



**FORT COLLINS AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 3, 2013**

**ATTENDEES:**

Scott Cobble, Bill Miller, Liz Pruessner, Joann Thomas, John Waddell.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Susan Cottingham and John Shenot.

**CALL TO ORDER – B. Miller:**

President Bill Miller called the informal discussion session to order at 7:15 p.m. A formal board meeting was not possible due the lack of a quorum.

**INTRODUCTIONS: – All:**

None.

**AGENDA REVIEW – All:**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: – All:**

None.

**MINUTES: December 06, 2012 – Review, Revise and Accept – All:**

Action regarding meeting minutes was not possible due to the lack of a quorum.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

Treasurer's Report for December 2012 (sent out earlier) – Waddell:

1. On December 31, 2012, the checking account balance was \$5,959.42.
2. The Savings account balance was \$3,001.34.
3. The total balance was \$17,361.50.
4. December 2012 expenses included:
  - a. \$48.78 to PostNet for mailing the December newsletters.
  - b. \$165.00 to Print It to print the December newsletter.
  - c. \$300.00 to Evelyn Reuter for food and services at December 13th program.
  - d. \$80.00 to Fort Collins Senior Center for room rental December 13th.
  - e. \$120.00 to John Vanderpoel for leading the 1 December field trip.
  - f. \$120.00 to Nick Komar for leading the 2 December field trip.



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- g. \$120.00 to Quetzal Tours for field trip expenses 1-2 December.
- h. \$50.00 for High Plains Workshop registration.
- 5. December 2012 receipts include:
  - a. \$480.00 from six participants of the December 1 & 2 field trips.
  - b. \$16.50 from one donor of 2012 Birdathon.
  - c. \$125.00 from sales of 21 pocket guides.
  - d. \$20.00 from sale of one copy of CD - Bird Songs of Rocky Mountains.
  - e. \$140.00 from 6 memberships: 0 NAS only, 0 NAS & Local, and 6 Local only.
  - f. \$10.00 from donation from one person.
  - g. \$465.00 from 10 donors to the Alex Cringan Memorial Fund.
  - h. \$0.04 from Wells Fargo for interest on checking account.
- 6. Alex Cringan Memorial Fund balance - \$1,353.90.
- 7. Quetzal Tours/FCAS Monthly Field Trips - \$1,684.61 net gain for 2012 trips.
- 8. Birdathon 2012 status: \$1,075.90.
- 9. Next CD maturation is 11 November 2013 for \$5,377.18 plus interest.
- 10. Colorado State Registration filed 26 February 2012.
- 11. Federal Form 990-N e-filed with IRS on 20 March 2012.
- 12. 2011 FCAS Annual Financial Report filed with National Audubon Society electronically on 6 December 2013.
- 13. FCAs made money on the Quetzal Tours.
- 14. 2013 Budget review – Waddell:
  - a. The Budget looks like it will be in the negative (since we have two paid positions).
  - b. Income of \$15,000.
  - c. Negative projection of approximately \$1,000.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Ptarmigan Deadline – Sunday January 13<sup>th</sup> – Miller:**

- 1. Bill mentioned the deadline.

**B. Proposed Outings (Field Trips) – Shenot:**

- 1. John S. will try to line up one or two field trips for February.



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2. John S. said he wants to meet people through FCAS.
3. John S. indicated he has been thinking about field trip coordination. His goal is to revitalize the process and to schedule as much of the year as possible a year in advance. People could then plan on field trips in the future. This will garner more attendance.
4. John S. will need to get to know the people willing to lead field trips.
5. Liz said we should get field trip information onto the website.
6. John S. said he had been chewing on an idea – different kinds of trips. Routine trips would be local, for people of all skills, possibly build in a social aspect to the trip, coffee and donuts.
7. Joann said people like shorter trips, trips that don't take up the whole day.
8. Joann said we should get binoculars for people to use.
9. Scott C. to send John Shenot the field trip report form by email.

**C. Rights of Nature – Miller:**

1. Liz said it is a good start and it starts the conversation.
2. John W. said some things need to be addressed.
3. Bill said we need to walk a fine line.
4. It would give communities one more tool to manage development.

**D. Update of board member information sheet – Cobble:**

1. Scott passed out an example of the spreadsheet he uses for activity data.
2. Susan and John provided their contact information.
3. Joann will ask those who have yet to commit for another year if they will continue

**E. Activity Data that should be captured – Cobble:**

Discussed earlier.

**F. Electronic Policy File – Cobble:**

Scott said he would list policy items both sequentially by date and by category.  
Bill to send out a copy of the FCAS Constitution and Bylaws without the Markup.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Paid Positions – Miller:**

1. The contract is still in progress.
2. Bill to provide John W. with Scott Miller's address.
3. John W. to send \$300 to Scott Miller for the website.



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**B. Rental Storage Unit – Thomas:**

1. Joann will have ½ of a garage in which to store items.

**C. Jacquie Vaux benefit event – any update – Thomas:**

1. No update regarding Jacquie Vaux.
2. According to Munday: once a month artists exhibit at Bath Gardens.
3. Joann to send an email to Board members to volunteer for FCAS at Bath Gardens.

