*Thunder Bay Audubon Society thunderbayaudubonsociety.com*

*January 13, 2017 12:00 pm facebook.com/thunderbayaudubon*

The January 13th meeting was held in the meeting room at Cabin Creek Coffee. 13 members attended. While eating lunch, bird observations were shared. At our feeders, there are only a FEW blue jays. No pine siskins, while last year, there were hundreds! We are seeing more titmice. Red shoulders and sharp-shinneds are keeping tabs on the feeder birds in some yards.

President Linda Klemens called the meeting to order at 12:15.

One of our senior members, Burt Wright, has moved from the area to be nearer family.

Christmas Bird Count: See attached chart of CBC. The geographical layout for the Hubbard Lake bird count seems to work well. The Alpena County maps need some work, so Linda will call a work bee to redo the Alpena sections. Linda gave an overview of the Hubbard Lake CBC. (See attached table.) Bald Eagles and Hawks are up. Ducks – down. Turkeys were seen in three large flocks. The 14 pheasants were seen near where someone raises them and releases them. An unusual sighting were the 11 brown-headed cowbirds. Craig and Linda verified them!

Bill Grigg gave an overview of the Alpena CBC. One Canada Goose was seen compared to 153 in Hubbard Lake. Most unusual was the Gyrfalcon recorded by Bill. The starling count keeps going up, much to our dismay! The weather was terrible on Saturday, so not as many birds as usually seen.

Treasurer Report: Craig and Linda Klemens, Lynn Field, and Steve Wagner met at First Federal Bank to officially transfer the accounts from Craig to Steve. All the treasury records were turned over to Steve. It is estimated that our income for the year will be $1100 with about $500 from dues and the remaining from oil royalties. Estimated expenses include $500 for programming ($200 for Tom Funke and $300 for Sergej Postupalsky Memorial), $95 miscellaneous (postage, printing), plus our donation list – see chart.

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|  | 2015 donation | 2016 donation |  2017 |
| Wildlife Recovery | $200 | $100 | $100 |
| Alpena River Center | $1000 | $250 | $250 |
| Huron Pines | $100 | $50 | $100 |
| Huron Pines Kirkland Warbler Project | $150 | 0 | 0 |
| Friends of Rockport | $50 | $50 | $50 |
| Friends of Thompson Harbor | $50 | $50 | 0 |
| Friends of Negwegon | $50 | $50 | 0 |
| NE Mich. Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative | $250 | $100 | $100 |
| Tawas Birding Fest/MI Audubon  | $100 | $100 | $100 |
| National Audubon (CBC) | $125 | $100 | $50 |
| Alpena County Library | $100 | $100 | $100 |
| Straits Area Hawkwatch | $250 | $100 | $100 (July prog) |
| Sunrise Coast Birding Trail | $300 | 0 | 0 |
| Whitefish Point Observatory | $200 | $100 | $100 |
| Mich. Nature Association | $35 | 0 | 0 |
| Local Karst  |  | $50 (Aug prog) | 0 |
| Totals | $2960 | $1200 | $1050 |

Bill Grigg moved that up to $1000 be taken from our Short Term CD to supplement expense budget as needed. Seconded by Judy Kalmanek. Approved unanimously.

Bill Grigg moved to approve $3000 budget for 2017. Seconded by Judy Kalmanek. Approved unanimously.

Miscellaneous Items:

Linda reported the bench dedication for Sergej will be held around the third week of April. It depends on when the ice melts as that is when the National Audubon folks will be here working at Fletcher Pond. The restaurant at Jack’s Landing will not be able to host the reception as will not be open at that time of year. Linda appointed a committee of Steve Wagner, Connie Stafford, and herself to check out more details. Sunday Wagner will do PR for it and Chuck Tetzlaff will take pictures.

El and Audrey Heath wonder if TBAS would like to have Jeremy Stoppa give an informational program to our group. He is trying to get a birds of prey rehabilitation and education center going in Alpena. Linda has not heard back from him yet.

February 24 – Michigan Birding Trail Network Workshop in Traverse City

April 7-9 Mackinaw Raptor Fest – Mackinaw City

April 29-30 Spring Fling at Whitefish Point. Speaker will be Josh Haas, who was here last April.

September 7-10 Midwest Birding Symposium in Bay City has been canceled. Be sure to cross it out on our event brochure.

September program needed! Since the above program was canceled, let Linda know if you have an idea.

Karen reported that some Audubon groups have an additional way of letting folks know about events that come up after their annual calendar is set or between meetings. After some discussion, Karen will send an email to folks that request to be on this additional email list. The subject line will read **“Flash Bird Tweet.”** If you want to be included on this list, send a message to Karen with “subscribe Flash Bird Tweet” in the main part of the message. Items that we might notify you about, would be bird sightings in specific locations or a “spur of the moment” birding field trip. We’ll try it a few months and see if it works!

Meeting adjourned at 1:45.

Respectively Submitted,

Karen Tetzlaff, TBAS Secretary