

May Minutes
Lee & Lois Herndon Chapter of TOS

Location: Zoom

Date: May 7, 2024

Attendance: 15 people attended via Zoom

Call to order: President Dave Gardner called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Minutes: Kim Stroud read the minutes from the April meeting. Roy Knispel made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Chirs Soto seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Gardner reported that the current balance is \$4,983.79.

Old Business:

1. **Roan Mountain Naturalist Rally:** The Roan Mountain Naturalist Rally was held Friday, April 26 through Sunday, April 28. Joe McGuiness led a walk at 6:30 am on Saturday with 6 attendees and had a total of 32 species. The beginning bird walk at 8:30 am on Saturday was led by Joe McGuiness. He had 4 people and 34 species on this walk. Debi Campbell led another walk at 8:30 am on Saturday. She also had 34 species on her walk. Joe McGuiness also led a bird walk at 9:00 on Sunday at Hampton Creek Cove. He had 12 people and 34 species on this walk; including Golden-winged Warblers and a Northern Waterthrush.
2. **Spring Count:** Rick Knight said that he is waiting on the data from a few parties to complete compilation. Due to the good weather, most parties are reporting good numbers.
3. **Southern Appalachians Highlands Conservancy Bird Walks:** SAHC has scheduled two bird walks at Hampton Creek Cove.
 - a. The first walk was scheduled for May 3 at 9:00 am. Twelve people attended the walk and observed 34 species. Most people got good looks at Golden-winged Warblers. A few additional species, including Ospreys, were observed in the parking lot at the end of the walk.
 - b. The second walk is during the June Jamboree on June 15.
4. **Spring TOS Sate Meeting:** Rick Knight reported that the Spring State Meeting had a good program on doing a Big Year as a single female birder. The one business item of note was that *The Migrant* will go digital, probably in 2025.
5. **Nightjar Surveys:** The Cherokee and Milligan Nightjar Surveys will be conducted on Friday, May 17. We will meet at the Food City on South Roan St. at 8:30 pm. Saturday night will be the rain date.
6. **Nominating Committee:** Jean Potter said that all of the current officers have agreed to retain their offices. The nominating committee nominated Jackie Knight and Dave Gardner as State Directors. Dave Gardner asked for

nominations from the floor. No nominations were made. Rick Knight made a motion to elect the slate of officers listed below. Chris Soto seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- a. President – Dave Gardner
 - b. Vice President of Programs – Bryan Stevens
 - c. Vice President of Activities – Joe McGuiness
 - d. Secretary – Kim Stroud
 - e. Treasurer – Vern Maddux
 - f. State Directors – Jackie Knight and Dave Gardner
7. **Fall State Meeting:** Dave Gardner requested that anyone interested in helping plan the Fall State Meeting remain for a meeting following the business meeting.
 8. **Meeting Location:** Dave Gardner reported that he contacted the pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Elizabethton about a meeting place but has not heard back from him.
 9. **Charging Station:** The charging station for the club radios was ordered and delivered to Joe McGuiness.
 10. **Club Website:** Dave Gardner showed the club some changes that were made to the website. Club events were added at the top of the page and links to minutes, field trip reports, and count reports were also added.

New Business:

1. **PayPal Account:** Dave Gardner suggested opening a PayPal account for the club to make it easier for members to pay dues and for people to pay for the State Meeting. Bryan Stevens said this would also help with calendar sales. Rob Armistead made a motion to get a PayPal account and Judi Sawyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Warriors Path State Park Donation:** Dave Gardner suggested making a donation to Warriors Path State Park after Marty Silver's excellent program at the banquet. Joe McGuiness made a motion to donate \$100.00 to Warriors Path State Park. Jackie Knight seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
3. **May Field Trip:** Joe McGuiness will lead a field trip around Watauga Lake to Little Stoney Creek and over Walnut Mountain to Dennis Cove. We will meet at the Post Office in Hampton at 7:30 am. After the field trip, we will eat lunch at Wayne and Nancy's Restaurant.
4. **Summer Count:** The Carter County Summer Count will be held Saturday, June 1. Dave Gardner discussed a list of areas and party leaders. Rick Knight said that Tom McNeil would be available to cover his normal area and that compilation would be by email. The Unicoi County Summer Count will be planned at the June meeting.
5. **Picnic:** The picnic will be held on Saturday July 6. The pavilion at Winged Deer Park is available. Kim Stroud made a motion to reserve that pavilion and Roy Knispel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recent Sightings:

1. Roy Knispel reported a semipalmated plover at Paddlecreek.

2. A nesting Osprey was reported at the Carter County Jail.
3. Fred Alsop reported several Cattle Egrets.

Presentation: Due to a miscommunication, there was no program.

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by: Kim Stroud