



*Friends of*  
Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

# **2023 Annual Meeting**

February 6, 2024

# Joan W. Barkin, 1945-2024



# Mashpee NWR Overview



- The Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge, created in 1995, is the second largest open, accessible conservation land on Cape Cod (nearly 6,000 acres!)
- The Refuge Partnership:



- Ecosystems include pine barrens, Atlantic white cedar (AWC) swamps, dry oak forests and tidal estuaries.
- Visit our pollinator gardens and learn about Cape Cod native plants, migrating monarchs, rare moths and butterflies, bumblebees and hummingbirds.

# Our Mission



- FMNWR's mission: ***To raise awareness and provide support for the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge and its Partners and to preserve and protect our natural resources.***
- We help to ensure the long-term protection and enhancement of native wildlife and habitats.
- We support MNWR Refuge Partners management efforts.
- We promote advocacy, education, conservation, and recreational opportunities within the Mashpee Refuge.
- We support native pollinators through education, sponsoring workshops and creating pollinator gardens in the Mashpee Refuge and with other conservation partners.
- FMNWR is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization



# Key 2023 Accomplishments and Activities



# Earth Day 2023 – A full month!

- Planted trees at Pickerel Cove with Mashpee Conservation and AmeriCorps Seniors.
- Purchased and potted hundreds of bare-root plants for future planting at pollinator gardens throughout Mashpee Refuge.
- Managed Pollinator field plantings at FR&GC with Boy and Girl Scout Troops.



# Osprey Cam



- Managed “Season Two” of live streaming osprey cam at the Waquoit Bay Reserve.
- Coordinated emergency replacement of nest platform early in the season.
- Nesting pair (“Rachel” and “Carson”) successfully raised two chicks to fledge in 2023.





# POH Camp

- Continued work with the Wampanoag Tribal Youth “Preserve our Homeland” Camp.
- Created a new wetland pollinator and medicinal plant garden at a newly-cleared site near the Santuit River at the Wampanoag Tribal Farm.
- FMNWR was awarded USFWS Retirees Assoc Mini Grant to cover partial costs of POH plants.





# Visitor Center



Continued efforts for the establishment of a Mashpee NWR  
Visitor Center:

- Efforts currently focusing on site at 966 Falmouth Road
- Received endorsement from Mashpee Conservation Commission
- Received endorsement and authorization by the Mashpee Select Board to continue planning
- Currently investigating building/site design options
- Exploring funding sources (CPA, etc.)

# Rabbitat Project



- Sponsored Eagle Scout project to build two New England Cottontail rabbit habitats on Refuge Partner lands





# Walk for the Wild 2023

Co-sponsored 2nd annual WFTW, a 5k challenge, with Mashpee Recreation and Conservation departments, including a highly successful celebration event at Naukabout Brewery.





