

Rockingham Bird Club Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: 6/13/2024

RBC President Mike Donaldson: Call to Order: The in-person June meeting of RBC will please come to order. (Time: 7:01 pm) at the Park View Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall. He began with a huge thank you to everyone for bringing delicious food for the potluck.

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

Old Business:

- None

New members/visitors:

- Allen and Cindy Weekly were visiting from Mt. Sidney. They farm beef and raise monarchs so were interested when they found out about the day's presentation. Allen also does historical/reclamation masonry.
- Mary Beth Keeler enjoys butterflies so was also brought to the club due to the presentation topic.

Recent Bird Sightings:

- Tim Hulings saw a pair of Black-crowned Night Herons by the poultry plant in Dayton.
- Robyn Puffenbarger reported that others had seen an American Avocet at Oakwood Drive Pond near Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative.
- Tom Mizell saw a Bald Eagle nest upstream from the Bridgewater Airport and Mt. Crawford Creamery. He's seen 1 young eagle the past month and a half and 3 fledglings.
- Miranda Lyle saw a Willow Flycatcher. It was the first of that kind she's been able to identify!

Reports from Executive Committee:

Mike Donaldson (President):

- Mike gave a huge thank you for the club year. There were lots of fun field trips and consistently high meeting turnouts.

Kathy Byers (Vice President of Programs):

- Kathy thanked everyone for the fabulous food.
- She made a note that the club is always looking for more presenters, specifically noting that club members are more than welcome to present. Reach out to Kathy with any presenter ideas or if wanting to present.
- Our next meeting will not be until September.

- We are still looking for a new Bird Seed Sale Coordinator who can shadow Kathy in her final year as lead. She is more than happy to train whoever it is. Please reach out if interested.
- The Club's 50th anniversary is coming up. We have a small committee starting to help coordinate extra special field trips, speakers, and merch. Sign up via the signup sheet or reach out to Kathy.

Diane Lepkowski (Vice President of Field Trips):

- Diane was unable to attend
- Tom Mizell made an announcement about the bonus Hillandale trip on June 20 at 4pm for the solstice. The next summer one that will occur at a reasonable viewing hour is not until 2027 so he would love to see as many people there as possible. Meet at Shelter #12 or the nearby parking area.

Allie Sawyer (Secretary):

- Mike recognized Allie

Audrey Shenk (Treasurer):

- Nothing to report

Art Fovargue (Club Historian):

- At the end of the club year, he will be taking the thumb drive to JMU with the year's archives.

Bill Benish (Christmas Bird Count Coordinator):

- Put in a plug for merch

Denise Hoodock (Newsletter Editor):

- Nothing to report
- Mike recognized her great work on the newsletter.

Members at Large:

- Recognized Herb Myers and Andrew Troyer
- Good people to talk to if you have questions or concerns

New Business/Announcements:

- There are bird feeders for free in the back for anyone who'd like to take one.

- Dave Wendelken has a free Wood Duck box that could be repurposed for Screech Owls. It's 37 lbs of solid oak, 14"x14" and 30" deep.
- Friday, June 28th Robyn Puffenbarger will be representing the club at OASIS to promote sales of the second edition of "Birds of Rockingham County Virginia" from 5:00-7:00pm.
- Mike gave a reminder that the next club meeting is September 12 at 7pm.

Meeting Adjourned @ 7:20 pm

Kathy Byers introduced the rescheduled presentation on Butterflies by Mark Adams. He's visiting from White Hall, Va.

Total Participants: 44

Minutes recorder: Allie Sawyer

June 13, 2024