

June Minutes
Lee & Lois Herndon Chapter of TOS

Location: Zoom

Date: June 4, 2024

Attendance: 18 people attended via Zoom

Call to order: President Dave Gardner called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

Minutes: Kim Stroud read the minutes from the May meeting. Joe McGuiness made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Jackie Knight seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Vern Maddux reported that the current balance is \$5,143.79.

Old Business:

1. **Walnut Mountain Field Trip:** Joe McGuiness led a field trip to Walnut Mountain on Saturday, May 9 with 9 attendees. A total of 65 species were observed. Highlights included a Barred Owl and 15 species of warbler as such Swainson's Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, and Tennessee Warbler.
2. **Nightjar Surveys:**
 - a. The Cherokee and Milligan Nightjar Surveys were conducted on Monday, May 20. Six people participated in the Milligan Survey. Six Chuck-wills-widows and 2 Whip-poor-wills were observed on this route. Four people participated in the Cherokee Survey. On this route, 1 Chuck-wills-widow and 4 Whip-poor-wills were counted.
 - b. The Fish Spring Survey will be conducted on Monday, June 17. We will meet for dinner at 7:15 pm at the Black Olive in Elizabethton. People who wish to participate but do not wish to join us for dinner can meet in the Black Olive parking lot at 8:15 pm. June 18 will be the rain date.
3. **Carter County Summer Count:** Rick Knight is still waiting on data from one party. He said that most of the expected species were found, except Golden-winged Warblers were missed.
4. **Unicoi County Summer Count:** Joe McGuiness said that Unaka Mountain Road will not open until late June. However, he may be able to give his key to Vern or Roy. After some discussion, June 8 was chosen as the date for the count. Dave Gardner presented a list of count areas and party leaders for each area. Rick Knight said that compilation would be via email. He also asked that each party track their start time, end time, and weather conditions.
5. **Southern Appalachians Highlands Conservancy Bird Walk:** SAHC has a bird walk scheduled for June 15 at their cabin in North Carolina. Joe McGuiness volunteered to help lead the walk.

6. **Fall State Meeting:** Dave Gardner reported that Kim Stroud was selected to chair the Fall State Meeting Committee. She asked the committee to meet after the meeting.
7. **Meeting Location:** Dave Gardner reported that he met with a member of the Grounds Committee at the First Presbyterian Church in Elizabethton, who said that the church would not be able to accommodate us for meetings in the Fall. He is pursuing other leads on potential meeting locations for the Fall.
8. **PayPal Account:** Dave Gardner said that he needed to get together with Vern Maddux to set up the account.
9. **Picnic:** The pavilion at Winged Deer Park is reserved for July 6. We will plan to eat at 6:00 pm. Therefore, members should arrive slightly before 6:00 to set up. Dave Gardner asked those who would be attending to list the dishes they intend to bring in the chat.

New Business:

1. **August Planning Meeting:** Dave Gardner suggested meeting at the Black Olive in Elizabethton. He will try to make reservations for the first Tuesday in August.
2. **Winter Trip:** Dave Gardner suggested a club trip to the coast in January. He proposed several possible locations including: the eastern shore of Virginia, the northern North Carolina coast, the central North Carolina coast, the southern North Carolina coast or the northern part of the Outer Banks. After some discussion, Fred Alsop said that he had Razorbills, Dovekeys, and Snow Buntings in the Outer Banks in winter. The group suddenly became very interested in going to the Outer Banks. Fred said he would send his itinerary to Kim Stroud.
3. **Calendars:** Bryan Stevens asked Jean Potter to report that he will begin accepting calendar pictures at the picnic. If we want the calendars earlier this year, the submission deadline will be earlier.

Recent Sightings:

1. The Iricks have Blue Grossbeaks coming to their feeders.
2. Pete Range had a Mississippi Kite in Kingsport
3. Roy Knispel and Joe McGuinness had a Common Merganser with young.
4. Fred Alsop reported a Peregrine Falcon at the Food City on South Roan Street on May 28. He also has a pair of Screech Owls with two to three fledglings in his yard and is seeing Fish Crows in numerous locations.

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

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by: Kim Stroud