Hampton Roads Bird Club  
General Meeting Minutes  
Date: Thursday, September 9, 2021

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. There were 21 attendees.
2. Bird Sightings: Lesley Meng is seeing many backyard species at her feeders; Dave Youker seeing American Redstart and Black-and-white Warbler at his feeder; Kaitlyn Clark may have seen Gull-billed Terns. Bill Boeh saw multiple Tricolored Herons while kayaking on the Warwick River last month.
3. ID Challenge: Shawn was in the northwest recently, so the theme for this meeting was the coastal Oregon birds that he observed: Rhinoceros Auklet; Pigeon Guillemot; Tufted Puffin.
4. Monthly Photo Contest: Shawn advised that members can send photos to Michael Meyer for the first contest this year. Deadline for submission is the Tuesday before the October meeting.
5. Reports:
   1. President: Sunday walks continue at Newport News Park. Noland Trail walks will take place the last Sunday of Sep-Oct (and possibly November); meet at Lion’s Bridge at 7:00 a.m. The club is also leading walks in support of the Hampton City Library; contact Shawn Dash if you’d like to support this outreach effort.
   2. Hospitality: Shawn thanked Jane Frigo and Dianne Sawyer for their work on the June picnic.
   3. Newsletter: Tom Charlock thanked all the authors for their submissions to the current newsletter. The deadline for submission to November-December newsletter is 25 October.
   4. Membership: New members attending included Lesley Meng, Gary Wright, June Hartzler, Kaitlyn Clark, Twila Blume, Eric Matthews. Gwen Harris welcomed the new members. Details on dues payment for this year were provided by the Treasurer, including how to submit your dues payments online.
   5. Publicity: Not present.
   6. Website: Shawn thanked the Maxey’s for their work on the website; requested members send any submissions to them. Shawn also encouraged all to post on our Facebook page.
   7. Treasurer:
      1. 2021-2022 Budget: The Treasurer reviewed the viewed the details of the proposed budget, along with current bank balance and projected income (all income projected to be from dues, therefore all Club activities and donations depend entirely on our dues). Bill Boeh moved that the budget be approved as presented. The motion was seconded and adopted by acclamation; none opposed.
      2. 2020-2021 Education Fund. The Treasurer advised that this year’s Education Fund will be granted to Kaitlyn Foster, a CNU senior and master’s program student. Her thesis is on grassland birds breeding in grazing areas in Virginia, focusing on what type of crop rotation is beneficial, and when to avoid harvesting hay to minimize impact to nesting birds.
   8. Field Trip Coordinator: Not present, but Shawn provided details for the Hog Island trip on 12 September, and noted that the October trip will be to the Eastern Shore (Oct 23). Shawn asked all to please be responsible and observe social distancing requirements.
6. Open Discussion:
   1. Club face masks. Project undertaken by Michael Meyer and Katrina Dash to research a proposal to buy face masks with the club logo on it. The masks would be available for purchase by members, and would be presented to guest speakers and attendees at Hampton Library events. Prices for the masks will be researched and provided to the Executive Committee to decide if and how many to purchase.
   2. Big Virginia Birding Day: Dave Youker provided details on the Big Virginia Birding Day that will take place on Oct 9. If you participate, send your species count to Dave. Dave also advised that the Kiptopeake Challenge will be held on Sept 25; several members are participating; you can also sponsor a team; see newsletter for details.
   3. Bill Boeh advised that the Christmas Bird Count will be December 18, 2021; please see newsletter article; an email solicitation for participation is forthcoming.
7. Speaker’s Notes: “Insects the Uncelebrated Partners of the Bird World” by Dr. Shawn Dash. This talk focused on unraveling the complex interactions and interdependent natural history of birds and insects. It looked at insects in the context of avian biology, including feeding, parasites, to the importance of insects in your yard and garden.
8. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by: William Boeh, Secretary

Approved by: Dr. Shawn Dash, President

Hampton Roads Bird Club

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. There were 12 attendees.

2. Bird Sightings: Mark Sopko spotted American Golden Plovers at Bethel Beach—a life bird for Mark. Bill Boeh heard a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in his yard today. James Abbott saw two Sora Rails at his property (first ever there). Dave Youker had an Ovenbird in his yard, feeding from feeder this week, and has also seen Northern Parulas as well as Black-throated Blue, Palm and Yellow-rumped Warblers coming through.

