

Southern California Bluebird Club
January, 2nd 2016 minutes

Bill Wallace opened the meeting at 9:10 am. There were 32 people present. New members were introduced; **Julie Decker** from Los Alamitos and **Ken and Jenifer Meyer** who are interested in monitoring a few nest boxes in north county. Jennifer is a writer for the Orange County Register and has written articles on the NABS meeting and bluebirding in Orange County.

Jo-Ann Coller read the treasurer's report: CCI received a second anonymous donation of \$1500.00 plus \$70.00 in other donations. Expenses were \$166.37, which leaves a net balance of \$5269.91.

SCBC received \$82.00 in donations and \$30.00 in sales which leaves a net balance of \$5269.91. The club has a combined total of \$9233.65.

Jo-Ann moved to transfer \$1000.00 from the bluebird funds to our CCI project for the beginning of the year. The motion was seconded by several. After Gillian's report the club unanimously agreed to the transfer.

Gillian's CCI report for December 2015

The December issue of Arborist News December contained Gillian's article about dead trees.

Laguna Niguel Park Senior Supervising Ranger Adam Schuck added 6 more snags to the park during this year's tree trimming. Over 100 trees at the park are infested with the PSHB resulting in the removal of many trees. Those with the PSHB cannot be recruited as snags. Currently the ranger is using the CCI's small wildlife tree signs which quickly fade in sunlight and are therefore not of good quality. Upon his request, Gillian sent the ranger two concepts for custom signage.

The City of Irvine approved two snags for Turtle Rock Nature Center.

Gillian has written a draft of suggestions relevant to the Ten-year Urban Action Plan. The suggestions focus on the need for snag retention. She will be seeking endorsements and submitting these suggestions for consideration to the National Urban and Community Forestry Action Council for consideration.

Gillian presented a short power point on the key points made at the Arbor Foundation's 2015 Partners in Community and Forestry Conference.

Bill Wallace announced that Audubon has named the Western Bluebird as the "Bird of the Year," based on a vote by its members. The article will appear in the SCBC newsletter with comments crediting the SCBC and CBRP with the restoring of bluebird populations to California.

Bill also reported that Amazon has agreed to donate half of a percent to a non-profit organization for every dollar you spend on Amazon. Members need to sign up for this by going to www.smile.amazon.com.

Susan Bulger reminded monitors to check their nest box trail for defective nest boxes before the season begins. Loose tops need to be screwed down and the hole should be sanded smooth. Also the wire hook needs to be bent to insure the box cannot be blown down. If you have defective boxes, monitors may bring them to a meeting and **Bob Keally** has agreed to repair them.

Bill Wallace announced he was going to participate in the "Love Fullerton," event on April 30th, which will be held in downtown Fullerton at the plaza. This is an opportunity to recruit additional bluebird monitors. **Susan Bulger** agreed to help. They were successful in recruiting a few monitors last year at this event.

www.lovefullerton.org

Jim Semelroth requested trail tails for the CBRP newsletter which he will be putting to print in a few days.

Dick Purvis asked monitors to bag and bring any dead birds they found to our meeting. He has promised to gather them for our October guest speaker, Robert Siow, a member of the Hopi Indian tribe. Robert wants to use the feathers for their ceremonies.

Gillian Martin gathered everyone together for a group picture to add to her blog to thank the anonymous donor for their generous gift of \$1500.00.

Jim Semelroth closed the meeting with a bird video.

Respectfully submitted by **Jo-Ann Coller**