

Saw Mill River Audubon Society, Inc.
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Director and Chairmen of Standing Committees
February 11, 1965

[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 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lester C. Holmes.

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

The Secretary's report of the January 14 meeting was read and approved as read.

The Treasurer's Report submitted by Mrs. Holmes indicated a balance of \$1,197.23 in the general fund, \$799.81 in the sanctuary fund and \$167.63 in the scholarship and education fund, for a total bank balance as of January 31, 1965 in the amount of \$2,164.67. Gross receipts from the sale of fruit cakes amounted to \$167.53. The cost of the cakes was \$136.54 indicating a gross profit of 430.99.

Letters from Miss Thema Smith of Houston, Texas to Mr. Holmes and to William Fennell were read. They dealt principally with her returning the amount of \$35.00 to SMRAS, the sum of which was voted to her as a delegate to the National Audubon Society Convention held at Corpus Christie, Texas in 1962. Her letter to Mr. Fennell expressed the wish that the money be used as a contribution to the Joseph Malone Memorial Fund. A motion was introduced and passed transferring the money from the general fund to the Joseph A. Malone Memorial Fund. The money had been voted into the general fund at the January 14th Directors Meeting.

Conservation Committee. Mrs. Coggeshall reporting included comments on President John's special message to Congress on Conservation. One significant fact in the message concerning natural beauty preservation of rivers like the Hudson is that Federal interference is precluded. It was also reported that the petition to reopen the Consolidate Edison hearings on the Storm King Project was denied.

Regarding the MacGregor Pond Property near Peekskill, a letter from a Mrs Rusck [sp?] of Peekskill was reference to the Cortland Conservation Committee. The letter express interest in future use of the property as a sanctuary. Mr. Schwartz who originally introduced to SMRAS members the possibility of the land being donated as a sanctuary is actively engaged in promoting the interests of the landowners in donating their land.

A letter was received from Mr. Charles Little of the Open Spaces Action Committee expressing congratulations and encourages for SMRAS action on the Pocantico River property. Ed Walton's report concerns the same property urges patience and states the history of the land is being investigated by W.A. Slater, a land surveyor of Ossining. Latest information indicates the area is larger than at first supposed. The land formerly belonged to the Briarcliff Realty Co., and a Mrs. Law appears to be present owner.

Junior Audubon. Mrs. Geiffert reporting. Two clubs are operating in Hawthone. Bob Augustine is assisting Mrs. Geiffert. Two field trips are made to Nannahagan Park. A total of 29 members are in the club, largely boys.

The group led by Eunice Ditterline has grown large enough to be split into a younger and older group. There is room for additions to the older group. Meetings are held on Friday afternoons. A trip was made to the Hayden Planetarium. Permission was sought to receive bus rides to the meetings for the youngster but little cooperation was advanced by the bus owners.

Membership Committee report given by Let Holmes indicates a total of 334 members. A list of the membership has been sent to National office for editing.

Program. The president reported that the March 12 date has been filled by Mr. Deluccia of the Museum of Natural History who will give a lecture on the preparation of displays for the museum.

Brinton Brook. Mrs. Richie reports everything in order. No animal tracks were seen. The insurance rate on the sanctuary will increase since Mrs. Brinton is free of the land and National Audubon is sole owner.

Chernick Sanctuary. Mr. Ditterline reports assistance from Will Osborne and Jack Anderson in preparing a sign to be done in the Ditterline basement. The front part of the deer carcass was discovered on the sanctuary apparently left by poachers. Mr. Ditterline has written to Cornell university for cars issued in conjunction with their nesting program. This program will be announced to member at the February 19th meeting.

Presidents News. A letter was read from Leon Nettleton to Mr. Chernick expressing appreciation and mentioning dumping on the property and asking for assistance.

The May 21 meeting site will be the Roselle Avenue School instead of the High School.

A letter from Leon Nettleton to Pleasantville postmaster complained of poor service received an apology from the postmaster.

Mr. Nettleton also write a letter of sympathy to the widow of Mr. Wood the flower photographer. A reply was received from Mrs. Wood.

Mrs. Forsyth will give a report on the Joseph Malone Memorial Fund at the March board meeting.

The nominating committee was approved. Members are Mr. Frank Curnen, Mrs. Charles Augat, and Mrs. G. R. Gamertsfelder. The members representative for the budget committee was approved. She is Mrs. Grace Messiah. Mr. and Mrs. A.P. Vannini were approved as auditors.

A scholarship chairman is needed because of the resignation of Mr. D. J. Overocker. Nominees for the office were named. They are Mrs. Phillis Ellison, Mrs. Howard Spendelow, and Mr. Will Osborne.

A letter from Howard Spendelow was read which describe his trip to the far east.

A vote of thanks was given to the Holmes for their hospitality.

A motion was duly passed to approve the date of the annual meeting as April 30 1965.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35.

Respectfully submitted,
Willis J. Messiah,
Recording Secretary