3. ID Challenge: Sean used a Halloween theme, with “spooky” birds: American Crow; Common Raven; Great Gray Owl; Oilbird; Great Potoo.

4. Reports:

a. President: No issues.

b. Membership: No new members at this meeting.

c. Publicity: Not present; the President expressed the hope that members are sending in pictures for the monthly photo contest.

d. Newsletter: Not present; President asked all to contribute articles by October 25th.

e. Hospitality: Not present.

f. Website: Not present. President said the website has shown to be effective for outreach; people in the community are contacting club via the website for outreach support.

g. Treasurer: Reminded all to pay your annual dues if you haven’t already.

h. Field Trip Coordinator: The October trip will be to the Eastern Shore (Oct 23). Meet at Eastern Shore NWR Visitor’s Center at 7:00 a.m. Please advise James Abbott by email or text if you intend to go.

5. Open Discussion:

a. HRBC Big Virginia Birding Day (Oct 9th): Dave Youker provided a report on the day’s results; unfortunately participation was much lower this year than last. Dave suggested we conduct the event in November so more species are present (such as ducks) which hopefully will spark more participation.

b. Bill Boeh reminded all that the Christmas Bird Count will be December 18, 2021; please consider participating. Contact Bill (see newsletter article). The President echoed Bill’s request, and noted that some of his students are using the club’s spring bird count data for analysis.

6. Speaker’s Notes: Alicia Garcia, Joint Base Langley-Eustis Langley Natural Resources Manager, provided a presentation on the birds and wildlife on base property; the base’s efforts to adapt to climate change; and the management of resident native plants and animals, including efforts to prevent collisions between birds and aircraft operating from the base.

7. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Submitted by: William Boeh, Secretary

Approved by: Dr. Shawn Dash, President



Hampton Roads Bird Club

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 11, 2021

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. There were 14 attendees at the start and later

there were 24 attendees.

2. Bird Sightings: Shawn Dash is in new location on a creek after recent move and has been

hearing Great Horned Owls. One night, he saw a Great Horned Owl swoop down and hit a

Mallard in the water! Shawn also has added that Harry Colestock reported back yard sightings

of Common Goldeneye, Common Loon, Bufflehead and Merlin. Wendy and Ellis Maxey

reported seeing Tundra Swan, 129 Brown Pelican fly by in a single line, and Northern Gannets

at their beach house in Sandbridge. Walt and Gwen Harris reported having a Barred Owl in

their back yard. Ryan Walsh reports he and James Abbott observed the Heermann’s Gull at the

Hopewell City Marina. Lesley Meng reported a large number of Cormorants on the powerline

pylons along James River Bridge.

3. ID Challenge: Shawn has been seeing ducks out his home office front window. The duck ID

challenges this month initially showed only an extended wing, followed by additional body

parts until the duck was identified: 1) Mallard, 2) Bufflehead, 3) White-winged Scoter, 4)

Gadwall. More challenging ducks with similar color/shaped wings included: 1) Cinnamon Teal,

2) Northern Shoveler, 3) Blue-winged Teal.

4. Reports:

a. President: The photo contest is still going, so send photos to Michael Meyer or Katrina

Dash and the winners will be featured on the Facebook page as a slideshow and in the

next newsletter.

b. Hospitality: Not present.

c. Newsletter: Tom thanked James Abbott for submitting three articles and John Adair for

submitting one. The photo contest winners last period were Harold Atkins, Lynn

Chandler, and Pete Peterman. The next newsletter will be coming out January 1, 2022

and inputs should be submitted by December 25th.

d. Membership: No new members at this meeting.

e. Publicity: Not present.

f. Website: Ellis Maxey reports that the web site is up to date, having recently added some

newly submitted items.

g. Treasurer: No report.

h. Field Trip Coordinator: James Abbott described upcoming trips. The November 27 field

trip will be Fort Monroe, which is a good winter location to find the Common Eider, Longtailed

Duck, and possibly the Razorbill. Back Bay has begun running the tram, and James

contacted the ranger there for a late February visit. For January, James is considering a

boat trip out of Norfolk to visit the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel if there is enough

interest. James will check with the captain to see how many are needed to make the price

reasonable. Late April should be a good time for a visit to Craney Island. Craney is

managed by the Army Corps of Engineers and James has made initial contact with them.

