

CMAS Minutes for February 19, 2025 Board Meeting

Present: Dan, Hank, Jim, Brian, Jonathan, Nicki, Ellen, Doris

The minutes from January 15, 2025 were approved.

Financial report: baseline funding \$1335 deposited to WF account on 1/29/25, additional deposits \$420 (\$360 donations + 3 local memberships). Expenses: USPS \$76.45 Jan. + 76.45 Feb. + permit \$350 / Digital printing \$140.40 Jan. + \$144.00 Feb. (to be paid) / Zoom \$17.13 Jan. + \$17.13 Feb. / UUF rent \$120 (check is in the mail). Balance in checking acct. on 2/15/25 = \$6388.27

Audubon Policy Initiatives for 2025 were approved by the board. This approval authorizes that the CMAS name will be included in any letters of support presented to the 2025 legislature.

Web page – In progress. Review is continuing. Nicki and Doris volunteered to serve as web page administrators and to learn how to update the page. The web page will link to our Facebook page which will allow us to communicate first by using the web page, then Facebook, then email if necessary.

Birding Packs: We will provide \$150 to the GRRL for a fourth kit and will also provide 4 quality binoculars suitable for children to the 4 existing kits. In addition, we will purchase 6 pairs of binoculars and 6 bird guides for the Avon Hills Folk School to use at their outings, but with the option for CMAS or other groups to use whenever required. 9 pairs of Nocs binoculars will be purchased as Ellen has already purchased one pair as a donation. Stan Tekiela birding books may also be purchased for the birding kits.

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. Our cost for this meeting is mileage and meal for speaker. We will also need to provide 1 or 2 door prizes, possibly – bluebird house, bird feeder. Doors open at 5:30, speaker at 6:30.

February 19: Tonight - Speaker Tom Poser – Stearns County Parks as our planned speaker was ill and unable to speak. We are hoping that tonight's planned speaker, Michael Joyce will be available to speak at our April meeting when Tom Poser planned to speak.

February Newsletter - 400 printed/emailed 224. NAS roster = 443, local membership=16, total = 459

The cut off for information to Nicki for the March newsletter is February 28.

Hardwood Hills conference at SJU on January 25: there was a good turnout, 5 people requested information about Audubon, Dan was able to contact 3.

Jim is planning three two hour Saturday morning bird walks at the Avon Folk School. Possible dates include May 3, 17, 24, 31. Assistants may be needed.

Outings: Brian will decide on date for Woodcock outing in April and Albany WWT pond outing in May.

Board elections will be in April. Nominations include: Dan - President, Hank – Vice-President, Jim-Treasurer, Ellen – Secretary, Jonathan – at-large? Brian is not sure if he wants to remain on the board.

Minutes submitted by Ellen Heneghan