

Nebraska Ornithologists' Union
Spring Board Meeting

Friday, May 18, 2012
Broken Bow

Board members present: Bill Flack, Betty Grenon, Dave Heidt, Urban Lehner, Nancy Leonard, Janis Paseka, Kevin Poague, and Lanny Randolph.

Guests: Dan Leger and Don Paseka.

8:00 p.m. — Urban called the meeting to order. Members reviewed and accepted the minutes of the spring 2011 meeting in Norfolk.

Committee Reports

(Some committee representatives submitted printed reports, and these are attached to these minutes.)

Treasurer – Betty handed out copies of her report and the 2012 NOU directory. She reported finances are stable, some new members were added but more are not paid up and will be taken off the membership list. The raise in dues has had a positive impact on the group's finances. There is a solid monetary cushion in our accounts but membership is not bringing in enough to cover expenses.

The NOU accounting books were audited by Roland Barth and Neal Ratzlaff.

One troubling note is that the IRS did not remind the NOU to reapply for non-profit status. Betty has now sent in all required paperwork and hopes the IRS will reinstate us retroactively. A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report.

Publications – Jan reported the September issue of *The Nebraska Bird Review* is out and is working on the next issue.

Library – Anita sent in her written report. It was accepted with a note that we need more information on the forwarding issue of the NBR to Cornell Lab.

Program – Betty and Rick Schmid are co-hosting the fall meeting with the Inland Bird Banding Association, during the IBBA's annual meeting, October 26-28, at Fontenelle Forest in Bellevue. Betty has lined up the Friday evening program, and field trips are being coordinated. There are some paper sessions lined up for Saturday afternoon, and Neal Ratzlaff will present Saturday evening.

Board members accepted all committee reports.

Old Business

- 1) Spring 2013 meeting – It was decided to meet at Covenant Cedars Bible Camp near Central City, May 17-19, 2013. The dates are open, but we will get those dates only if no other camp-related groups ask for those dates. The camp will let us know in November.

- 2) Kevin brought up the fact that Nebraska is lagging behind other Midwest states in the number of Christmas Counts performed. Board members agreed it was difficult to run a count, but perhaps the state Audubon office or the Master Naturalists could get more involved.

New Business

- 1) The fall 2013 gathering was set for Grand Island. Dave will work on getting an introduction to bird watching program for Friday night, with the hopes of getting more people from the general public to attend. Dan introduced the idea of having bird identification segments as regular features of meetings.
- 2) To transition to a new board, it was decided that Dan will take possession of the NOU's projection unit, and the NOU will keep its slide projector.
- 3) The Records Committee made the following recommendations for their committee: the reappointment of Joe Gubanyi, and appointments of Kent Skaggs and Tim Hajda. The board accepted the committee's recommendations.
- 4) To counter the NOU's falling membership, Dan suggested "NOU field trips" be organized around the state during the year. The trips could be advertised on NEBirds, local newspapers, NOU's web site, etc. Procedural items on how to conduct trips need to be written down and agreed to.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion accepted.

Respectively submitted,

Kevin Poague
Secretary

Nebraska Ornithologists' Union Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 19, 2012
Broken Bow

Urban Lehner call the meeting to order.

Urban introduced Neal Ratzlaff of the nominating committee who thanked Robin Harding and Kathy Delara for their help in acquiring the following slate of candidates for election to the NOU board: President, Dan Leger; Vice President, Dave Heidt; Treasurer, Betty Grenon; Secretary, Kevin Poague; Editor, Janis Paseka; Librarian, Anita Breckbill; Director, Don Paseka. A motion was made and seconded to accept the slate of candidates. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted,

Kevin Poague
Secretary