

Hampton Roads Bird Club
General Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, September 10, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. ID Challenge: Buff-breasted Sandpiper; Broadwinged Hawk.
3. EXCOM Member Reports:
 - a. President:
 - i. Dave provided an overview the Club's financial status and the proposed 2015-16 budget:
 1. Balance: \$7090.47
 2. Estimated 2015-16 income: \$1860.00
 3. Budgeted 2015-16 expenditures: \$1800
 - The 2015-16 budget was approved as proposed.
 - ii. Dave announced several upcoming area events:
 1. Kiptopeke Challenge, September 19
 2. Eastern Shore Birding Festival October 9-11
 - iii. Dave also advocated that the HRBC's focus for 2015-16 should be on conservation efforts. As part of that effort, the Club will conduct bird counts in conjunction with our Sunday walks and Field Trips. Additionally, an effort to rejuvenate the Club's commitment to support the Western Marshes Important Bird Area will be undertaken. See the "President's Perch" section of the Sep-Oct Newsletter for additional information.
 - b. Field Trip Coordinator: Stuart described the upcoming trips, including Hog Island (September 19—admission seems to be free this year!) and the Eastern Shore (October 17). See the Newsletter for details.
 - c. Hospitality: Katrina thanked everyone who provided snacks for the meeting, and requested that members sign up to provide snacks at future meetings.
 - d. Newsletter Editor: Tom reminded all that you can reduce club expenditures on postage by getting the e-copy of the Newsletter (and save some trees as well). Tom is, as always, looking for book reviews or general articles for the newsletter.
 - e. Treasurer: Nothing reported aside from the 2015-16 budget.
 - f. Publicity: Jessica advised that the HRBC members' survey results were being compiled, and the results would be provided soon.
 - g. Open discussion:
 - i. Bill Boeh advised the club that he would be posting bird counts to the HRBC eBird account. Let Bill know if you would like a particular count "shared" with you for inclusion in your personal eBird account.

- a. Guest Speaker: Pete Peterman gave a presentation on "Birds of the Hawaiian Islands—A tale of Introduced Species and Extinction", using a slideshow of birds he photographed this past April on the islands of Oahu, Kauai, and Hawaii. The endemic birds are heavily impacted by human intervention and loss of habitat. Every one of Hawaii's remaining native forest birds is included in the most recent State of the Birds "Watch List." Seven bird species have, in all likelihood, vanished since 1980. Pete covered the current situation and efforts to save the remaining species.
 - 4. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
 - 5. Next meeting will be held Thursday, October 8, at the usual time and place--6:30 PM, Sandy Bottom Park.
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Hampton Roads Bird Club
General Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, October 8, 2015

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.
- 2. ID Challenge: Clay-colored Sparrow; female Blue-winged Teal; Black-throated Green Warbler (female/juvenile).
- 3. EXCOM Member Reports:
 - a. President:
 - i. Dave reviewed the results of the recent survey of HRBC members regarding club activities:
 - 1. Survey question: Which programs/speaker topics would you like to see at HRBC meetings (informational, research, and excursion reports)?
 - a. Responses (in descending order of number of votes):
 - i. Informational received 51%
 - ii. Research received 37%
 - iii. Excursion reports received 12%
 - 2. Survey question: Time frame for meetings is?
 - a. Response: Virtually unanimous that timing is right
 - 3. Survey question: How important the following events are to you: Meetings, Field Trips, Sunday Walks, Party & Picnic (tie), and Overnight trips.
 - a. Responses (weighted priority order) [ranking by 1st place votes]:
 - i. Meetings – [1] very important
 - ii. Field Trips – [2]
 - iii. Summer Picnic – [4] tie

