



Hampton Roads Bird Club
General Meeting Minutes
Date: Thursday, April 14, 2017

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.
2. ID Challenge: Challenges included the chicks of several wading birds: Roseate Spoonbill; Great Egret, and Sandhill Crane.
3. EXCOM Member Reports:
 - a. President: Shawn advised the membership of two upcoming “Bioblitz” events. One of National Geographic’s impact programs, Bioblitzes are National Geographic impact program events that focus on finding and identifying as many species as possible in a specific area over a short period of time. Members are requested to apply their birding skills to support two local “Bioblitz” events as part of the Club’s mission to “cooperate with national, state, and local organizations toward the conservation and education in the fields of natural resources and ornithology”:
 - i. The 1st Annual Hampton University (HU) Bioblitz, Saturday, 22 April, 7:30 a.m. to noon. This program is an activity of HU’s SEEDS Chapter. SEEDS is the flagship award-winning education program of the Ecological Society of America, conducted to diversify and advance the ecology profession through opportunities that stimulate and nurture the interest of underrepresented students to participate, and to lead in ecology.
 - ii. Newport News Park BioBlitz 2017, May 20-21 (Sat-Sun). Volunteers are needed for a night-time survey on Saturday; the Club’s Sunday bird walk will be used to conduct the (daytime) survey on the 21st. The nighttime survey presents an opportunity to do some “owling”! Contact Bryan Barmore if interested in participating.
 - b. Field Trip Coordinator: The April trip will be to the Great Dismal Swamp (April 15th). The May trip is still being planned; details will be in the newsletter.
 - a. Hospitality: Jane Frigo advised that the annual picnic will be held June 3. Volunteers are still need volunteers to host the May meeting, as well as to assist with the picnic in June. Contact Jane or Wendy Maxey to volunteer.
 - b. Membership: One new member attended the meeting.
 - c. Newsletter Editor: Tom, as always, is soliciting for articles! Please submit them no later than April 25.
 - d. Treasurer: No report.
 - e. Publicity: Not present.
 - f. Open discussion:
 - i. Bill Boeh advised that volunteers were still needed for the Spring Bird Count (April 29). Contact Bill if you are interested.

4. Guest Speaker: Bill Boeh gave a short overview of Cornell Lab of Ornithology's eBird online checklist program and observation database; followed by a presentation by Dave Youker on his recent birding trip to Peru.
5. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.
6. Next Club meeting will be April 13, 2017, 6:30 PM, Sandy Bottom Park.