

## The Village Birders Annual Meeting

March 19, 2016

The Annual Meeting of the Village Birders was called to order by President Ken Uslabar at 9:05 am at the Paradise Recreation Center. There were 83 attendees present.

Ken informed members that the Club Picnic will be held Sunday April 10, at Lake Panasofkee. A bird walk will take place at 8:00 am and the picnic will start at 11:00 am. Those attending are to bring a dish to pass and their own beverage (no alcohol).

Several birds of interest were reported being seen in The Villages including a prairie warbler that greeted members as they left their home this morning for the meeting.

John Eckstein, secretary, conducted the election of officers for the upcoming two-year term. The Nominating Committee was recognized for their efforts in developing the slate of candidates. The following people were placed in nomination, and each stood when their names were given: Bob Martin for President, Dave Felker for Vice President, John Eckstein for Secretary and Dan Hewins for Treasurer. When no further nominations were made from the floor, a motion was made to close nominations and to instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of candidates. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Gary Babic gave a very interesting talk on the technical aspects of birding plus experiences he and Marlene have had during some of their 109 birding trips. They have both seen and identified 7,282 species of birds to date. There are over 10,000 species (and sub species) that have been identified by experts. The more conservative US based Clements group currently has 10,326 identified while the more inclusive European based IOC group currently has 10,732. Some species are becoming extinct while others are being discovered. Some species are being separated while others are being combined. Gary and Marlene are currently listed as 49th on the IOC list and 23rd on the Clements list for most birds identified.

Ken closed the meeting by encouraging members to sign up for the picnic at the back of the room after the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am.

Respectfully submitted: John Eckstein, Secretary