AAS Board Meeting 1/12/2022

Attendees: Kathleen Carr, Heather Levy, Peter Kleinhenz, Donna Legare, Rob Williams, Norma Skaggs, Dara Wilson, Tallulah Biletzkov, Caleb Crow, Harvey Goldman, Brian Dusseault

December board meeting minutes approved

Membership:

* Up 27 members since Oct. 31
* Current chapter membership is 906 as of December 31, 2021

Land acknowledgment statement – develop a land acknowledgment statement, acknowledging Native American occupation of the land that our chapter covers.

* After some prelim research, Kathleen is going to start looking into this again. Many Audubon chapters already have one.
* Could be complicated given how much our chapter covers?
* Need to gather more information and advice.
* Tallulah/ Kathleen will work on
* Dara will edit/review

Feb. 19 wildlife friendly yard tour

* Let Tammy Brown know if you want to volunteer
* Tickets are on sale at Wild Birds Unlimited and Native Nursiers

Treasurer’s Report - Harvey

* 2021 donations; 12 people donated, paypal gave us $18 mitigates $20 service fees
* People credited for whole thing and we eat service fees
* Kathleen will work on letters thanking them/providing tax write-off doc
* Current is $24,607

Noah Stryker visit – Noah is interested in extending his North Florida visit, brought here by Bay County Audubon, to Tallahassee

* Earliest date would potentially be Sunday, April 3 after traveling here fr+om Panama City
* Charges $100 a day – how long should we invite him for? Monday – Tuesday?
  + Will be staying a few days with Donna & Jody
* Helping with bird-a-thon or just a few outings to different spots, including a family friendly walk?
* Create a proposal for spending
* Form smaller group to hash out details
  + Heather, Peter, Kathleen, Dara
* Fly out of Tallahassee?
* Visit Lake E, pineview bird club, other science programs?
* Will be visiting school with Bay Co. Audubon
* High school could be interesting for him to visit
* Brian will follow up

Programs

* January program with Natasza canceled
* February:
  + Melissa Hill filling in for Shane Wellendorf for February panel
  + Peter will create and email out questions
* Remainder of programs WILL be virtual as webinars
* Ask March and April speakers what they feel comfortable with
* Check vaccination requirements for TT potluck in May (Heather)

Field trips

* Heather to fill in for Jan 23rd field trip
* Reservations now being sent to AAS email instead of Heather’s personal email
  + These must include specific subject line

Pineview

* Sessions resuming
* Visit every other week for a total of 9 sessions
* Current binoculars falling apart, many have gotten lost
* Peter proposes purchase of new binoculars – 12 pairs
  + Donna will follow up about brands
* Marylyn Feaver suggested our chapter send someone or a Pineview volunteer to the Inside Out International Conference hosted by the Children & Nature Network; May 9-12 in Atlanta (fees range from $75-$575)
  + Table this for now

Intern

* Cierra was paid $250 for the beginning of the semester and will get $250 at the end of the semester
  + Donna has completed grant forms
* Working on bluebird trail @ Joe Budd
  + FAMU students built houses
  + Feb 5 will install them with FAMU students and Joe Budd staff
* Predator guards and poles are provided by Joe Budd Youth Conservation Center

Lake Elberta

* Chimney Swift tower is complete!
  + 60 hours not including interpretive sign volunteers
  + $825.77 spent by Donna/Jody on the tower to be reimbursed
  + $1725 in donations for the tower
  + Donna/Ann Morrow working on getting interpretive sign built for the tower
* Bat house sign completed, fabricated, will be shipped soon
  + Some money leftover from Aramark grant for bat house sign
* Schedule beginner bird walk
* Peter to schedule invasive removal for air potato and climbing fern
  + Coordinate just with city and a few Audubon folks; Donna, Harvey
* Jody removed wasps from the martin pole baffle

Conservation updates

* We have been asked to write a letter for more transparency in sewer spills
* FSU sustainable campus open applications until February 5th– anyone interested?
* Continuing grant with Tall Timbers and Cornell Lab to connect volunteer birders to land owners
  + We are partnering with Alachua Conservation Trust
  + Grant will fund growing season burning at a local property
  + Pre- and post- monitoring to assess impacts and encourage landowners to shift burning times
  + Beginning in October
* Northwood center - Donna
  + Police station moving in
  + Meeting Jan 20 (Northwood Redevelopment Community Meeting Jan 20 6-7:30 at Tallahassee Senior Center) on trying to get ideas from the community about what we want to see on property – park lands? Native trees?
  + Caleb has connections to Green Building group – Donna and Caleb to chat
  + Cities green building program is still in its infancy
  + Why don’t we have a native tree section for the city??

Tallulah updates on Fledge

* Met at end of November
* Identity and how identities can overlap; discussed EDI vocabulary
* Meet with accountability group Monday
* Personal development processes for fledglings
* Chapter development expected to be picking up this month

Dara – communications

* Tighten up zooms programs!
* For Feb, Peter moderate, Heather monitor chat, Tallulah/Dara running zoom
* Peter will send out doc for us to add questions
* At the end can open up audience chat for panelists