5. Open Discussion:

a. Christmas Bird Count: Shawn Dash talked through the CBC slides pointing out the circle

of sectors and the date of the count, Saturday, December 18, 2021. He encouraged

everyone to contact Bill Boeh to participate in the count.

6. Speaker’s Notes: Dr. Victoria (Vikki) Milne, El Paso Zoo veterinarian, provided a presentation

on the rehabilitation of raptors. As the only resource in the area capable of handling raptors,

the zoo took on the task of raptor rehab without additional resources in 2015. They

rehabilitate 100-150 raptors of 20 species each year; the majority are American Kestrel, Barn

Owl, Swainson’s Hawk, and Great Horned Owl. Each individual must recover to perfect flight

prior to release due to the already harsh environment they face. The successful release rate of

around 50 percent is better than most other rehab centers.

7. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Submitted by: John Adair, acting Secretary

Approved by: Dr. Shawn Dash, President

Hampton Roads Bird Club

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022

. The meeting was held on Zoom and called to order at 7:02 p.m. There were 25 attendees.

2. New visitors: Rex Holmlin of the Peninsula Master Naturalist Chapter; Kathleen Gierlak, Tara Hart; Sherry Rollins, and Edith Bradbury of the Middle Peninsula Master Naturalist Chapter.

3. Bird Sightings: Dave Youker reported Beaverdam Park (Gloucester) is full of Coots, Ring-Necked Ducks, and Hooded Mergansers. Bill Boeh reported an American Kestrel on a wire over a small farm near his house. Ryan Walsh observed the second-ever Northern Lapwing in Virginia near the Carolina border. Angie Herring saw a flock of 10+ bluebirds at Riverview Park; she’d never seen such a flock. Bill Boeh added that crows seem to flock in winter; Shawn advised that this is a foraging strategy for both species. Dave Abbott mentioned a large flock of crows (hundreds of individuals) on way to see the Lapwing, adding that this is not an unusual behavior among intelligent birds like these. Pete Peterman mentioned he has had a family of six American Crows in his back yard for many years; he is now observing dozens of Black and Turkey Vultures roosting in the pines in the Woods of Tabb neighborhood. Pete also has observed and photographed a leucistic male Red-winged Blackbird at his feeder (the body was mostly white with black spots; the head had a pinkish cast); the photo was presented on Zoom. Walt and Gwen Harris have a Baltimore Oriole (first ever) in backyard—their first ever (video shared on Zoom).

4. ID Challenge: Ring-billed Gull (1st year); Bonaparte’s Gull; Lesser Black-backed Gull, and Laughing Gull.

5. Reports:

a. Membership: Welcomed all newcomers.

b. Newsletter: Thanked James Abbott and Jane Frigo for their contributions to the current newsletter; also thanked Michael Meyer for the photo contest pictures.

c. Hospitality: Not present.

d. Publicity: Posted news of upcoming field trips. Photos being received for next photo contest.

e. Website: Working on updating some pages, hopefully done by next meeting.

f. Treasurer: Deadline for dues payment was Dec 31. If a member’s dues are not paid by January, Club Bylaws require removal. 37 of 93 members have not renewed; the Treasurer has emailed a reminder to them.

g. Field Trip Coordinator: Upcoming trips include Grandview (Jan 22); Harlequin Ducks seen there. February 12 Back Bay Tram trip (February 12). There is limited capacity for this trip, and an 8 fee. James advised that the Nature Bus will have a trip to Pine Grove on May 5th, providing an opportunity to view breeding Red-cockaded Woodpeckers (visit thenaturebus.com for details and to sign up).

6. Open Discussion:

a. Bill Boeh provided summary of 2021 Christmas Bird Count, including general count results and list of participants. He also reminded all that the Great Backyard Bird Count will be February 18-21.

b. Shawn announced the Newport News Park Winter Count will be January 29, starting at 7:00 am. Jane Frigo is coordinating; please sign up by contacting Jane.

c. John Adair advised that upcoming speakers will be Bob Shamerhorn, who will provide a presentation on warblers at the March meeting, and Katie Foster (our sponsored student at CNU), who will report on her ongoing field project at the April meeting.

7. Speaker’s Notes: James Abbot, “Variability in winter bird biodiversity of Virginia.” James described various winter species variability trends (such as irruptions), and why they happen.

8. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Submitted by: William Boeh, Secretary

Approved by: Dr. Shawn Dash, President

Hampton Roads Bird Club

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 10, 2022

1. The meeting was held on Zoom and was called to order at 7:05 p.m. There were 19 attendees.

2. Bird Sightings: Shawn displayed a photo of a Cooper’s Hawk taken by Katrina Dash in her yard. James Abbott reported seeing many Long-tailed Ducks on the bay today. Angie Herring observed two Meadowlarks at Riverview Farm Park. Phyllis Roth still has the Ruby-throated and Rufous Hummingbirds visiting her feeders. Twyla Blume saw American Goldfinches at Riverview Farm Park and at Mobjack Bay Coffee Roasters. Barb Abraham has been seeing a Ruby-crowned Kinglet in her yard for several weeks. Ellis and Wendy Maxey observed 2-300 Red-breasted Mergansers offshore at Sandbridge. Dianne Snyder and Jane Frigo saw a painted Bunting in Norfolk (photo displayed on Zoom). Pete Peterman is still seeing Turkey and Black Vultures roosting in the park in Woods of Tabb; they also sit on his house. The vultures can catch the morning sun from this location. Pete shared picture of a leucistic Common Grackle that visited his yard. Pete also discussed the Virginia Society of Ornithology (VSO) annual trip to Outer Banks (conducted the first weekend in February each year). Pete highly recommends going on this trip if you get the opportunity. On this trip Pete observed 130 species including American Woodcock (life bird for Pete), Ash-throated Flycatcher; Rough-legged Hawk, and Vesper Sparrow. Lots of good waterfowl observed on this as well.

3. ID Challenge: Canada Goose (migratory); Bonaparte’s Gulls; American Black Duck; and a Mallard x Black Duck hybrid.

4. New attendees: None

5. Reports:

a. President: No report.

b. Hospitality: No report.

c. Newsletter: Next letter coming out in March, please send your inputs by February 25.

d. Membership: No report.

e. Publicity: Not present.

f. Website: Please remember to send Ellis anything that should be posted on the website.

g. Treasurer: Not present.

h. Field Trip Coordinator: upcoming trips include Grandview Nature Trail for February 12; still trying to coordinate a Craney Island trip for April 23. Next winter there may be an opportunity to resume the driving tour of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel islands.

6. Open Discussion:

a. Pete Peterman advised that the VSO Annual meeting will be April 29-May 1. The VSO, Cape Henry Audubon Society, and the Friends of the Dismal Swamp are planning this year’s VSO annual meeting and the Great Dismal Swamp Bird Festival. Information will be posted on the VSO website (virginiabirds.org).

b. Bill Boeh provided a summary of the Christmas Bird count; encouraged all to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count (Feb 18-21). He also indicated the club will conduct the spring bird count on April 23rd to avoid conflict with VSO annual meeting.

c. Shawn Dash mentioned his students are analyzing the club’s spring bird count data, as well as our monthly counts at Newport News Park.

7. Speaker’s Notes: Mallard Begets Mallard: Population Genomics helps shed light into the outcomes of secondary contact and its consequences for conservation of several duck species with Dr. Philip Lavretsky, Waterfowl Biologist, University of Texas-El Paso.

8. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Submitted by: William Boeh, Secretary

Approved by: Dr. Shawn Dash, President

Hampton Roads Bird Club  
General Meeting Minutes  
Date: Thursday, March 10, 2022

