

CMAS Minutes for January 15, 2025 Board Meeting

Present: Dan, Hank, Jim, Brian, Jonathan, Ellen & Nicki (online)

The minutes from November 20, 2024 were approved as amended with addition of Jim's bluebird house project at Kennedy School.

Annual Financial report for calendar year 2024: total income – \$5722.97, total expenses - \$3168.86 ending checking account balance – \$5310.83, ending balance in CD's - \$3305.35

Proposed budget for 2025 was approved with projected income of \$3045.00, projected expenses of \$6267.00, taking into account a checking balance of \$5310.83 on 1/1/25, there will be an estimated \$2088.83 checking account balance on 12/31/25

The annual report submitted to NAS listed objectives for 2025: expand/increase CMAS activities/outings, provide children's birding packs to area libraries, support area conservation programs Report was approved.

There will be 6 more print newsletters in 2025 (through November), then they will all be digital, sent to members and on the Chapter web page.

Web page – In progress. Looked at what has been done so far – looks very good and will be open to feedback as more is completed.

CMAS logo – first draft has been completed

Newsletter archive from 1983 to present will be at the Stearns County Museum

\$200 has been budgeted for each birding pack for children. We will need to decide exactly what should be included in each and if each one has to be exactly the same.

February 19: Speaker Michael Joyce from UMD speaking on bobcats and fishers

March 19: Speaker Todd Burnett – Starry Skies North – MN Chapter Dark Skies – this is a joint meeting with St Cloud Flower & Garden Garden Club, MN Master Naturalists, Wild Ones & Stearns Horticultural – to be held at St Cloud Library, Mississippi Room – no board meeting that evening

April 16: Speaker Tom Poser – Stearns County Parks

January Newsletter - 400 printed/emailed 223. NAS roster = 443, local membership=16, total = 459

The cut off for information to Nicki for the February newsletter is January 31.

The Christmas Bird Count was held on December 14, 2024. 44 different species were recorded.

CMAS will have a table at the Hardwood Hills conference at SJU on January 25. Brian, Hank & Dan will be at the table.

Group outing planned for Saturday, February 15 from 9-12 noon at the Beaver Island Trailhead/boat launch below the dam by SCSU to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count

Nicki will bring treats for the February meeting.

Minutes submitted by Ellen Heneghan