bird Alliance

Saint Paul Audubon
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2024
Amherst H. Wilder Center, St. Paul, MN

Call to Order

The Saint Paul Audubon Board of Directors meeting was held on Monday, October 7, 2024. President Greg Burnes call the meeting to order at 5:09 pm. Those attending were Vice-President Kiki Sonnen, Treasurer Neil Carlson, Secretary Amanda Rice, VP of Communications Martha Douglas, Monica Bryand, Debbie Brown, and Craig Cox.

Updates – Announcements

- Board members shared recent bird sightings and related activities in which they participated.
- Martha Douglas passed around handouts explaining the 2024 ballot measure for the Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund.

Current Business

Approve September 2024 Minutes

Kiki moved to approve of the minutes. Neil seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Treasurers Report

- Neil provided the following update on our current assets:
 - US Bank Checking: \$19,154.41
 - US Bank Savings: \$3,010.07
 - US Bank Certificate: \$26,093.72
 - TruStone Certificate: \$33,170.00
- The US Bank CD is due December 10. Neil recommended staying with US Bank.
- There were three recent donations, and Greg noted those addresses for thank-you notes and receipts.
- Neil submitted tax renewal information to the Secretary of State.
- [2023/24 Final Financial Statement](#) and [24/25 Budget](#) (Both on the website)

Chapter Name Change

Reviewed the St. Paul Audubon Name Change Announcement – Rollout Plan – Draft 9.26.2024. Neil motioned to change our chapter's name to Saint Paul Bird Alliance. Martha seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. J Jeannine Thiele from the Minneapolis chapter will share what she learns from their attorney. Martha will send the communication plan action item list by Friday, October 11.

Board members reviewed the draft press release and provided input. Martha will update it with today's vote and reference other Alliances that created FAQs.

New Board Member

Fran Kennedy is interested in joining our board. Neil, Craig, and Greg talked with Fran; she would be a good fit. Debbie motioned to add Fran Kennedy to the board; Neil seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Volunteer Coordinator

We discussed adding a volunteer coordinator in the September meeting.

- I reviewed several volunteer coordinator job descriptions and created a draft for the board to consider.
- Consider splitting the role between two or more volunteers.

Field Trip Coordinator/Chair

- Consider splitting the role between two or more volunteers.

Living our Mission

Review takeaways from our Sept meeting. Reviewed Program Refresh comments.

- Consider gathering demographics at our events to understand our current demographics and look for avenues to expand.

Grants

Craig provided a summary of the nine grant requests. We reviewed them so we could contact the requestees and get answers to our questions before our final vote in November.

Committee Updates

- Conservation Committee
 - We received two wooden duck houses as donations; they would need stakes or to be mounted on trees.
 - Co-chairs held an in-person recognition event.
 - Hosted an event at Pigs Eye on October 6
- Grant Committee: Craig previewed ideas for the November agenda.
- Greg and Kiki will coordinate Christmas Bird Count.

Adjourn – Next BoD Meeting Nov. 4 (Monday) - 5 PM – Location TBD

The Board adjourned the monthly business meeting at 6:56 pm.