

Rockingham Bird Club Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: 10/13/2022

- Vice President of Programs Kathy Byers: Call to Order: The in person October meeting of RBC will please come to order. (time: 7:00pm at the Park View Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall.

-First of all, Kathy asked for the attendees to take a minute to get to know the people around them. A few minutes were taken where everyone could introduce themselves to the people around them in their seats.

- **Old Business**

-Kathy mentioned that the September meeting minutes were now available. The Executive Committee already had approved them and Kathy called for dispensing the reader of the last meeting minutes. Everyone agreed to this motion.

-Kathy asked about visitors for that evening's meeting. Tom Knapp (speaker) introduced himself in addition to Ann from Canada and Gary.

- **Recent Bird Sightings**

Bill Benish-Common Nighthawk during the day; flagged as rare bird on Ebird for area.

Randy Cline-Red-Necked Phalarope by Broadway Sewage Treatment Plant

Stephani Moore-American Kestrel-spotted flying on road in Keezletown near Every Soul Acres

Kathy Byers: Ruby Throated Hummingbird in yard

Tom Knapp: Eastern Screech Owl at home in Harrisonburg.

- **Reports from Executive Committee**

-Audrey Sherk, RBC Treasurer, asked that club dues be in before next month or you will be taken off the email list. These dues are good for September 2022-June 2023. You can pay online, in person, or through the mail.

-Bill Benish talked about the Christmas Bird Count, in which the count period would be from December 14th 2022-January 5th, 2023. The Rockingham County count would take place on Saturday December 17th, which would be the 123rd count for the region. There's only one potential leader right now, so contact him if interested in helping out with it.

-Art Fovargue, RBC Club Historian, reported nothing new besides gathering all of the past meeting minutes and newsletters. He requested if anyone had newsletters before 1978 and December 1974 to contact him.

-Kathy also thanked Denise Hoodock for doing the newsletter in addition to Kathy Fovargue, member at large. She also mentioned Herb Myers, another member at large, not present at the present due to being out of town

-Dave Wendelken discussed the progress on the new edition of Birds of Rockingham County book, On the back table, you could see a sample cover and pages from the new book. A sign-up sheet for more information when the book is coming out was also at the back table. Dave talked about how the idea to compile a second edition of the book started four to four and a half years ago. The first edition of the book was published in February 1999, with an annotated list of all species that have been seen in Rockingham County. The book also contained some history of the RBC members. The new edition will contain fifty to sixty photos of iconic birds as well as some of the more unusual species like flamingos! Also, it will have a list of 20 hotspots in the county, with directions on how to get to each one. They plan on finishing it up this

year and off to the printer, hopefully by Christmas. Dave thanked the many people helping out with the 2nd edition of the book including Robyn Puffenbarger & Bill Benish, Greg Moyers, who went through all of the Goldfinch Gazettes as well as his proofreader Mike. Dave also mentioned individuals who contributed photos including William Leigh, Diane Lepkowski, Tom Mizell, and Greg Moyers among others.

- **New Business**

-Kathy passed along information from Diane Lepkowski, the Vice President of Field Trips, who was not present at the meeting. Diane said that they could always use more people to lead field trips as well as spots to go for them. One possible trip could be for beginner birders. In addition, next Thursday October 20, 2022 would be the monthly field trip to Hillandale Park lead by Tom Mizell. It would start at 8:30am and people would meet at the main shelter right before the cul de sac at the end of the park road.

-Next, Kathy discussed the upcoming Bird Seed Sale. The orders are due next Tuesday October 18th and they are received either through mailing the money to Kathy or ordering online on the RBC website. If you cannot pick up your seed on the pickup date, you can possibly pick it up at Kathy's place. Kathy also mentioned that not only do the sales support the club, but also, contribute to ten different local and international conservation organizations. She emphasized that the seed is high quality and that Audrey had order forms at the back table that evening. You could pay either cash or check in person and credit card if ordering online. The official pick up date is Saturday November 12, 2022 from 9am-1pm at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds. It will be by the Poultry Exhibit, with signs up that day to direct you to the right place. Also, Audrey had a sign-up sheet at the back table for anyone interested in helping out that day.

-Kathy also presented a door prize: a fillable bird feeder with a solar panel. The winner would be the person whose birthday was the closest to the meeting date (October 13th). Tom Lord's birthday was only a few days from it so he won the bird feeder.

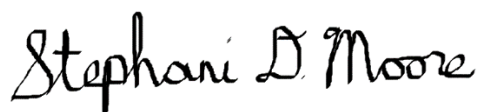
-Also, another RBC member thanked Kathy for her service to the club to group applause.

- **Announcements?**

- Our next in person meeting is Thursday November 10, 2022
- Anything else to come before the meeting? No
- Adjourn (If there is no objection and no further business to come before the meeting tonight, the meeting will be adjourned.)
- Meeting Adjourned @ 7:22pm .

Kathy introduced our Speaker for this meeting: Tom Knapp with Knapp's Bees, LLC presenting "Hoots and Hives."

Total Participants: 46



Stephani D. Moore
October 16, 2022