- iv. Christmas Party – [4] tie
 - v. Sunday Walks – [3]
 - vi. Overnight Trips – [6] not important
- 4. Survey question: To what locations would you like HRBC to lead field trips?
 - a. Responses (in descending order of number of votes):
 - i. Continue tidal areas
(Eastern Shore, Back Bay, Craney, Pleasure House Pt)
 - ii. Inland areas
(Dismal Swamp, Dutch Gap, Beaverdam)
 - iii. Further locations: Warbler Road, Tucson, Brownsville
 - ii. Survey question: What do you suggest as means for community/conservation outreach by the HRBC?
 - a. Responses (in descending order of number of votes):
 - i. Partner with other organizations (e.g., Master Naturalists, Nature Conservancy, VSO, other bird clubs)
 - ii. Western Shore Marshes IBA
 - iii. Trail maintenance (Matteson Trail)
 - iii. Dave announced several upcoming area events:
 - 1. Eastern Shore Birding Festival, October 9-11
 - 2. VSO Virginia Beach field trip, 4-6 December
 - 3. HRBC Christmas Party, 10 December
 - 4. Christmas Bird Count, 19 December
 - iv. Dave introduced Jeremy Nelson, whom he will be mentoring this year on a project involving our Western Shore Marshes IBA.
 - b. Field Trip Coordinator: Stuart described the upcoming trips, including the Kiptopeke/Eastern Shore (October 17), and New Kent area in November. See the Newsletter for details.
 - c. Hospitality: Sean, on behalf of Katrina, thanked everyone who provided snacks for the meeting, and requested that members volunteer to provide snacks for the November meeting.
 - d. Newsletter Editor: Nothing of significance to report.
 - e. Treasurer: Nothing of significance to report.
 - f. Publicity: Not present.
 - g. Open discussion:
 - i. Bill Boeh and Tom Charlock have generated a petition to the City of Newport News to retain public ownership of the City Farm as an augmentation to Riverview Farm Park. A paper copy of the petition was offered for members to sign as desired. An online petition is posted for electronic signature at :

<http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/dont-let-the-city-farm-fall-into-the-hands-of-developers.html>.

- b. Guest Speakers: Karen Roberts, of the Virginia Beach SPCA Wildlife Rehabilitation Program, and Dana Lusher, manager of Nature's Nanny Wildlife Rehabilitation, provided a presentation on their experiences rehabilitating wild birds and animals and advice on how you can assist an injured bird, animal, or abandoned nestling. Finally, Dana provided everyone with an extra special treat by presenting Shadow, a non-releasable Great Horned Owl, now used as an "education bird".
 4. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.
 5. Next meeting will be held Thursday, November 12, at the usual time and place--6:30 PM, Sandy Bottom Park.
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Hampton Roads Bird Club
General Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, November 12, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. ID Challenge: House Finch (male & female); Purple Finch (male & female); Orange-crowned warbler. Dave highlighted differences between the finch species to facilitate accurate identification.
3. EXCOM Member Reports:
 - a. President:
 - i. Dave presented the list of past HRBC presidents since the club's inception in 1951. This list was presented to illustrate that a virtually complete record of Club minutes and newsletters had been compiled. These records can be made available for club members to review via their current caretakers (club Secretary and Newsletter Chairperson).
 - ii. Dave reviewed several upcoming area events:
 1. VSO Virginia Beach field trip, 4-6 December
 2. HRBC Christmas Party, 10 December
 3. HRBC Christmas Bird Count, 19 December
 4. Williamsburg Bird Club Christmas Bird Count, 20 December (HRBC members are welcome to participate in Williamsburg's CBC).
 - iii. Dave introduced Jeremy Nelson, whom he will be mentoring this year on a project involving our Western Shore Marshes IBA.
 - b. Field Trip Coordinator: Stuart described the upcoming trip to New Kent and Gloucester (14 November). See the Newsletter for details.

- c. Hospitality: Katrina provided a sign-up sheet for the club Christmas Party. She requested that anyone planning to attend advise her no later than December 1.
 - d. Membership: Gwen requested comments or recommendations regarding the club's membership packet, which is provided to all new members.
 - e. Newsletter Editor: Nothing of significance to report.
 - f. Treasurer: Nothing of significance to report.
 - g. Publicity: Nothing of significance to report.
 - h. Open discussion:
 - i. Bill Boeh and Tom Charlock reiterated that they had initiated a petition to the City of Newport News to retain public ownership of the City Farm as an augmentation to Riverview Farm Park. A paper copy of the petition was offered for members to sign. An online petition is posted for electronic signature at : <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/dont-let-the-city-farm-fall-into-the-hands-of-developers.html>.
 - ii. Tom advised that the Newport News Planning Commission would discuss disposition of the property at their meeting on November 18 and that he would attend that meeting.
4. Guest Speaker: Our very own Jessica Ausura (aka the Bird Nerd) gave a presentation on providing a welcoming environment for birds in your backyard, as well as her experience writing her column for the Daily Press. Jessica shared some of her (and Ernie's) great backyard bird pictures. More of Jessica's photos can be viewed at the Daily Press website (<http://www.dailypress.com/features/family/home-garden/dpfea-bird-nerd-photo-gallery-photogallery.html>).
 5. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.
 6. Next meeting will be the HRBC Christmas Party, Thursday, December 10, at the usual time and place--6:30 PM, Sandy Bottom Park.
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Hampton Roads Bird Club
General Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. ID Challenge: Dave highlighted distinguishing differences between American Woodcock and Wilson's Snipe as well as Marsh and Sedge Wrens.
3. EXCOM Member Reports:
 - a. President:
 - i. Dave reviewed several upcoming events:
 1. VSO Outer Banks field trip, 5-7 February