1. The meeting was held on Zoom, and called to order at 7:05 p.m. There were 22 attendees.
2. New members/visitors: Bonnie Schwartz attended from California.
3. Bird Sightings: Shawn Dash saw the Stellar’s Sea Eagle in Maine; he also reported that Ospreys are nesting on the Hampton University campus. The Harris’s have had two White Breasted Nuthatches investigating their bird boxes, they may move in. Barb Abraham had two Bluebirds in her yard at one time. Bob Shamerhorn said a friend of his in Richmond has two Baltimore Orioles in his yard. James Abbot has been seeing Razorbills and Long-tailed Duck near Fort Monroe. Bill Boeh has seen Ospreys returning to local nest sites in last few weeks. Mark Sopko has heard two Great Horned Owls hooting in or near his property.
4. ID Challenge: Female Bufflehead; Female Black Scoter; White-winged Scoter; Blue-winged Teal.
5. Reports:
   1. President:
      1. The Bay Journal published an article about our club; link to the article is on the club Facebook page.
      2. Hybrid meetings April/May, both in-person at SBNP and via Zoom. Will meet out on the patio to minimize close contact.
      3. Something about participating with VSO annual meeting, field trip?
      4. Elections coming up; President needs two members to run the election who are not board members or running for the board. Please advise if you’d like to volunteer.
      5. June picnic coming up as well.
   2. Membership: NTR.
   3. Hospitality:
   4. Newsletter: recounted photo contest winners and newsletter authors for most recent letter; next deadline is Apr 25.
   5. Publicity:
   6. Website: Not present
   7. Treasurer:
   8. Field Trip Coordinator:
      1. Field trip to York River side of Colonial Parkway, March 13th (date moved from Saturday to Sunday due to weather). Email will be sent with details.
      2. Still trying to verify Craney Island trip with Army Corps for April 23rd.
      3. Looking at dates in May for an “unofficial” Warbler Road trip (i.e., the trip is not officially affiliated with the club). James will email date to membership; members welcome to come along.
6. Open Discussion:
   1. Bill Boeh:
      1. Spring bird count date. The count is normally the last Saturday in April, but the Virginia Society of Ornithology’s annual meeting is scheduled for that date this year (April 29). Also, the field trip to Craney Island tentatively scheduled for April 23, so this year’s count will be on conducted April 16. Bill will send out solicitation for participation within the next couple of days.
      2. Error in CBC report in the Newsletter: Bill advised that the list of participants was inaccurate (it actually reflects the 2020 count). Bill will provide a correction to Tom Charlock for the next newsletter. A Bay Journal article about our club has been published; link to article on the Facebook page.
   2. President: Upcoming events to be mindful of:
      1. “Hybrid” meetings will commence in April/May, that is, both in-person at Sandy Bottom Nature Park and via Zoom. Club will meet out on the patio to minimize close contact.
      2. VSO sent the President an email a expressing desire to meet with the club, either via Zoom or during the meeting at Great Dismal Swamp. Intent is to discuss how clubs and the VSO can better interact, or determine what clubs would like to see from the VSO.
      3. Annual elections for club officers and directors is coming up; the President needs two volunteers to run the election who are not current board members or running for the board. Please advise the President if you’d like to volunteer.
      4. June picnic coming up as well.
7. Speaker’s Notes (thanks to John Adair!): The Wonderful Warblers, By Bob Schamerhorn. Bob is currently a resident of Richmond, where he lives with his wife, best friend, and number one supporter, Lori. As an advocate of conservation, he frequently shares his experiences with nature at over ninety venues and with a variety of organizations. Bob generously shares a multitude of his photos and programs on his website, www.iphotobirds.org. This will be Bob’s fourth presentation to our club.
8. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Submitted by: William Boeh, Secretary

Approved by: Dr. Shawn Dash, President

Hampton Roads Bird Club  
General Meeting Minutes  
Date: Thursday, April 14, 2022

1. The meeting was held at Sandy Bottom Nature Park and via Zoom and called to order at 7:12 p.m.
2. New members/visitors: There were several visitors present.
3. Bird Sightings: Shawn Dash observed a Clapper Rail in his yard (his first for that location). Dave Youker observed saw Ruby-throated Hummingbird (just one prior to the meeting); Dave has also seen a Blue Grosbeak, Yellow-throated Warbler, Hooded Warbler, and an Ovenbird. Other members have seen Prairie Warblers, Tree Swallows, and multiple Ospreys (some dropping fish at Hampton University!).
4. ID Challenge: Immature Clapper Rail; Immature Red-winged Blackbird; Immature Snowy Egrets.
5. Reports:
   1. President: Will address upcoming election later in the meeting.
   2. Membership: Nothing significant to report.
   3. Hospitality: The chair will begin coordinating the club’s June picnic; the President will send an email to membership.
   4. Newsletter: Newsletter inputs by Apr. 25, please. Please contribute articles, send photos for the monthly contest.
   5. Publicity: Nothing significant to report.
   6. Webpage: Nothing significant to report.
   7. Treasurer: No report.
6. Elections: The President presented the slate of officers and committee chairs candidates for 2022-2023. Most will continue in their current positions; need candidates for Vice President and the Board. Also need to establish an election committee to collect the votes at the May meeting; if interested email the President.
7. In the field: Next trip is April 23 to Hog Island; see James Abbot’s email for details.
8. Open Discussion:
   1. Club Spring Big Day (Dave Youker): May 7, 2022. Participants will compete for most species observed within the state of Virginia.
   2. VSO meeting April 30-May 1, activities include field trips to the Great Dismal Swamp.
9. Speaker’s Notes: Grassland Birds and Agriculture, by Katie Foster. Katie is a senior at Christopher Newport University, and the club’s Education Fund recipient. Katie will be graduating this spring with a B.S. in Biology; she is also in a 5 -ear program for M.S. in Environmental Science. Katie’s presentation provided an overview of her project and her findings to date. See the March/April newsletter for additional details about Katie.
10. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Submitted by: William Boeh, Secretary

