

Saw Mill River Audubon Society, Inc.
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Director and Chairmen of Standing Committees
October 6, 1964

[Transcribed from hand-written originals by Anne Swaim. Capitalization/Punctuation as in original.]

The regular meeting of the Board of the Directors, Officers and Chairmen of the Standing Committees was held that Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Coggeshall.

Present at the meeting were Messrs. Moore, Holmes, Ritchie, Ditterline, Bligh, Boyle, and Messiah, and Mesdames Homes, Forsyth, Anderson, Geiffert and Coggeshall.

The Secretary's report of the September 15th meeting was read and approved with minor corrections.

The Treasurer's Report, submitted by Mrs. Holmes, shows a balance of \$614.57 in the general fund, \$559.41 in the sanctuary fund and \$159.33 in the scholarship and education fund, for a total bank balance as of September 30, 1964 in the amount of \$1433.31. A copy of the treasurer's report is appended as part of these minutes. [Transcribers note: appended to original handwritten minutes in SMRA archives.]

The membership committee report submitted by Mr. Holmes, chairman, indicated a total of 336 members. Mr. Holmes also called attention to the fact that some members listed in the new directory for 1964-65 have not paid their dues.

The Conservation Committee Report submitted by Mrs. Coggeshall included a report on the propertied project at Storm King Mountain by the Consolidated Edison Company. A meeting was held at the National Audubon Society Headquarters concerning this project with representatives of the Edison Company present. Their efforts were confirmed to attempts to prove that the project would not be harmful to fish and wildlife in the area and along the Hudson River. It was pointed out that no survey of the area had been made since the Rathgen and Miller Survey of 1957, contrary to Consolidated Edison contentions. This survey indicates the statistical center of the striped bass is Storm King Mountain. Consolidated Edison is engaged in an extensive public relations venture supporting its move to carve out a massive section of the mountain for a reservoir and dam. At present elected State and Federal Representatives have some largely indifference to the wishes of conservationists on the matter. A new hearing is scheduled before the Federal Power Commission in the very near future on the proposed project.

Schedule at Croton on October 21, is a Hudson River Conservation Conference. Speakers will be Secretary of Interior Udall and Democratic Senate Candidate Kennedy and House Candidate Ottinger. As many as possible are urged to attend in order to learn these men's viewpoints on the Storm King Matter. Information concerns the meeting will be furnished by Robert Boyle.

Additional conservation news was as follows. A groups known as the Open Space Action Committee has issued a folder which include the text of a letter write by Carl Burchester to Senator Kenneth Keating congratulating him on his work in behalf of conservation legislation.

The Westchester Municipal Planning Federation has announced a program to alert citizens to become aware of open spaces around them, and advise them to inform their town governments of such areas with a view to acquiring them for community use.

Concerning the issue of the Reservoir property in Ossining, the village trustees, by a vote of 3 to 2, approved rezoning the tract. A letter was read from Mr. Francis Thurber adversely criticizing Saw Mill River Audubon

Society for what he considered lack of policy on the Ossining Matter. His letter also praised the Cortlandt Conservation Committee for their efforts. Mrs. Boyle is to investigate to see what efforts were made by the Cortlandt Conservation Committee as indicated by Mr. Thurber's letter. A reply to Mr. Thurber's letter will be written by President Moore. It was apparent to all that one factor Mr. Thurber's letter did point up was that SMRAS does not have a policy concerning matters similar to the Ossining situation. A policy is to be established in the near future.

Brinton Brook Committee. Jim Ritchie reporting. The Committee met on September 20 and the Sanctuary was closed afterward. It was opened after the rain which fell the last week in September. Miss Farida Wiley's group of about 60 people will visit the Sanctuary on October 11th. George Porter will lead the group. Mrs. Porter will be stationed at the parking field with Jim Ritchie stationed at a point on the main road. Twenty "patrolled" signs and 30 "posted" signs were installed by Messrs Ritchie and Spendelow. Material for the proposed book on Brinton Brook to include a report by Dewhurt Wade on trees at the sanctuary and a taped interview with Mrs. Brinton which has been typewritten.