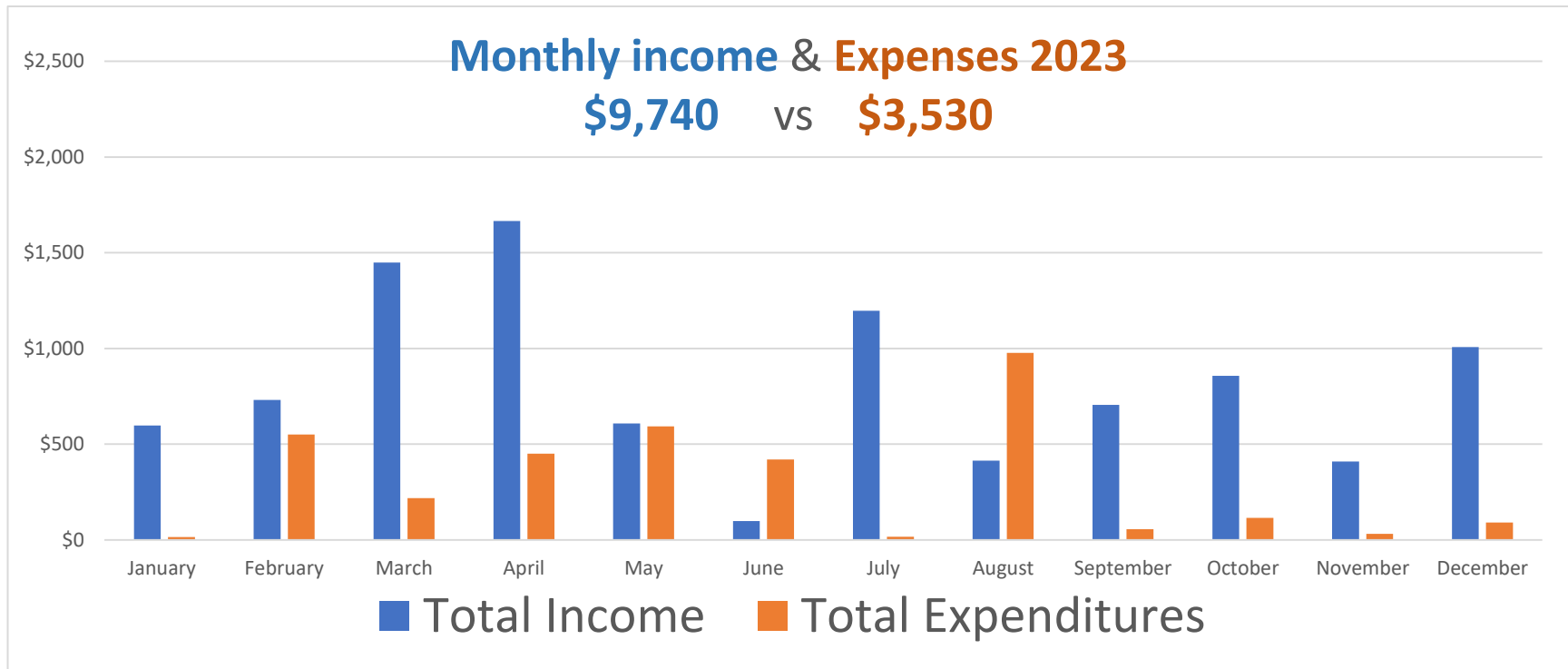
# Other Activities

- Presented an educational program at the Mashpee Senior Center, “Attracting & Raising Monarch Butterflies.”
- Completed a request by Trustees of Reservations to donate and plant 39 pollinator friendly plants to their field on Old Barnstable Road in Mashpee.
- Engaged with the public at the Town-wide Mashpee Oktoberfest event.