2. Great Backyard Bird Count, 12-15 February (counts are not restricted to backyards—sightings anywhere may be reported).
 - ii. Nominating Committee: Dave advised that three volunteers are needed to serve on the committee—contact him if interested. Dave also dispelled the rumor that members on the committee are exempt from serving as club officers.
 - b. Field Trip Coordinator: Stuart advised that he was unable to schedule a tram for the Back Bay field trip scheduled for January 16; he will try to reschedule for March. The Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel & Cape Charles trip is scheduled for February 13. Currently all 15 slots are taken, but Stuart will try to obtain permission for more visitors if there is interest. Call or email Stuart if you would like to go on this trip. See the Newsletter for details.
 - c. Hospitality: Katrina needs three volunteers to provide snacks for the March meeting. Please let her know ASAP if you'd like to volunteer.
 - d. Membership: Nothing of significance to report.
 - e. Newsletter Editor: Tom thanked Stuart for his detailed field trip report.
 - f. Treasurer: Nothing of significance to report.
 - g. Publicity: Not present.
 - h. Open discussion:
 - i. Tom Charlock reminded the members that he and Bill Boeh that they had initiated a petition to the City of Newport News to retain public ownership of the City Farm as an augmentation to Riverview Farm Park. A paper copy of the petition was offered for members to sign. The online petition is posted for electronic signature at : <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/dont-let-the-city-farm-fall-into-the-hands-of-developers.html>.
4. Guest Speaker: Our very own Ned Rose gave a presentation on birds, reptiles, fish (and a couple of select mammals) of the U.S. Virgin Islands.
 5. The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.
 6. Next meeting will be Thursday, February 11, at the usual time and place--6:30 PM, Sandy Bottom Park.

Hampton Roads Bird Club
General Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. ID Challenge: Dave highlighted distinguishing differences between Black-headed and Bonaparte's Gulls as well as the Common and Barrow's Goldeneyes.
3. EXCOM Member Reports:

- a. President:
 - i. Nominating Committee: Dave advised that three volunteers are still needed to serve on the committee. Nominees must be identified by the May meeting at which the 2016-2017 Board Members will be elected. Contact Dave if interested in serving on the committee and/or as a Board Member.
 - ii. Dave reviewed several upcoming events:
 - 1. VSO annual meeting will be Apr 29 – May 1 in Roanoke.
 - 2. The Club's Spring Bird Count will be held on May 7.
 - iii. Dave advised the membership regarding the letter sent by the Board to Delegate Helsel and Governor McAuliffe regarding the Black Vulture legislation now before the Virginia General Assembly. A brief discussion ensued regarding the legislation and the potential for setting a bad precedent by its passage.
 - iv. Dave gave a quick overview of the Western Marshes Important Bird Area (IBA), and asked club members to volunteer to conduct periodic bird counts at IBA sites (ideally at least quarterly). Dave will provide training and orientation as needed.
- b. Field Trip Coordinator:
 - i. Stuart advised that the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel & Cape Charles trip is scheduled for February 27. Currently 15 slots are taken, but Stuart will ask for a second 15-member group if enough members sign up. The cost will be approximately \$10 per person. Call or email Stuart if you would like to go on this trip. See the Newsletter for details.
 - ii. The False Cape/Back Bay field trip originally scheduled for January will take place on March 12.
- c. Hospitality: Katrina needs three volunteers to provide snacks for the March meeting. Note—Katrina will be starting a night class on Thursdays so she will not be attending meetings. Shawn will serve as her POC. Please let her know ASAP if you'd like to volunteer.
- d. Membership: Several new members attended the meeting.
- e. Newsletter Editor: Tom needs inputs for his next newsletter!
- f. Treasurer: Nothing of significance to report.
- g. Publicity: Jessica asked for members to post more pictures on the Facebook page and encouraged all to like or share the page to expand its audience. Also, see the HRBC Facebook page for a photo of new members John and Kim Hogan.
- h. Open discussion:
 - i. Club CVWO Representative (Andy Hawkins): Andy advised the spring Hawk Watch was underway at the College Creek overlook. Generally observers are there between 9:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M., but the start/end times are weather dependent. On good days dozens of raptors of various species can be seen (2015 spring count totaled 1780 birds/17 species). If you'd like to participate contact Andy for details.

