

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY  
Gateway Conference Room  
December 4, 2017

Present: Bob Lee, Jan Metzmaker, Barb Summer, Rod Walette, Lois Drobish, Cory Davis, Marylane Pannell, Kathy Ross, Denny Olson, Jake Bramante, Jill and Mike Fanning.

Bob Lee called the meeting to order at 6:00.

**Minutes** of the November 6, 2017 were approved (Jan/Jill) with one correction; change Laura Katzmilller to Laura Katzman. PASSED.

**Treasurer's Report** It was moved and seconded (Jan/Kathy) to receive and file the treasurer's report. PASSED.

**Dues and membership** - Joe reported to date we have 137 paid memberships but membership monies trickle in throughout the year usually ending in approximately 170 members. We have 209 national members.

**Education** - Denny reported the group is cutting down the European highbush cranberry, an invasive species, in OSNA. A trail is planned to connect the Montessori School to OSNA and as a trade off this will allow parking in their parking lot for future field trips. The education committee will meet on March 5 to review the work completed this year and in April will begin work on plans for next year. Kathy encouraged members to adopt a school to work with teachers to participate in the Backyard Bird Count, go birding and use the bird trunks that are available through FAS.

**Calendars** - Jake stated that MAS is selling our FAS calendars. Cathy suggested the calendar committee move the title of the calendar to the top of the front because when on display the name does not show.

The board discussed the cash box, participating members and programming for FAS at the Sportsmen's on Saturday, December 9.

**Newsletter** - Linda Winnie emailed a list of articles for the January 2018 Pileated Post. Jill detailed the Flathead Valley Winter Solstice Gathering article in the December newsletter and it was decided that FAS would be one of the sponsors.

**Conservation** - Jan informed FAS that the state would no longer finance the Flathead Basin Commission. The Sage Grouse Habitat on BLM land comment letter has been sent. Lewis is writing a grant to request the purchase of an iPod to use at the Hawk Watch. Barb will send the details for purchase to Lewis. Joe will call BJ regarding the iPod he purchased last year for the Watch.

**Bird Festival** - Cory continues to work on field trips and the descriptions for the MT Audubon Bird Festival. A fundraiser at the Festival for FAS was discussed. Denny and Cory may work together on one around Hot Springs.

**Program** - Pete Fisher and Craig Hohenberger will present the December program in preparation for the December Bird Counts.

**Other Business**

\*Glacier Bank will donate \$1250 to help pay for the Bird Festival.

\*Larry Berrin will give the program at our annual meeting in May.

\*MA will meet on March 24 that is the usual weekend for the Choteau trip. The trip will be moved to the following weekend.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marylane Pannell, Secretary