

GRAND VALLEY AUDUBON BOARD MEETING
Agenda Monday October 17th, 2022
3rd Monday of each Month, 4:30 – 6:15pm
Insectory, Palisade
Facilitator: Hunter

PRESENT: Cary, Hunter, Janet, Larry, Logan, Tina
REGRETS: Nic, Pam, Chuck

WELCOME & APPRECIATIONS

Many thanks to Tina, Larry and Hunter!

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Borrow Area Name:

Cary recommended and the board approved we name the Borrow Area, Wilson Wetland after Bob Wilson.

2. Parade of Lights "float"

Hunter recommended and the board approved that **Hunter and his family** design a float for the Parade of Lights to be held in Grand Jct on 12/3/22. He must register by 10/24.

Board approved funds of \$500 for the purchase of the banner as well as participating in the parade. **Logan** will make vinyl banner with our logo, website and facebook.

Larry volunteered to help decorate float and advised we have some banners. Consider what impression do we want to deliver for people who see our float. Put children on float for younger generation.

Board Ideas: It would raise visibility of our organization. Throw out bags of birds seed. Use Nic's ideas of owls. Put up trees with people and binoculars. Some people could walk alongside. Rent a bird costume. Make it educational. Use owl and blue bird boxes. Slogans: GJ is number 1 in screech owls. Birds connect our worlds. We bring birds and people together.

Supplies: artificial Christmas trees, banners, Cary has lights, Hunter has honda generator, truck, trailer, projector. **Cary** will call the local town Chambers for Christmas date parades in case we can participate in other town parades.

FINANCE

Larry

Larry sent the financial reports to the board. We spent \$15,000 to DU and \$3200 to have T4 Trees trim property trees. **Cary** will send a Thank-you letter to T4. Bird banding expenses will be about \$9000. Current available funds at \$35,000 due to a member giving us \$8000 in their will and another \$10,000 from an anonymous donor. Cary wrote a thank-you letter to the member (will). **Nic** will send out a thank-you to the anonymous donor. Tina suggested we give a memento when someone gives us such large contributions. Board suggestions: Bricks, Giving Tree. Wall of Names. **Board members** to give thought to this wall of fame.

Larry took pictures of signs at Lucy Lea area which all need to be redone. We need to revamp the wording on some of the signs. Handicapped signs as well as the kiosk need to be redone. We need to put together a **committee** to figure out what the signs should say. **Larry** is point person to get the committee and project completed. Larry reported that Robert Smith owns property close to ours and he told Larry we have a potential problem at our property. Someone has thrown concrete blocks over the cliff. The concrete blocks are sliding down the cliff pushing dirt out into the water and the water is cutting into the bank on Audubon property. The canal could be impacted and flood Audubon and Smiths property. Robert Smith has called many entities in the city to no avail. **Larry** will work with Smith to evaluate the situation once the water is out of the canal.

Logan gave Larry an estimate of his hours. **Larry** will email the board for a vote. **Tina** needs to (re)submit to Larry what the line item costs are for changes to the website so **Larry** can make a recommendation to the board for a vote.

SECRETARY

JAG

Minutes for September were approved. Future minute approvals will be done by email. Pam requested when replying to emails, use Reply All.

Hunter contacted the church about the cost of renting their hall. It's a year's contract but since we don't meet every month **Hunter** will request if we only pay the \$55 for the nights we use the church not for the full 12 months. Scouts have the church in December and May on the 3rd Monday.

CBC program: Historically the group leaders would meet at the Village Inn after the count. We usually have 40 people including leaders and participants. **Larry** is the point person on arranging the food for the CBC program. **Hunter** will check the dates (12/20, 12/21) the church would be available and if alcohol is allowed.

WEBMASTER/MARKETING

Tina/Pam

Fall newsletter went out 10/15/22. We send out 665 email contacts on Mail Chimp for our email distribution of events. 46% of the 665 emails opened the newsletter.

Tina will do a test run of the *Neon survey* to only the board to test out the functionality. Tina and Pam feel we need to focus on getting people to renew membership. There are letters to be automated that we could use when Tina learns Neon functionality. Rivers Edge West (Cara K) knows NEON well and is very helpful. **Tina** will contact Cara. **Cary** will make the introductions.

Post Card Mailing

Tina provided costs which include most costs of creation and mailing. **Logan** will set up a Post Card to celebrate our organization and make a year end appeal. The **Board** will

send Logan items to celebrate focusing on the numbers: number of owls we counted, bird banding, etc

The board approved that we send an end of year appeal for 750 cards, 5x7, in color for \$500 celebrating our accomplishments over the past year. **Cary and Tina** will craft a few sentences for the post card "by the numbers".

MEMBERSHIP:

Tina/Pam

SOCIAL MEDIA

Logan

Digital calendar is not a priority. **Tina** will look into functionality of a calendar on the website.

Logan would like to paint the trees against beavers before the end of the year. **Cary** has 2 folks that would help Logan paint the trees/Kevin. Logan will set a date and do it. Early November. He will contact Cary's friends.

Cages on the trees need to be raised to 5ft because the deer are eating the bark during the rut. We would need a crew of people. **Logan** is point person on the cages and paint trees in early November.

CONSERVATION

Nic

Hunter could not sit in on the zoom meeting for conservation in place of Nic.

WETLANDS RESTORATION

Cary

We have the memo of understanding. Meredith is the main contact. Open ditch we are just waiting on a response from them.

CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Cary

T4 Trees and AJ&G are placing for ree big chunks of dead wood along the road to prevent people from parking. Signs will wait until the spring 2023.

BIRD BANDING

We had excellent numbers with over 100 white crowned sparrow. Cary is still waiting for the data from the bander. **Cary** will send data to everyone and have it posted on FB and the website.

PRESERVE/PROPERTY

Chuck

Larry asked the **Board** to look at the sliding hill.

Board member will ask Steve Williams and Mike X to walk the property as both men want to work but not be on the board.

Cary will call Mike Berry at Remote Weeds to find out what weeds he sprayed for at the property.

BIRD WALKS

Pam

Logan and Whit will do a bird walk on 11/26/22 at West Lake Pond in Clifton. **Logan** will send information to Tina to post.

PROGRAMS:

Pam

October program: Insectory event drew 25 people.

November 14th both board meeting and program.

Hunter reached out to the Highline park manager for our November program and he would be willing to talk about the new property that was purchased. **Hunter** will confirm the 11/14 date is acceptable. CONFIRMED.

December Social: CBC reports. Hunter to confirm church availability. Larry point person on food.

FUND RAISING:

OPEN (Chair is needed)

Colorado Gives Day must register by August. Need a point person for 2023.

Giving Tuesday need a point person for 2023.

Need names of some people who have already done this.

Maybe Audubon Rockies grant writers might be able to help with this. **Cary** will email Dolly Evans to help us with CoGives and Giving Tuesday.

Hot Tomato: Shannon and her band would like to play at Hot Tomato event. Plan event during the fat tire festival.

Ramblevine is on hold.

Trail Life is another option.

Bike night is downtown GJ on Fridays at 7pm.

BOARD RECRUITMENT

ALL

Ken Pill is not available. **Board** asked if **Nic** knows of someone who is familiar with these potential board members and if they/he would invite them to a board meeting.

Cary will speak to Karen Manuel to see if she has more potential names.

Cary cannot be the point person for board recruitment.

Next Meeting Facilitator: Hunter

^{2rd} Monday NOVEMBER 14th 4:30 - 6:30 pm Presbyterian Church. Program follows.