- ii. Stuart Sweetman advised that there were Bald Eagles frequenting a nest site in the between Hampton Roads Parkway and Butler Farm Road, across from Gateway Blvd. Hopefully they will remain there and breed.
 - iii. Bill Boeh advised that the York River Group of the Sierra Club will host presentations on two local development projects on Wed, Feb 17, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Sandy Bottom Nature Center. The presentations will examine the how the Poquoson Legacy development project would impact wetlands and pose flooding risks to residents, and how to prevent commercial development of Newport News City Farm's 58 acres of public land on the James River and incorporate the land into Riverview Farm Park.
4. Guest Speaker: Our very own Shawn Dash gave a presentation entitled "Love is in the Air", focusing on avian reproductive behavior.
 5. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.
 6. Next meeting will be Thursday, March 10, at the usual time and place--6:30 PM, Sandy Bottom Park.
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Hampton Roads Bird Club
General Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, March 10, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. ID Challenge: Brenda Gervais, standing in for Dave Youker, highlighted distinguishing characteristics of the Savannah Sparrow and Whimbrel.
3. EXCOM Member Reports:
 - a. President [Dave Youker was absent; Jessica Ausura and Brenda Gervais co-led the meeting in his stead]:
 - i. Nominating Committee: Jane Frigo (chair) advised that all the current officers can committee chairs excepting the Field Trip and Host Committee chairs had agreed to continue in their present positions, but club members who desired to serve in any of those positions were free to run for them. Nominees for must be identified by the end of April to enable the election to be held at the May meeting. Members should contact Jane if interested in serving on the executive committee, as a committee chair, and/or as a Board Member.
 - ii. Jessica and Brenda reviewed upcoming events:
 1. The annual Rusty Blackbird Migration Blitz is underway (runs March 1 to June 15).
 2. VA Breeding Bird Atlas 2 (VABBA2). The VABBA2 is one of the biggest projects VA birders will be involved over the next few years. VA's initial Atlas was conducted from 1985-89; development of VABBA2 starts this spring and runs through 2020. The Williamsburg Bird Club will host a presentation by Dr. Ashley Peele, who is leading the effort, on 16 Mar at 7

PM at the William and Mary Integrative Science Center (located behind Phi Beta Kappa Hall), Room 1127.

3. The Club's Spring Bird Count will be held on May 7.
 - b. Field Trip Coordinator:
 - i. Stuart advised that the Back Bay trip is scheduled for March 12, the Great Dismal Swamp trip is scheduled for April 16, and the Richmond trip is scheduled for May 7. Stuart noted that the Richmond trip is the same day as the club's Spring Bird Count; however, since the Spring Bird Count date was not mandated by Audubon as is the Christmas Bird Count, perhaps it could be rescheduled. See the Newsletter for details on the trips.
 - ii. The False Cape/Back Bay field trip originally scheduled for January will take place on March 12.
 - c. Hospitality: Not present.
 - d. Membership: Several new members attended the meeting.
 - e. Newsletter Editor: Tom needs inputs for his next newsletter!
 - f. Treasurer: Nothing of significance to report.
 - g. Publicity: Nothing of significance to report.
 - h. Open discussion:
 - i. Tom Charlock advised that there were two local issues with environmental significance being considered by the cities of Hampton and Newport News: commercial development at Fort Monroe and the fate of the City Farm in Newport News. Candidates for Hampton and Newport News city government will be attending the following events at which they might be asked to comment regarding their positions on these issues:
 1. The York River Sierra Club will host a "Hampton Candidates Forum" on Wednesday, March 16, at 7:00 p.m., at Sandy Bottom. Candidates for mayor and the Hampton City Council will attend and present their positions on key environmental issues.
 2. The York River Sierra Club will host a "Newport News Candidates Forum" on Wednesday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m., at the Main Street Library in Newport News. Candidates the Newport News City Council will attend and present their positions on key environmental issues.
4. Guest Speakers. Two speakers provided presentations:
 - a. Dorothy Geyer, a National Park Service Natural Resource Specialist at the Colonial National Historical Park, provided an overview of a citizen science initiative being conducted at the park—namely, a detailed inventory of birds in various habitats. Ms. Geyer needs pairs of volunteers to conduct the inventory between May and July. Each inventory should take about 3 hours; volunteers can schedule them as desired. Training and equipment (GPS units) will be provided. Contact Ms. Geyer if you are interested at 757-898-2433 or Dorothy_Geyer@nps.gov.
 - b. Brian Taber, President of the Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory (CVWO), gave a presentation on CVWO surveys of local shorebird populations at Craney Island, Grandview Beach, and the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel.

5. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.
 6. Next meeting will be Thursday, April 14, at the usual time and place--6:30 PM, Sandy Bottom Park.
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Hampton Roads Bird Club
General Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, April 14, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.
2. ID Challenge: Brenda Gervais and Jessica Ausura, standing in for Dave Youker, highlighted distinguishing characteristics of the Veery, Black-throated Blue Warbler, and a “bonus quiz” on a clutch of eggs (those of a Northern Cardinal).
3. EXCOM Member Reports:
 - a. President [Dave Youker was absent; Jessica Ausura and Brenda Gervais co-led the meeting in his stead]:
 - i. Nominating Committee: Jane Frigo (chair) advised that the full slate of candidates for EXCOM member positions that will be vacated this year was set for the election to be held at the May meeting. The slate is as follows:
 - a. President: Shawn Dash
 - Field Trip Committee: Jason Strickland and Andy Hawkins
 - Host: Jane Frigo and Wendy Maxey
 - Director (2016-2019): Dave Youker
 2. EXCOM Members and Committee Chairpersons who will remain in their current positions for the 2016-17 year:
 - a. Vice President – Brenda Gervais
 - Treasurer – John Adair
 - Secretary – Bill Boeh
 - Publicity Committee: Jessica Ausura
 - Membership Committee (Gwen Harris)
 - Programs Committee (Brenda Gervais)
 - Publication Committee (Tom Charlock)
 - Directors; Pete Peterman (2014-2017); Andy Hawkins (2015-2018)
 - ii. Jessica recommended a nearby resource for birding by boat: Broadwater Bay Eco Tours located on Virginia’s Eastern Shore. The proprietor is highly experienced in providing ecotours and is also the only certified historical guide in Virginia that provides tours by water.
 - iii. The Club’s Spring Bird Count will be held on May 7. Email Nancy Gruttman-Tyler or Bill Boeh if you would like to participate and haven’t let them know yet.

- b. Field Trip Coordinator:
 - i. Stuart advised that the Richmond field trip is scheduled for May 14 so as not to conflict with the club's Spring Bird Count. All who are planning to go and have not signed up yet should let Stuart know. Participants will be meeting at the Ranger's Station at Newport News Park in time for a 6:00 AM departure for Richmond. See the newsletter for further details.
 - c. Hospitality: Shawn Dash (standing in for Katrina) advised that volunteers are needed to stand up a Picnic Committee. Additionally, Shawn advised that there will be a raffle at the May club meeting. Club members who would like to donate items for the raffle, or are interested in working on the Picnic Committee should email or call Katrina.
 - d. Membership: Not present.
 - e. Newsletter Editor: Tom needs inputs for his next newsletter!
 - f. Treasurer: Nothing of significance to report.
 - g. Publicity: Jessica advised that her next Daily Press article will be out this coming Thursday.
 - h. Open discussion:
 - i. Tom Charlock advised that he attended the York River Sierra Club-hosted "Newport News Candidates Forum" on Wednesday, April 13 at the Main Street Library in Newport News. Tom advised that only one candidate (Dr. Patricia P. Woodbury) was solidly in favor of keeping the City Farm land as a public resource; the other candidates were either in favor of commercial development or undecided.
 - 4. Guest Speaker: Bill Williams provided presentation a "The Diversity and Natural History of Hummingbirds". The presentation covered multiple species that inhabit North and South America, included some basic facts about hummingbirds as facts, and also cited some occasions where species normally only found in the western U.S. were found in Virginia.
 - 5. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
 - 6. Next meeting will be Thursday, May 12, at the usual time and place--6:30 PM, Sandy Bottom Park.
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Hampton Roads Bird Club
General Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, May 12, 2016

