

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BLUEBIRD CLUB

September 3, 2016

Irvine Water District Meeting Room

Bill Wallace opened the meeting at 9:00. 35 people were in attendance.

Jo-Ann Collier presented the treasurer's report: **SCBC** donations \$178.26, expenses \$46.31, net balance \$4345.72. **CCI** donations \$436.16, expenses \$941.30, net balance \$5628.73. Combined Balance \$9974.45. **SCBC** have received \$5.25 from Amazon Smile.

Gillian Martin reported that the Tree Care for Birds task force is receiving increasing participation from organizations throughout the state. The addition of the Hispanic Arborists Association was an important recent one. Gillian has been developing mailing lists to six different groups that are the target audiences of the project. The project will market its BMPs and educational resources to these audiences.

Gillian asked for volunteers for San Diego Bird Festival on Sunday, Feb 26, 2017.

She also needs at least two more volunteers for an owl program at an elementary school in Ladera Ranch on Monday, Sept 19.

The CCI's video, *This is The Tree*, is completed. Gillian wants to thank **Susan Bulger** for her unparalleled skills at editing. SCBC members, **Jim Millett** and **Kim Van-Heusen** invested time trying to provide Gillian with missing photos. But most of all, the CCI feels immense gratitude to **Peggy Honda** for producing such an outstanding collection of photos which made the video possible.

Susan Bulger passed a card around to sign to thank **Peggy Honda** for all her pictures. A check for her favorite charity will be included.

Bob Franz discussed end of year totals. If you didn't get an email from **Dick Blaines** to fill in the form you may email him at: dick@theblaines.net

Jim Semelroth will resend the email with the information for contacting **Dick Blaines** for the year totals.

Gillian Martin proposed a check for \$100.00 to **Dick Blaines** to help offset the expenses he incurs. It was seconded and passed.

Gillian Martin wanted to discuss the Mission Statement. Since the inclusion of CCI we are realizing that we need to focus more on retention of dead and dying trees than putting up more boxes. The numbers of fledglings tell us that the Bluebirds are not in danger in our area. Gillian wants to have a small group discuss the options. **Bill Wallace** said he would help.

Jo-Ann Collier said that if any of the Mission Statement was changed that it would have to be changed at the Federal and State Non-profit levels also.

Jim Semelroth suggested that we add in our own policy statements the goals and internal practices that would reflex the new ideas.

Bill Wallace brought up the discussion of what to do about trails that are not being monitored. **Susan Buldger** suggested in November, December, January, and February members should go to these different trails and locate the boxes to see what conditions they are in and determine whether they should be removed. **Gillian Martin** suggested that a log be kept of how many boxes were removed. **Jim Semelroth** said that new people coming in should not be overwhelmed with a hug trail, maybe only 2 or 3 boxes to begin with.

Danette Davis was able to buy the native milkweed (Narrow Leaf Milkweed) at the Farmer's Market at Mariners Church in Irvine. It is native to the Western North American area, Washington State to Baja.

Robert Siow, a Hopi Indian, came to our meeting again. He spoke about the feathers that he was able to get from some of our members to use in their ceremonial meetings. He has enough for 10 years because he only uses one a year. He said by their traditions that the birds are watching over all of us. He said there is a word for what we do: Natwahi, the Hopi word for working together for a common cause. Robert is from the Butterfly Clan. The Bluebird Clan is extinct. The last woman of that clan died about 20 years ago and she had no children. The Clan is passed down through the females of the tribe.

Next meeting is October 1, 2016

Respectfully Submitted

By **Danette Davis**