

## **November Minutes Lee & Lois Herndon Chapter of TOS**

**Location:** Northeast State at Elizabethton and Zoom

**Date:** November 5, 2024

**Attendance:** 10 people attended in person and 5 people attended via Zoom

**Call to order:** President Dave Gardner called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**Minutes:** Kim Stroud read the minutes from the October meeting meeting. Joe McGuinness made a motion to approve both the September and October minutes. Rick Knight seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Vern Maddux reported that the current balance is \$5,058.90. Dave Gardner will send a copy of the Annual Financial Report out via email.

### **Old Business:**

1. **Fall Count:** The Fall Count was held October 5. All areas in Sullivan and Washington County were accessible. However, access in Unicoi, Carter, and Johnson Counties was limited due the effects of the hurricane. Despite these limitations, 124 species were recorded, which is the average over the last 30 years. Some notable finds include Blackpoll Warbler, Philadelphia Vireo, White Pelicans at Austin Springs, and a Lark Sparrow in Shady Valley.
2. **October Field Trip:** Joe McGuinness led a field trip on October 19 to Jacob's Nature Park. Ten people attended the trip. The group found 26 species including Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, and both Kinglets.
3. **Christmas Party:** Dave Gardner reported that Tipton-Haynes is undergoing renovations and will not be available. Several alternatives were suggested. Joe McGuinness made a motion to spend up to \$150.00 to reserve a venue for the Christmas Party. Kim Stroud seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **Fall State Meeting:** Kim Stroud asked the committee to meet after the meeting.
5. **Beginning Birds Presentation for the Senior Center:** Chris Soto reported that she and Joe had proposed a date in the spring for the program, but had not heard back year.

### **New Business:**

1. **Field Trip:** On Saturday November 9, Joe McGuinness will lead a field trip to Henderson Marsh and Western Washington County. Meet at the Ingles in Jonesborough at 8:00 am.
2. **January Trip:** Dave Gardner showed an itinerary for the January trip to the North Carolina coast. Joe McGuinness passed around a sign-up sheet for those who are interested. December 10 is the final commitment date.

3. **Dues:** Kim Stroud made a motion to keep dues the same and Joe McGuiness seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously
  - a. Single is \$30.
  - b. Family is \$40.
  - c. Associate and life members are \$12.
  - d. Student is \$10.
4. **Zoom Presentation:** Roy Knispel announced that the Alabama Audubon Society is giving a zoom presentation on sparrows on Thursday, November 7 at 7:00 pm.
5. **Eagle Cams:** Fred Alsop announced that an artificial nest platform was installed at the Johnson City site. However, the couple chose to relocate to build in a nearby tree. The Bluff City site is up and running.

**Recent Sightings:**

1. Rick Knight reported a Rufous hummingbird in Trade.
2. Don Holt reported a Saw-whet Owl in his back yard on October 19.
3. Fred Alsop has a grey phase Screech Owl in his box. He also had a female Purple Finch on November 4, Hermit and Wood Thrush on November 3, and a male Black-Throated Blue Warbler on his hummingbird feeder on October 14-21.
4. Judy Sawyer had up to 10 White-Throated Sparrows and 2 pairs of Purple Finches.
5. Lois Cox had a Rose-breasted Grossbeak in her yard on October 12.

**Presentation:** Vern Maddux presented a program on "Birds I Saw in St. George's Islands & the Faulk lands".

**Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm

**Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:** Kim Stroud