Approved by: Dr. Shawn Dash, President

Hampton Roads Bird Club  
General Meeting Minutes  
Date: Thursday, May 12, 2022

1. The meeting was held at Sandy Bottom Nature Park and via Zoom and called to order at 7:09 p.m. The President was absent; the meeting was chaired by Katrina Dash.
2. New members/visitors: There were no new members or visitors present.
3. Bird Sightings: Ryan Walsh observed Short-Billed Dowitchers at Messick Point; Mark Sopko observed Woodcocks on his property in Matthews.
4. ID Challenge: Royal Tern, Forster’s Tern, and Gull-billed Tern.
5. Reports:
   1. President: Not present.
   2. Membership: Not present.
   3. Hospitality: The club’s annual picnic will be held on June 4th at Sandy Bottom (Parker Pavilion). Members who intend to attend are asked to bring a covered dish to share (the club is not providing hot dogs/hamburgers this year). Please advise Jane Frigo what you intend to bring so she can manage the types and numbers of dishes being brought. More details will follow via email.
   4. Newsletter: Tom Charlock had published a summary of a scientific paper that examines how warming temperatures drive long-term trait changes in European birds in the May/June edition of the newsletter. If you’d like a copy of the paper in pdf format, contact Tom.I
   5. Publicity: Not present.
   6. Webpage: Not present.
   7. Treasurer: Not present.
6. Elections: Katrina Dash presented the slate of officers and committee chairs candidates for 2022-2023 as follows:

President: Shawn T. Dash (willing to continue)

Vice President: Mark Sopko

Treasurer: John Adair (willing to continue)

Secretary: William Boeh (willing to continue)

Board (7/21-6/24): Katrina Dash

Board (7/12-6/25): Michael Meyer

Board (7/20-6/23): Walter Harris

Field Trip Coordinator(s): James Abbott (willing to continue)

Web Editor(s): Wendy & Ellis Maxey (willing to continue)

Hospitality: Jane Frigo (requests a co-chair to assist)

Newsletter Editor: Tom Charlock (willing to continue)

Publicity: No candidate

Membership: Gwen Harris (willing to continue)

Prior to the meeting, members were asked to vote on the slate via email to the Election Committee members (Pete Peterman and Laura Mae). At the meeting, attending members were asked to either approve the slate as presented, or provide write-in candidates if applicable. A secret ballot vote was taken at the meeting site and members attending via Zoom were asked to indicate their vote electronically. The slate was approved by unanimous consent (affirmative votes from all sources (ballot, Zoom, and email)). As indicated above, the result is that the Publicity committee chair position will be vacant unless a volunteer comes forward.

1. In the field: Next field trip is Sandy Bottom Nature Park, May 15th. Meet at the Nature Center parking lot at 6:30 a.m.
2. Open Discussion:
   1. Club Spring Big Day: Katrina announced the results of the Big Day held on May 7, 2022. There were 19 participants, who observed a total of 141 species, including 19 warbler species.
   2. Bill Boeh provided a summary of the Spring Bird Count. Total birds observed by species can be viewed via eBird at https://ebird.org/tripreport/45559. The report contains links to all submitted checklists so you can do a deep dive into the data if desired. VSO meeting April 30-May 1, activities include field trips to the Great Dismal Swamp.
3. Speaker’s Notes: Birding the James River and Watershed, by James Abbott. .James’ lecture covered the birds that can be observed on the river and in its watershed on a seasonal basis.
4. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Submitted by: William Boeh, Secretary

Approved by: Dr. Shawn Dash, President