

Rockingham Bird Club Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: 11/09/2023

- RBC President Mike Donaldson: Call to Order: The in-person November meeting of RBC will please come to order. (Time: 7:00 pm) at the Park View Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall.

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

- **Old Business:**
 - None
- **Any new members/visitors?**
 - John and Melissa Wenger, visiting Doug Ruby
- **Recent Bird Sightings**
 - Herb Myers: Duck Run Natural Cemetery—male Northern Harrier and flock of Horned Larks
 - Linda Miller: Dark-eyed Juncos have arrived (Mike D. concurs)
 - Anne Nielsen: Enjoyed Road Scholar trip to Wallops Island, Virginia. The group saw over 100 species.
 - Don Perkuchin: Buffleheads at Silver Lake this week

- **Reports from Executive Committee**

Mike Donaldson (President):

- Nothing to report.

Kathy Byers (Vice President of Programs):

- Bird seed sale – pleased with participation. Seed pickup is this Saturday at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds from 9 to 1. Thanked everyone for the support.

Diane Lepkowski (Vice President of Field Trips):

- Tomorrow night, owl viewing at the banding station. Talk to Debbie, if you have questions. You can no longer handle the birds as much as in the past. Owl numbers have been low thus far.
- Tuesday 11/14 Kathy and Tom lead the Hillandale Park walk at 8:30 am.
- Rockfish Gap Hawk Watch continues through 11/30. Email Diane if interested.
- Bird common names are being renamed by the (AOS) American Ornithological Society. Birds named after people have caused issues because some of the people have problematic legacies. 70-80 species will be renamed. Hopes that we accept this with positivity and wanted to bring this to light.
- Diane thanked Henry Hawkins for buying the most books after he questioned what will happen with the new names in the bird book.

Audrey Shenk (Treasurer):

- Reminder to have membership dues are due this evening
- Book copies are for sale.

- Kathy B. – round of applause for Audrey for helping with the numbers for the bird seed sale

Art Fovargue (Club Historian):

- No report

Bill Benish (Christmas Bird Count Coordinator):

- Not present. Mike circulated Christmas bird count sign up. Room may be limited, but people may also sign up as a feeder watcher if they happen to live in the correct area.

Denise Hoodock (Newsletter Editor)

- No report

Members at Large

- Herb Myers and Andrew Troyer
- Good people to talk to if you have questions or concerns
- **New Business:**
 - None
- **Announcements**
 - Again, requested someone to step up as secretary and listed responsibilities
 - Next meeting is Thursday, 12/14 at 7:00 pm and is in the Sanctuary. John Spahr will present on feathers.
- Meeting Adjourned @ 7:20 pm

Kathy Byers introduced our speaker for this meeting: Scott Karr, presenting “Creating a Bird Friendly Environment at Home.”

Total Participants: 56

Minutes recorder: Andrew Troyer

November 9, 2023