

Rockingham Bird Club Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: 10/12/2023

- RBC President Mike Donaldson: Call to Order: The in person October meeting of RBC will please come to order, using a gavel. (Time: 7:04 pm) at the Park View Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall.

Thanks to Joy and Wayne Beaman for handling the name tags.

There being no objections, they dispensed with the reading of the minutes. A copy is available on our website.

Any new members/visitors?

- Katherine Cottman moved here from Wyoming about 4 years ago.

- **Old Business:**

- None

- **Recent Bird Sightings**

- Bill Benish: Great Crested Flycatcher, Worm-eating Warbler; Nashville Warbler gleaning insects on their tomatoes.
- Kathy Byers saw a Nashville Warbler and a possible Prairie Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet at her water feature
- Diane Lepkowski and Dave Wendelken were at Lake Shenandoah and they saw a Marsh Wren.
- Mike Donaldson mentioned an immature White-crowned Sparrow on the Hillandale field trip along the trail by the elementary school.

- **Reports from Executive Committee**

Mike Donaldson (President):

- Celebrate that we could print 150 copies of *Birds of Rockingham County* book.
- The book is on sale at the OASIS shop in downtown Harrisonburg.
- We will continue to offer books for sale and you can order from the website.

Kathy Byers (Vice President of Programs):

- Seed sale: Numbers for the seed sale are looking good.
- Pick-up day is Saturday, Nov 11 at the Fairgrounds in the poultry building from 9 to 1.
- Call or e-mail Kathy if you can't pick it up, and Kathy will bring it home and arrange a pickup time.
- Please sign up to help using the yellow pad sign up in the back of the room.
- In November, Scott Karr will give a talk on feeding birds.

Diane Lepkowski (Vice President of Field Trips):

- We can use leaders and ideas to organize a field trip.
- We had a Hillandale walk for the month.
- They will look into Saw-whet Owl banding trip.

- At the Rockfish Gap Hawk Watch, the push of broad wings is over. They are now getting Merlins, Peregrine Falcons, and Golden Eagles may start showing up.
- Hillandale walk on November 14 at the main shelter.

Audrey Shenk (Treasurer):

- She needs dues by the next meeting, and she is looking for someone to audit last year's treasurer records.

Art Fovargue (Club Historian):

- No report tonight.

Bill Benish (Christmas Bird Count Coordinator):

- We have Christmas count slated for Saturday, December 16th.
- Please sign up if you are thinking you might be able to participate.

Denise Hoodock (Newsletter Editor)

- No report. Mike: The newsletter speaks for itself (people applauded Mike's quip.)

Members at Large

- Herb Meyers and Andrew Troyer
- Please contact them or any member of the Executive Committee if you need any information.
- **New Business:** No new business
- **Announcements**
 - Tim Hulings: the Bridgewater Retirement Community is instituting a new bluebird trail on the meadow of the new walking trail that has recently been dedicated. They hope it will be set to go in February. There are woodworkers there who are interested in building bluebird houses, and they might be able to make some for the fairgrounds as well. Joy Beaman reported that two of the bluebird houses at the fairgrounds were replaced in the middle of the summer.
 - Accessible parking is available in the front of the building
- Meeting Adjourned @ 7:24 pm

Kathy Byers introduced our speaker for this meeting: Sergio Harding, DWR "The Second Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas: A Bird Conservation Tool for the 21st Century."

Total Participants: 45

Minutes recorder: Linda Plitt Donaldson

October 12, 2023