

**Agenda and Minutes for the Mesilla Valley Audubon Society board meeting
Thursday, January 9, 5:30 p.m. at Good Sam**

Acting president @ board meeting by more or less general agreement – Elaine Stachera Simon
Acting president @ January general meeting – TBD

1. Approval of December board minutes
2. Approval of Treasurer's end-of-December balance report
3. CBC count – any discussion?
4. Confirmation of final slate of candidates for January election: President, Elaine Stachera Simon; Vice president, Mark Pendleton; Secretary, Sid Webb; Treasurer, Diane Moore; Board positions, Beth Bardwell and Annie Mitchell. Election process at meeting?
5. Adopt a Spot follow up
6. Earth Day 50th anniversary & Bird Survey update (Sid)
7. Programs: Trish confirmed for February, slight change to focus. No word on March/Wyatt.
8. Committee reports:
 - a. Education (C.J. on school field trip, Elaine on scholarship committee)
 - b. Publications
 - c. Programs – February, March, and April program and field trips for newsletter and webpage and Facebook and e-distribution?
9. Other business

Minutes for MVAS January 2020 Board Meeting of Mesilla Valley Audubon Society

THIS WAS AN UNOFFICIAL MEETING. It began at 5:30PM in the Kiva Room at Good Samaritan Village with 3 members present, not enough for a quorum. The 4th member joined later. These minutes are “unofficial”, with no votes being taken, and they need not be approved by the board next month.

Members present: Elaine Stachera, CJ Goin, Sid Webb, and Gill Sorg.

1. No approval of the December Minutes due to lack of quorum
2. No approval of the December treasurer's report due to lack of quorum.
3. Wayne Treer's report of the December 2019 Christmas Bird Count was noted and appreciated. He will elaborate on findings at the membership meeting next week.
4. Candidates for 2020 MVAS elections: Changes to the slate of candidates listed above include the dropping out by Beth Bardwell for Board Member and the dropping of Sid Webb for Secretary. He will remain as a Board Member and continue as acting secretary if no one else fills the position.
5. Adopt a Spot: Communication between the City of Las Cruces and Audubon Society led to misunderstanding about what was available as a location where MVAS could “Adopt a Spot”. It is unclear if there is any space at La Llorona Park still available. Efforts will continue.
6. A: Earth Day: Sid Webb, in communication with personnel at Las Cruces Museum of Natural History learned that April 22, 2020 is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day and that Las Cruces is planning for

activities the whole month of April. He offered MVAS participation. Details will follow their organizational meetings.

B: Bird Survey Update: Sid Webb reported that the Grant to Audubon Society was posted in early December and results should be available this week or next. A proposed meeting for January 17 is in limbo due to uncertainty about where it will be held, with various meeting halls or homes under consideration. It may have to be delayed, but hopefully not. Interest in the project has come from the Asombro Institute, the Las Cruces Natural History Museum, scouting groups, and possibly Gabriel Velazquez of the Las Cruces City Council.

7. MVAS Programs: The January program will include the the annual election and Wayne Treers and CJ Goin presenting Sparrow Identification for Mesilla Valley birders. February features Trish Cutler whose lecture content is not yet communicated to MVAS. March program will either be Wyatt Egeloff talking about his trip to Russia and all the birds he saw, or a Warbler identification class. The April meeting will be devoted to education. The possibility of having a program devoted to Audubon's "Survival by Degrees was offered as an idea for the May meeting.
8. Committee Reports:
 - a. Education: CJ had a very successful classroom experience using Audubon pellets with the students. He has begun arranging for an outing at Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park where students from several classrooms would come to learn about birding. Elaine and the Education Committee revised the Bischoff Award document and had it posted to the MVAS website. More effort to work with professors at NMSU with graduate students eligible for the award is a work in progress.
 - b. Publications: The website has been abreast of activity within MVAS. In February our invoice will be increased from last year to \$228.85, an increase of \$50.95. Roadrunner Rambler is due to be published on February 1. It currently needs a lot of work. Needed are some photos, definite plans for our field trips and our monthly programs, and possibly a President's Column after next week's elections. No comments on Facebook and no comments on distribution of the newsletter to non MVAS members to increase awareness in the community of our presence.
9. Other business: A caller using our webpage contact form asked about activities here during the fall migration. She runs a travel agency in Tucson and may have a client who is a nature journalist interested in learning about MVAS and what we do. Members present were enthusiastic about inviting them to join us next August-Sept-October. Peggy R. Bendel, President, Bendel Communications International, www.BendelCommunications.com.

There was no other business and this unofficial meeting was closed at 6:45 PM. Next meeting is scheduled for 5:30 PM, February 12 at the KIVA room at Good Samaritan Village.

Sid Webb
Acting Secretary, MVAS
1/9/2019