Apalachee Audubon Board Meeting Minutes 9-8-2021

Submitted by Nelson Ball, Secretary

In attendance: Kathleen Carr, Dara Wilson, Donna Legare, Harvey Goldman, Peter Kleinhenz, Heather Levy, Nelson Ball, Norma Skaggs, Howard Kessler, Robert Williams, Tallulah Biletzskov, Caleb Crow

* Meeting called to order at 6:35pm.
* Minutes from August 2021 Board Meeting were approved
	+ Nelson will send minutes to Elizabeth
* Membership—Kathleen
	+ Current chapter membership is 865 as of August 31, 2021.
		- Up 7 members since July
		- 15 expired 3 months ago, will be deleted
		- 11 new members
		- 2 rejoins
		- 21 renewals
* Newsletter Process
	+ Send newsletter contributions (text & photos) to Kathleen
	+ Donna will review
	+ Kathleen will submit to Chris Grossman
	+ Norma to be a backup reviewer
* AAS Email
	+ Kathleen and Dara will handle emails
	+ Mission San Luis asked if we wanted to table at an event
		- Pass this year due to covid concerns
* Grant Opportunities
	+ Plants for Birds/Bird Friendly Communities
		- Application due 9/11
		- Pass this time due to short notice
	+ FLEDJE (Future Leaders for Equity, Diversity, and Justice in the Environment) Training—$1000 Grant
		- A six-month EDI training for select chapters that could earn each chapter a $1,000 grant from NAS if successfully completed.
		- Refer to 8/31 email for more info
		- Application deadline is 9/12
		- Need 2-3 people and a project
		- Howard and Tallulah are volunteering to enroll in the training if AAS is selected
		- Peter & Nelson to help brainstorm project ideas at Lake Elberta Park
		- Proposal does not need to be detailed and it can change as we need to
		- Donna suggests possibly tying in Purple Martin gourds and the kids at Walker Ford Community Center
		- Peter suggests kids’ art in the kiosk that tells a story of how they associate with nature
* Treasurer’s Report—Harvey
	+ Current balance $20,951.42 as of 9/2/21
	+ PO Box fee to be paid soon
	+ We will add another signatory
* Program Committee—Norma
	+ Brochures are out and look great!
		- There are more available at Native Nurseries – see Elizabeth for more
		- Write down where you are taking brochures on notecard in box so we don’t double up distribution
	+ Online social before our Program – 30 minutes prior
* FieldTrip Committee—Heather
	+ Heather and Natasza will change times as necessary since some trips may run longer than the original estimate
	+ Kathleen and Rob to help with 10/3 field trip to Lafayette Heritage Trail Park—eBird on phones prior to showing up at event
* Conservation Committee—Peter
	+ Caleb got AAS a $3000 grant!
		- Perhaps an interpretive sign for our bat house
			* We have materials, this $ would cover costs for finishing and installation
			* Peter plans to finish text and gather photos by next week
			* Peter will have design cost quote to Caleb soon
			* 2 months to fabricate
			* Kenny from City will review beforehand
	+ Lake Elberta Park 10/16 event
		- Clean-up, planting and invasive removal day
		- Water and land clean-up crews
		- Invasive removal
	+ FSU ESP and Hillel have clean up at Lake Elberta on 9/12
		- Plan to make LEP a focus area for work days
	+ Florida Forever update
		- AAS signed on to support Aucilla FF project
	+ Sustainable Campus Fellow proposal
		- One idea from Heather: Have a student design, implement, and analyze a study that assessed recreation activities of our local parks/refuges (say within a 20 mi range). This could provide stakeholders with a general idea of the most popular activities in different recreation areas (e.g., hunting vs wildlife viewing vs exercise), and provide the student with experience in survey design, communications, and analysis.
		- Project with owls—Dara and Heather to talk about proposal
		- Heather will take lead, but will have limited time to commit
		- Caleb will help facilitate day-to-day, but does not want to take lead
		- Peter will also help
* Education Committee—Donna
	+ Chimney Swift Tower
		- Jody talked to Kenny today about design/how to build
		- Kenny will bring plans to higher ups and report back to us
		- Costs to be calculated, presented to Board
		- Jody will welcome help during build! Building in Donna and Jody’s carport
	+ Intern—Cierra Nelson
		- Donna will meet with her this Friday at 2pm at a coffee shop
		- Donna proposes that she be Jody’s apprentice for our chimney swift tower
		- Cierra will attend Swift Night Out
		- Nature art at Lake Elberta, event for tower installation
		- Other ideas?
	+ Summer camp?
		- Howard proposes this idea
		- Essay contest to fund a an elementary school aged student
		- Talk to teachers at Pineview to identify one or two students with interest in nature and who would benefit greatly
		- Camp TALON (Teen Adventures Learning Ornithology & Nature)
			* Ages 14-19
			* $450 for 6 days, 5 nights
		- We can look for another camp to cater to our friends at Pineview
		- FWC has summer camps—one good one in Everglades
		- Howard will reach out to Cornell University to see if they have resources/ideas for us
* Communications Committee—Dara
	+ Google Calendars
		- Field Trips, Programs, AAS Administrative
	+ NAS Social Media Collaboration weekly meetings
		- Meeting tomorrow at 3pm that Kathleen will attend with Dara
	+ Coordinate with Conservation Committee
	+ Updates to website for events, bios, etc.
* Additional Items
	+ Trash Flow study has been re-submitted to journal after edits
	+ Internal-use only BOD contact list
	+ Share our programs and events on social media!!!