

CMAS Minutes for September 18, 2024 Board Meeting

Present: Dan, Hank, Brian, Jim, Nicki, Jon

Linda Peck has resigned as secretary. Ellen Heneghan was approved as secretary until the annual meeting in April 2025.

The minutes for April 24, 2024 were approved.

The five regular board meetings will be held prior to the general meetings on the third Wednesday of the month at 6 pm at the UUF. Scheduled meetings are 9/18, 10/16, 11/20, 1/15, and 2/19. No regular board meeting is scheduled for March as we will tentatively have a joint speaker. The annual meeting is scheduled for 4/16/25.

Speakers planned for general meetings from Hank:

September 18: Sabin Adams – Pheasants Forever – MN State Coordinator

October 16: Cody Carlstrom – Sherburne NWR – Wildlife Biologist USFWS

November 20: Tricia Markle – MN Zoo – Wildlife Conservation Specialist – turtle conservation

January 15: Voyageurs NP – biologist – Beavers in MN – via Zoom

February 19: TBC

March: Tod Bulet – Starry Skies North – Mn Chapter Dark Skies – this is possibly a joint meeting with Garden Club, MN Master Naturalists, Wild Ones – date to be determined

April 16: TBC, CMAS annual meeting

Another possible speaker in the future – Sarah Hewitt – works for state Audubon and lives in Sartell

Financial report – income was \$100 more than planned

More was spent on Audubon Adventure kits as a home schooling group in Waite Park wanted classroom kits

Budget – budget will be changing to calendar year, so will be from 7/1/24-12/31/24 this year and then from 1/1-12/31 each year thereafter. There will be a deficit, as we won't have baseline funding from 7/1/24-12/31/24.

Audubon calendars – can mix and match types – must have a minimum of 10 for a discount

Donations – Registered with GiveMN and Give to the Max, possible grants through Audubon, St Cloud Morning Optimist Club, also possible fundraising through Pizza Ranch, Barnes & Noble Book Fair, Avon Folk School

Web Page Development – estimated costs \$1200 -1600 for set up, \$220 annual cost for website maintenance. A good website could be helpful in community engagement and save costs over sending hard copies of monthly newsletter.

Apply for NAS grant and St Cloud Morning Optimist Club grant to cover costs of website development. – Apply for \$1000 from each – Jon will work on this

Newsletters – plan to have all newsletters paperless by January, 2026 – save money, time and paper.

email addresses will be needed from all members

Committee assignments – Nominating – Doris; Membership – Dan & Nicki; Program – Hank + team; Field Trip – Team; Publicity/Newsletter- Nicki, Annette (help with distribution); Education – Dan; Web page & social media – Dan, Jon, Jim, Doris

Conservation Projects – discussion tabled until October meeting

Cut off for October Newsletter is October 3

Ellen will bring refreshments for October meeting.

First part of business meeting stopped at 6:50 pm.

Second part of business meeting started after speaker and social time and was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Minutes submitted by Ellen Heneghan