The irreparable loss of Joe Malone, co-chairman of the Sanctuary has created a deep void in the Society and measures were discussed to reassemble the scattered remnants caused by Joe's death. A motion was duly seconded and passed to appoint Robert Boyle as co-chairman of Brinton Brook Sanctuary to fill the post left vacant by Joe Malone's death. A motion was also passed to award the red badge of a warden worn by Joe Malone to Mr. Boyle. A motion was passed to offer Mrs. Joe Malone the post on the Board of Directors left vacant by her husband's death. The proposed memorial to Mr. Malone was discussed. Announcement of the memorial fund will be made at the October 22nd meeting at the Robert E. Bell School by Bill Fennell. The announcement will also appear in the next issue of the newsletter. A resolution honoring Joe Malone will be given by Lew Bowen at the October 22nd meeting. Mary Forsyth was given thanks for her expressions of sympathy to the Malone family on behalf of the Society.

A proposal was made to amend the bylaws to include Sanctuary Committee among the standing committees.

Chernick Sanctuary. Mr. Ditterline reporting. The sanctuary was closed for one week and opened after the rain. The rubbish which was thrown on the property has been put in piles but has not as yet been removed. Machinery is in operation to write to the police asking that a summons be issued. Mr. Breck, a librarian, has a group of young people and has expressed a desire to use the sanctuary for work. Mr. Ditterline was authorized to give the group permission to work at the Sanctuary.

Junior Audubon. Mrs. Geiffert reporting. Program has been completed. Mrs. Geiffert is assisted by Bob Augustine. The group will use the Hawthorne Public School on alternate Saturday until further notice. Valuable assistance is being given by the PTA by the sending of flyers and correspondence and general cooperation.

President's news. Mr. Moore reports Ed Walton and Lew Bowen as co-chairman of the paid meeting. Appreciation was expressed by the president for aid in the Valhalla flower show especially to Mr. Richie, the Ditterlines, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Holmes and to Miss Elizabeth Bing. SMRAS had an attractive display, and the publicity and public relations was deemed beneficial to the society.

The president asked that a copy of the minutes of Board Meetings be sent to Mr. Fennell for information which might be published in the Bulletin.

Mr. Boyle called attention to a violation of the State Conservation Law by a contractor named Attaviano who is disposing of material excavated from his pool by dumping it into the Croton River. No action was decided upon.

The next meeting will be held at the Robert E. Bell School on Thursday, November 13. Future Board meeting will be held on the second Thursday of each month.

A vote of thanks was given Mrs. Coggeshall for her hospitality.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25.

Respectfully submitted

Willis J. Messiah

Recording Secretary

SAW MILL RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY INC.

Financial Statement

For the month of September 1964

GENERAL FUND

<u>BALANCE</u> September 1, 1964		\$ 614.82
<u>RECEIPTS</u> - N. A. S. dues	\$ 60.00	
Sale of books	12.50	72.50
		<hr/>
		687.32
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u> -- Postage	7.28	
Program	25.00	
Conservation leaflets	12.50	
Envelopes ;	8.82	
Subscription "Field Notes"	4.00	
Cost of books	15.15	72.75
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<u>BALANCE</u> September 30, 1964		<u>614.57</u>

SANCTUARY FUND

<u>BALANCE</u> September 1, 1964		510.91
<u>RECEIPTS</u> - Memorial contributions	80.00	80.00
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		590.91
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u> - Postage40	
Supplies	2.14	
Public Liability Insurance	28.66	31.50
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<u>BALANCE</u> September 30, 1964		<u>559.41</u>

SCHOLARSHIP AND EDUCATION FUND

<u>BALANCE</u> September 1, 1964		159.33
<u>RECEIPTS</u> - None		
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u> - None		
<u>BALANCE</u> September 30, 1964		<u>159.33</u>

TOTAL BANK BALANCE September 30, 1964 1433.31

Catharine D. Holmes
Treasurer