Thunder Bay Audubon Society (TBAS)

Minutes October 28, 2020

Annual Meeting via Zoom

Members Present:

Karen Tetzlaff, Artie Charlton, Ned Charlton, Steve Wagner, Chuck Tetzlaff, Barbara Cole, Betsy Hale, Judy Kalmanek, Nate Blury, Jan Charter, Jerry Charter, Vic Galea, Lynn Galea and Dana Howard.

Guests Present:

Lindsay Cain of Michigan Audubon assisted by hosting the remote Zoom meeting.

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order by President Karen Tetzlaff at 2:06 PM.

Guest Presentation by Nate Blury a resident of Cow Island and TBAS member: Three residents of Cow Island are interested in obtaining the approximately 11 acres that TBAS owns on the island. It was donated to TBAS by Ralph and Linda Fletcher in 1995. Our members would retain access rights to the property for birding and no structures will be built on the property. After discussion, Judy Kalmanek moved President Karen Tetzlaff pursue the details of this transfer of ownership. Seconded by Vic Galea. All approved. Karen will report back at our next meeting.

Bird Sightings and Avian Tidbits:

Rare bird sighting of a Cattle Egret was reported. The invasion of pine siskins is reduced as they are leaving the area. Vic reported loons and an immature eagle. Jan has sighted many Buffleheads. Artie still has a Kingfisher visiting and Ned reported 7 Loons, 50 of more Buffleheads a mature eagle and blue, gray and a tricolor Herons visiting.

Approval of Secretary’s Report:

Karen had emailed the report to members and asked for any additions or corrections. None were required. Dana Howard moved to approve, and Judy Kalmanek seconded the motion. Motion carried by vote of the members present.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Presidents Report

Huron Pines ribbon cutting at Min Hunt had about 30 people attending. A nice presentation about plans for improvements was presented.

Informal gatherings this past winter at Carol Lewis’ in January and at Chuck and Karen Tetzlaff ‘s in February were a success.

Vice Presidents Report:

Lynn Field was not able to attend so there was no report.

Treasurer’s Report:

Steve Wagner reported that in 2020 we have 4 new members. Donations were very good supporting the public-school event with live birds. $100 was removed from Wildlife Recovery as it was included in the cost for a birding program by them. We discussed paying all allocated expenses for 2020 which have not yet been done. It was agreed that Steve should send all checks except Huron Pines and the River Center so we could arrange a photo opportunity for publicity. (See attached)

Steve’s proposal for the 2021 budget will be made at the November meeting.

Unfinished Business:

Last meeting Karen asked if we might have interest in sponsoring a Christmas Tree at Besser Museum in 2020 and there was some interest. We put this on pause until 2021.

March 12 the Lincoln Elementary School Wildlife Recovery Association exhibition was the first event cancelled because of Covid 19. They arrived with the birds on time but had to turn around. They have our money and owe us a presentation. However no reschedule can be made at this time.

Interest in Oriole feeder placement is still high but will have to wait until and see what spring brings.

New Business:

President Karen Tetzlaff presented a slate of officers for 2021:

President – Karen Tetzlaff

Vice President – Lynn Field

Treasurer – Steve Wagner

Secretary – Jan Charter

A motion to elect this slate was made by Vic Galea and Seconded by Dana Howard. A vote of members present elected the slate of new officers.

Karen reported that all support positions will remain the same except Barb Cole will handle publicity.

Next meeting / events:

Christmas Bird Count in Alpena – December 19.

Christmas Bird Count in Hubbard Lake – December 17 – if someone will lead the group. Need more participants if this count is to take place.

It was decided that 2021 events will be outside birding trips only. Send suggestions to Karen.

November Zoom meeting will be Tuesday the 24th at an as yet unassigned time.

A special thanks to Lindsay from Michigan Audubon for hosting the Zoom meeting and attending.

Adjourn:

Artie Charlton moved to adjourn and Chuck Tetzlaff seconded the motion which was approved by members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted Artie and Ned Charlton.