*Thunder Bay Audubon Society thunderbayaudubonsociety.com*

*November 18, 2014*

The November 18th meeting was held at the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary. Vice-president, Lynn Field, welcomed 18 people at 11:30. During a lunch provided by Take 5 Deli, we shared recent sightings of birds. Karen Tetzlaff saw two Eagles sitting on some ice on Long Lake just this morning. Judy Kalmanek and Betsy Hale have had a flock of Robins until today! Chris and Julie Wozniak have seen Pine Siskins. Dana Howard saw a Marsh Hawk (Northern Harrier) near Lachine. Elizabeth Littler shared some pictures of a Gold-crowned Kinglet and some info on the Swallows from Capistrano.

Bill Grigg presented an appreciation gift to Craig and Linda Klemens for their dedication and hard work for the TBAS. (Craig accepted for both as Linda could not attend this meeting.) We hope for many more years of service.

Judy Kalmanek and Roger Witherbee gave a Power Point presentation on The River Center entitled: *The Dream Is Alive*.

Conceptual drawings of the building, a vision, and objectives for the River Center were shared. Their main fund raiser is the Reel Fun Fishing Tournament on Grand Lake on February 14 and a Festivus on February 13. We toured the temporary River Center Exhibit in the Sanctuary building.

Maps of the Saginaw Valley Birding Trail were passed around. Bill, Karen and Linda attended a meeting at Hoeft State Park in October concerning the establishment of a Sunrise Coast Birding Trail to be patterned after the Saginaw Valley Trail. This would include the Huron shore line from Tawas to the Mackinaw Bridge. Discussion followed with a general agreement of support for the trail. There will be a simultaneous dedication of the trail on May 3 (I have since received notice that the correct date is May 2.) at a site in each of the three Audubon societies involved: AuSable Valley, Thunder Bay, and Straits Area. We thought Duck Park/Island Park would be appropriate for our site. A field trip around the island could be organized with the River Center group. More details at a later date.

The minutes of the last meeting, June 17, were accepted with no corrections. (Minutes are sent via email and posted on our web-site.)

Craig Klemens gave the treasurer’s report. $1570.18 in memorial checking, $297.82 in general checking, $2400 in First Federal CD and $10,500 in Alpena Bank CD for a total of $14, 705. In the past year, we have received about $1500 in gas royalties.

November is the time of year that we dedicate funds to various organizations.

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| Alpena River Center (4th of 5 installlments) | $1,000 |
| Huron Pines | $100 |
| Friends of Negwegon | $50 |
| Friends of Thompson's Harbor | $50 |
| Michigan Nature Assoc. membership | $35 |
| NE Michigan Great Lakes Stewardship | $250 |
| Whitefish Point Bird Observatory | $100 |
| Tawas Point Birding Festival | $100 |
| National Audubon Society | $125 |
| Wildlife Recovery | $200 |
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It was moved by Chuck Tetzlaff and seconded by Esther Cole that the above organizations be given the corresponding donation amounts. Approved unanimously.

Further recommendations were:

Friends of Rockport $ 50

Alpena County Library $100

Huron Pines Kirtland Warbler Project $150

It was moved by Judy Kalmanek and seconded by Chuck Tetzlaff that the above three organization be given the corresponding donation amounts. Approved unanimously.

It was moved by Bill Grigg and seconded by Judy Kalmanek that we donate to the

Michigan Audubon Society – Birding Trail Signs for the Sunrise Coast Birding Trail $300.

Approved unanimously.

It was moved by Chuck Tetzlaff and seconded by Craig Klemens that we donate $300 to the Straits Area Audubon Hawkwatch Program. Discussion followed. Esther Cole amended the amount to $250. Seconded by Marilyn Ross. Motion passed. The amended motion was passed to donate $250 to the Straits Area Audubon Hawkwatch Program.

Discussion was held on amount of money to allocate for the 50th Anniversary of the TBAS to be held in October. Marilyn Ross moved to allocate up to $700 for the celebration, including paying Segej Postupalsky’s expenses to be our guest presenter. Seconded by Judy Kalmanek. Approved unanimously.

Discussion on the 2015 calendar of events. The following are tentative programs/events. Programs will be finalized at the January meeting.



Bill Grigg wondered if we would like to sponsor a young person for the Michigan Young Birders Program. In concept, we agreed it was a good idea, but need more information. Bill will look into it.

Bill attended a training offered by Friends of Negwegon on the Hine’s Emerald Dragonfly and other invasive species. He reported it was excellent. A similar session will be held at Thompson Harbor State Park next year. He will let us know details as they are available.

Keep in mind the Great Backyard Bird Count on February 13-16. This can be done individually on-line at e-Bird.com

May 9 – North American Migration Count

May 31 – Purple Martin Days in Rogers City

June 20 – Rockport Rec Days. Bill will do a Birding 101 presentation at Besser Natural Area at 8:30

The Christmas Bird Count will be conducted on December 18 in Hubbard Lake and December 20 in Alpena. More field and feeders counters are always welcome. Craig had maps and count sheets for those people that had participated in the past. Contact Linda if you can help.

Bill wondered about interest in sponsoring a pelagic tour in Lake Huron out of Alpena on the Lady Michigan just prior to the Tawas Birding Festival. Karen said she would help organize. Bill will get more specific information.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20.

Respectively Submitted,

Karen Tetzlaff, TBAS Secretary