



Saint Paul Audubon Society

**Saint Paul Audubon
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2024
Amherst H. Wilder Conference Center, St. Paul, MN**

Call to Order

The Saint Paul Audubon Board of Directors meeting was held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024. President Greg Burnes call the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. Those attending were Vice-President Kiki Sonnen, Treasurer Neil Carlson, Secretary Craig Cox, VP of Communications Martha Douglas, Monica Bryand, Debbie Brown, and Amanda Rice.

Updates – Announcements

Board members shared recent bird sightings and related activities in which they participated.

Current Business

Approve May 2024 Minutes

Kiki moved approval of the Minutes. Martha seconded the motion. During the discussion, Greg pointed out one revision he proposed to be made to the current draft before final approval. Board members agreed that the revision should be made. Revised Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurers Report

Neil provided the following update on our current assets:

US Bank Checking:	\$20,263.58
US Bank Savings:	\$3,009.94
US Bank Certificate:	\$26,093.72
TruStone Certificate:	\$33,170

Mission Statement

Greg pointed out that we have the following versions of our mission statements online and in the Cardinal. Greg recommended that the Board discuss and decide which version or a new version, drawing from both existing statements, to adopt as our mission statement.

The Board had an in-depth discussion of views, leading to a consensus around a revised mission statement: **Engaging a diverse community in enjoying, understanding, and protecting birds and the habitats all living beings need to thrive.**

Kiki moved approval of the consensus statement, Amanda seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The Board then agreed to suspend the business portion of our meeting and move to a strategic workshop discussion focused on critical actions needed to support our mission.

Greg called the Board business meeting back in order at 6:30 pm.

Grants Program

Greg reminded the board that we have made significant progress in building the logistics for an effective grants program, but a committee chair needs to lead its efforts. Greg noted that we urgently need to fill that void and ramp up work to ensure a vigorous grant program that supports our mission.

Amanda volunteered to take on the Secretary's office duties, and Craig agreed to take on leadership of the Grants Program. The Board endorsed that course of action.

Board Vacancies

Greg directed the Board's attention to the profiles of three candidates who have expressed interest in joining the Board. The Board discussed the profiles, compared them to our Board Expertise Matrix, and determined they would like more information about what specific areas of our mission the candidates would like to help us achieve.

The Board asked Neil, Monica, and Craig to arrange interviews with the candidates to learn more about their areas of interest and to report back to the Board.

Adjourn

The Board adjourned the monthly business meeting at 7:05 pm.

Next BoD Meeting Oct.7 (Monday) - 5 PM – Wilder Foundation