# 2023 Financial Review

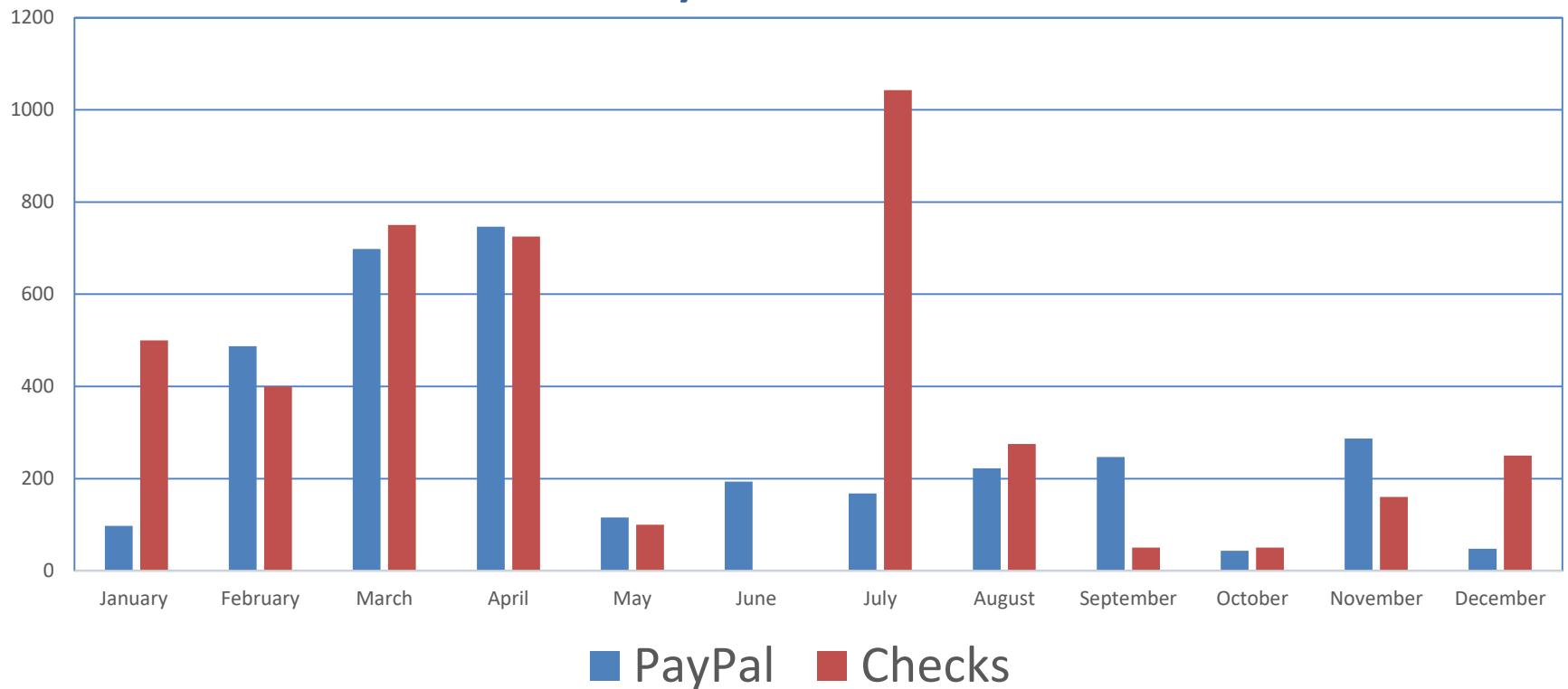


Additional Donation sources: Venmo (\$45), Amazon Smile (\$56), Pollinator POH Grant (\$843)  
Events: Oktoberfest(\$453), Walk for the Wild (WFTW) & Naukabout Brewery, PLA (\$1,335)

# 2023 Financial Review



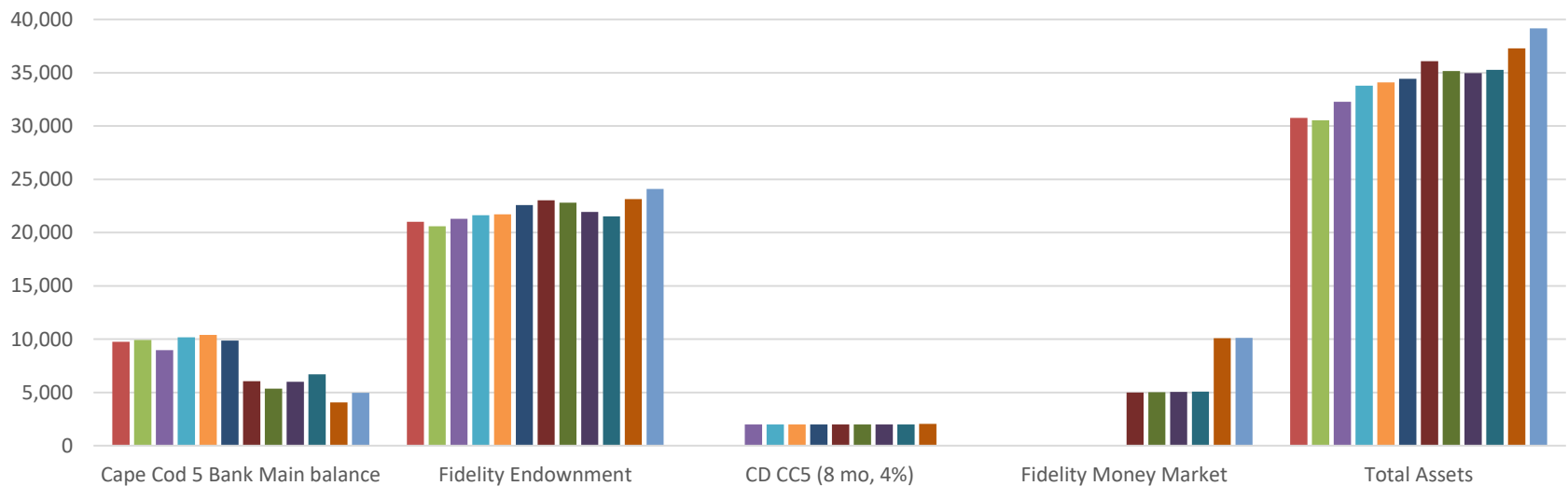
Monthly Donations  
PayPal vs Checks



# 2023 Financial Review



## 2023 Monthly Asset Totals



March: Moved \$2,000 from CC5 checking to a CD for 8 months, 4% APR

July: Transferred \$5,000 from CC5 Checking to New Fidelity MM

November: Mature CD (\$2,053) cashed and moved to Fidelity MM

December: **Total assets \$39,178!**

# Looking ahead to 2024...



- Earth Day
- Potential work with USGS on special projects
- Further collaboration with AmeriCorps
- Continued progress on Visitor Center
- Walk for the Wild 2024
- Collaborate with Refuge Partners on...???





# Questions and Additional Issues