

CAMNATS Spring Meeting

April 8th, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 11:13 a.m by Chair Shawn Carey with a quorum of active members present. Shawn spoke about the history and resources of the Audubon's Museum of American Bird Art property.

Sean Kent, the Education Manager for Metro South Region of MA Audubon and the Art & Nature Educator for the entire state, was introduced and briefly discussed the Education Center programs at the different Audubon properties.

The Secretary's Report recorded by Dana Hoffman, was read by Sally Chisholm. A motion was made by Rick Cloran to accept the minutes as read with one exception to amend Susan Mosser's award to PSA Lifetime Achievement Award. **The motion was seconded and passed.**

The Treasurer's Report was read by Susan Mosser for 2022 and 2023. 2022 donations included a \$300 donation to Audubon for Henry Weisenburger, Carl Chance and Dan Charbonneau and another donation in Les Campbell's name for the Quabbin Reservoir Visitor Center (QRVC) to be renamed in his honor. The 2023 Treasurer's Report is attached. With all 2023 dues accounted for, there is a balance of \$6342.98 in the bank account. Thank you notes have been received from MA Audubon (Welfleet Bay Endowment Fund) for Michael McGrath & William Low, from Audubon for David Jordan, MA Audubon for Henry Weisenburger, Harold Ahern and Dan Charbonneau and from William Low's wife, Christine. Membership lists were made available as well as badges and stickers for sale. A reminder: Dues are payable at the annual meeting. If not paid within 90 days of our financial year end November 30th, the member will be dropped from the membership list. **A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.**

Introduction of Guests:

1. David Young sponsored by Susan & Jake Mosser introduced himself for his 2nd showing.
2. Sarah Keates sponsored by Christopher Ciccone introduced herself for her 1st showing.
3. Rajan Desai sponsored by Karl Zuzarte introduced himself for his 1st showing.

4. Charlene Gaboraiult sponsored by Sharon Colacino introduced herself for her 3rd showing.

Awards, Achievement, Workshops: There were none to report.

Future Meetings:

- The Annual Meeting will be on January 20th at the Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc. (GLPA). Going forward, all annual meetings will be at GLPA.
- The Fall Meeting will be in October, possibly at MA Audubon's Jobba Flats, but an exact date has yet to be finalized.

Old Business:

- **Mini Zoom** on March 8th with Ed McGuirk and Chris Ciccone was recorded and on the website.
- **Tim Laman**, National Geographic photographer, had a schedule change with Cornell Lab of Ornithology and couldn't present today. He will be rescheduled, and PSRI & Hunt's has agreed to co-sponsor so funds are still in place.
- **Tax Status:** Rick Cloran explained that we are a social club that falls under the code of 501C7, hobby groups that qualify for tax exempt, although we don't need to take the step of being recognized by the IRS. We had an EIN but never filed the necessary 990Ns so our tax identification lapsed. Rick has refiled, and we have a new EIN. Banking laws in MA changed necessitating that we be recognized as a business with a business certificate, which will be in the town of Swampscott. Transition of the account will not be allowed until the bank has this certificate. Funds can be controlled in the interim, but Rick and Susan Mosser are working on the certification so the account can be transitioned from Greg to Susan.

New Business:

- **The Zoom Lecture** with Melissa Groo on Tuesday, Sept 26th has been confirmed and will be co-sponsored with PSRI & Hunt's. Shawn will be looking for suggestions for 2024 nationally known speakers in person and in Zoom.
- **A MailChimp account** has been set up and the feedback has been positive. This account will be passed down to the next chairman.

- **The Photo Exhibit** at Hunt's Photo in Melrose has been confirmed. Space is limited so only one photo per member will be accepted. If there are too many, a lottery system will be used. The exhibit will be hung Thursday, 9/7, Opening Reception Saturday 9/16, and the exhibit will come down on Sunday, 10/15. Transportation logistics to be worked out. If anyone has connections of any kind for a facility that has exhibits, talk to Shawn.
- **Fall Mini Zoom Series:** The date has not been finalized but most likely will be in October. The program will include Cynthia Rand photographing owls, and Karl Zuzarte astro landscape photography.
- **Bylaws:** Rick Cloran presenting - As discussed at the January meeting, the Bylaws, last revised in 2014, are outdated and don't reflect how CAMNATs is operating today. The following changes are proposed:
 1. "Notes From Afield" is no longer published and all reference to the newsletter should be removed.
 2. New members' registration will shift from the Chairman to the Treasurer.
 3. To comply with the current bylaw, the number of Steering Committee members will be reduced to 3 as the current 5 members' terms expire.
 4. The sponsoring member of new applicant should submit a bio statement **in writing** to the Secretary and read at the meeting of the 3rd showing.

A motion was made by Rick Cloran to accept the revised bylaws as being presented at this meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

The revised bylaws will be posted on the website.

- **Les Campbell:** Gail Platz sent an email about Les Campbell, the founder of CAMNATs, who passed away in the fall of 2020 at the age of 95. Two photo clubs also started by Les, the Quabbin Photo Group & the Pioneer Valley Photographic Artist, along with Friends of QRVC worked to pass a bill to rename the Visitor Center, which was passed in December 2022. On June 4th 2023, there will be a ceremony to formally rename the Visitor Center the "Les & Terry Campbell Visitor Center".
- **New Member:** Charlene Gaboriault sponsored by Sharon Colacino is presented as a new member. **A motion to approve was seconded and passed.**

- **Newsletter:** Mary Doo explained that due to a fire and loss of computer, there has been a lapse with the newsletters. She has 2 articles that have not yet been published and asks for contributions of other articles to publish another newsletter as well as volunteers to help out. Please contact Shawn or Mary.
- **Spring Meeting:** Ken Jordan questioned if there was interest in a Spring May meeting in Damariscotta, ME, and whether a week day or weekend would be better. A number of people would not be available on a week day. Ken will look into it and scope out a place for further discussion.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Chisholm
Secretary