**E. Potential new meeting locations (United Way List) – Thomas:**

1. First United Methodist Church is at the top of the list.
2. Joan said it is a nice place
3. The difficult issue is getting a commitment for every month.

**F. Website concerns – Miller:**

1. Scott Cobble still to send information to Bill and Liz.
2. Scott and Liz discussed concerns with the new website.
  - a. Liz voiced concern regarding the functionality of the Membership and Donate forms that open in a small window when a user clicks the Membership or Donate hyperlinks. The text is quite small and not easily read.
  - b. Scott C. suggested changes to the website.
    - 1) To facilitate reading the material, avoid a high level of contrast resulting from white text on black background. Rather, use a lighter background with somewhat darker text.
    - 2) Remove the owl.
    - 3) Remove hyperlinks from the center of the page.
    - 4) Use appropriately titled drop-down menu headings across the top of the page. The menu headings would function somewhat like a table of contents to the website. Examples of menu headings: Activities, Birding, Calendar, Conservation, and Publications. When engaged, a menu would open revealing hyperlinks to multiple related items. For instance, menu heading Publications:
      - a) Newsletter
      - b) Meeting minutes
      - c) Birds of Northern Colorado Pocket Guide
      - d) Pawnee Grasslands Self-guided Birding Tour
      - e) Colorado Wildscapes Book
      - f) Birds of Larimer County Field Check List



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5. When a hyperlink is clicked on, rather than presenting information within a small region on the home page, link to a more easily read full size web page.
  - 6) Steps 2 through 5 would serve to open up the center of the page.
  7. Perhaps members could submit digital images that would appear on the front page.
  - 8) Add a site map.
3. The Board to have another meeting with Scott Miller.

### **G. Obtaining Member Involvement – Miller:**

1. Name Badges update – Parker:
  - a. Will need to start taking names at the Program Meeting.
  - b. Check the names against a roster.
  - c. Make name badges for those who show up.
  - d. Liz will bring a roster to the next Program meeting.
2. Social Media – Facebook page for chapter – Thomas:
  - a. Susan to start managing the FCAS Facebook page.

### **I. Volunteer Hours & Mileage – Miller:**

1. Scott presented on some of the data that is gathered. He will send Susan and John a discussion regarding information to gather and submit.

## **REPORTS Of COMMITTEES:**

### **A. Membership – Pruessner:**

1. 628 NAS members.
2. 130 Dual NAS and FCAS members.
3. 103 FCAS Members
4. 861 total members.
5. 30 Complementary Members (other chapters, Larimer Cty Natural Resources etc.)
6. Liz will send out a mailer to remind people it is time to renew their membership.
7. Liz to remind people at the January, February, and March Program meetings it is time to renew their Memberships

### **B. Finance – Adams:**

No discussion.



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**C. Education – Thomas:**

1. No activity in December.
2. Not activity in January
3. Bath Nursery Bird Festival. Joann sent out a request for volunteers through United Way newsletter. Will help people make bird feeders with pinecones as occurred at the bird fair.
4. Future Events:
  - a. February 2 – Bath Nursery Bird Festival – 10:00 to 4:00.
  - b. February 23 – High Plains Landscape Workshop – 8:30 – 3:30.

**D. Conservation – Miller:**

No discussion.

**E. Field Trips – Shenot:**

Discussed earlier.

**F. Publicity – Parker:**

No discussion.

**G. Website Monitoring – All:**

No discussion.

**H. Newsletter – All:**

1. Joann suggested developing an advisory board for the Ptarmigan.
2. Liz asked if we want to include information in the Ptarmigan regarding the recent CBCs. The answer, yes.
3. Liz will send Nick and Tom an email to have them provide CBC results to Carol Jones.
4. Joann will create an Audubon Colorado Council report for the newsletter.

**I. Programs – Meschievitz:**

1. Programs 2013:
  - a. January 10<sup>th</sup>, Reesa Conrey, CPW, Shortgrass Birds including burrowing owls and land management projects.
  - b. February 14<sup>th</sup> - Paul and Evi Opler. “Nature touring China in 2011: from Tiananmen Square to Giant Pandas to Shangri-La”.
  - c. March 14 – Arvind Panjabi – RMBO, Director of International Projects.



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- d. April 11<sup>th</sup> – Eric DeFonso – Galapagos.
- e. May 9<sup>th</sup> – Doug Ouren, USGS, Gunnison Sage Grouse (and/or effects of motorized recreation on habitat).
- f. September 12<sup>th</sup> – Rob Palmer, Wildlife Photographs – focused on burrowing owls.

**J. Audubon Colorado Legislative Update – Harden:**

The ACC Public Policy Committee had a precession meeting, and will be having another meeting just after the legislative session has started – to prioritize what bills (introduced and expected) to have our lobbyist work, and what ones to just monitor.

the ACC Transition Committee has been working on a letter, that will be sent to the chapters, with the suggested organizational structure of ACC. After this letter is finalized it will be sent to the chapters for input through their chapter representatives to the ACC. Then the ACC chapter representatives in meeting can accept and modify and accept as wished.

**K. Volunteers – Miller:**

No discussion.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

Bill fields questions from FCAS members.

**ADJOURN:** The informal discussion session adjourned at 9:00 p.m.