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.
- 2. ID Challenge: Dave shook things up a little by presenting challenges on birds from other regions, including the southern U.S. (the Crested Caracara; Gray Kingbird) and Africa (the African Fishing Eagle; Yellow-billed Stork, and Sacred Ibis). Dave also gave an aural quiz using

bird songs from our local area (Prairie, Black and white, and Hooded Warblers and the White-eyed Vireo).

3. EXCOM Member Reports:

a. President:

- i. Newport News Park 50th Anniversary Celebration: Dave advised that Newport News Park would be celebrating its 50th anniversary on May 27 at 11:00 a.m. All Club members are welcome to attend. The site of the celebration will be announced at a later date. An invitation is forthcoming which will be passed to all Club members (stay tuned to Facebook or expect an email).
- ii. Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas 2 (VBBA2): Dave, as the regional VBBA2 coordinator, and provided an overview of this project which seeks to document breeding bird behavior in Virginia over the next 5 years—which will update data that dates back to the last survey taken in 1985. The state is divided into 3 mile by 3 mile blocks for which birders can volunteer to survey. Club members are encouraged to participate by signing up to survey one or more blocks. The project has a website at <http://amjv.org/index.php/vabba2/>, at which members may sign up and obtain details about the project. Members may also contact Dave to sign up or get more details.

b. Nominating Committee: The election for EXCOM member positions that will be vacated this year was held. The Club Officers for 2-016-17 are as follows:

1. President: Shawn Dash
Vice President – Brenda Gervais
Treasurer – John Adair
Secretary – Bill Boeh
Field Trip Committee: Jason Strickland and Andy Hawkins
Host: Jane Frigo and Wendy Maxey
Director Publicity Committee: Jessica Ausura
Membership Committee (Gwen Harris)
Programs Committee (Brenda Gervais)
Publication Committee (Tom Charlock)
Directors: Pete Peterman (2014-2017); Andy Hawkins (2015-2018); Dave Youker (2016-2019)

c. Field Trip Coordinator: Stuart advised that the Richmond field trip is scheduled for May 14 so as not to conflict with the club's Spring Bird Count. All who are planning to go and have not signed up yet should let Stuart know. Participants will be meeting at the Ranger's Station at Newport News Park in time for a 6:00 AM departure for Richmond. See the newsletter for further details.

d. Hospitality:

- i. Katrina announced that there would be a raffle at the end of the meeting. Additionally, Katrina reminded all that the Club picnic would be held on June 4th at 12:00 p.m. at Newport News Park Shelter #3. The picnic will be preceded by a bird walk at starting at 7:00 a.m. The club will provide burgers and hotdogs; club members are requested to bring other items (side dishes, desserts, etc.). Katrina provided a signup sheet for members to indicate what

dishes they will be bringing. If you missed the meeting please contact Katrina to see what she needs you to bring.

- e. Membership: Nothing of significance to report.
 - f. Newsletter Editor: Tom requested members to advise him if they would prefer electronic delivery of the newsletter (which saves trees and reduces expenditures for the Club!).
 - g. Treasurer: Nothing of significance to report.
 - h. Publicity: Not present.
 - i. Open discussion:
 - i. The Club's Spring Bird Count was held on May 7. Nancy Gruttman-Tyler advised that it was likely the most successful Spring Bird Count to date. The Grandview Sector yielded the most species with 110.
4. Guest Speaker: "Birds of the Brazilian Atlantic Forest and Pantanal" by Pete Peterman. Pete and Charm Peterman recently returned from a two-week birding trip to Brazil. This presentation will feature the birds of the Atlantic Forest, to include Iguazu Falls on both the Argentina and Brazil side, plus the Pantanal, the world's largest freshwater wetlands, 20 times the size of the Everglades.
 5. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.
 6. Next meeting will be at the Club Picnic, June 4, 1200 p.m. at Newport News Park, Shelter #3.