

SAW MILL RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Minutes of Regular Meeting of Officers, Board of Directors,
and Chairmen of Standing Committees

October 13, 1966

The meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Coggeshall. Present were Mesdames Coggeshall, Forsyth, Holmes, Koste, and Spendelow, and Messrs. Bligh, Ditterline, Holmes, Lincoln, Messiah, Osborn, and Spendelow. The meeting was called to order by the president.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of the previous meeting of September 8 were read and a correction noted as follows. While dues were paid to the Federated Conservationists last November, the exact period covered ^{was} ~~is~~ still to be determined.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The financial statement for the month of September, indicating a balance on hand of \$2,012.82 as of the 30th, was read and placed on file.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fund Raising - Further publicity regarding Mr. Komorowski's fine film for the society's annual fund-raising program will soon be furnished to the membership and public.

Program - Dr. Bligh reported that all programs were now set except for Membership Participation Night. Mrs. Coggeshall mentioned that Mrs. Stout had a very fine collection of stuffed birds.

Mr. Messiah made known that owing to a report of vandalism occurring at the last membership meeting, a note of apology had been written to the Roselle Avenue School. It was decided not to use the classroom in question in the future.

Conservation - Mrs. Coggeshall announced that President Johnson

had signed Mr. Ottinger's Hudson River Bill on September 26.

Mr. Udall has brought forth a report, "Focus on the Hudson", outlining what he would like to do about the Hudson.

Concerning the California Redwoods, five timber companies have agreed to cease operations, pending a bill to protect the area. No further action has been taken in connection with the Grand Canyon area. The Endangered Species Bill has passed the Senate.

Information on the Birds of New York State is wanted. A four-year research program was begun in January.

A meeting of groups opposing Route 87 will take place on Monday, October 17, at Bedford Hills Community House at 8 p.m.

Membership - Mr. Holmes reported that National Audubon now notifies us of members dropped, - after six months non-payment of dues. Membership now stands at 363.

Mr. Holmes also read a card from Scott Dearolf volunteering for sanctuary committee work.

Jim Jutte of Texas would welcome any correspondence with Smras members. Mrs. Holmes read an interesting letter from Mr. Jutte to Mr. Nettleton. It was reported that Marshall Howe has published an article in "Bird Banding Magazine" on the identification of flycatchers, phoebes, and peewees, and his picture is in one of the Life Nature Series books.

Brinton Brook Sanctuary - Mr. Boyle is resigning from the Board of Directors and as Chairman of Brinton Brook Committee owing to the pressure of business assignments. Work needed to be done at the sanctuary was outlined. The dam requires repairs. To avoid a fishkill, a backhoe or dredge will be needed to deepen water at

the base of the dam and the pond rid of cattails and other plant interlopers. The new redwood sign is nearly completed and will need to be installed, and the old sign moved to the back entrance. Volunteers are needed to walk the trails and report on conditions. Mr. Ditterline mentioned that Briarcliff Girl Scouts are anxious to work, but that a chairman is needed to organize the work. It was decided to investigate the membership in the Croton area to find people willing to serve at Brinton. Further needs of Brinton are to contact the special game warden and check on his patrolling of the sanctuary, to check on the "No Hunting" signs and post new ones, check and repaint the trail markers, and to weatherproof and varnish the main signs.

Chernick - Mr. Osborn reported that on the 24th of September, Messrs. Holmes, Ditterline, Anderson, Church, and Osborn, and a troop of Boy Scouts accomplished the laying of 250 feet of corduroy trail into the sanctuary. Fifteen boys are to work there on October 15 and camp out overnight. This is a new troop from Briarcliff, and it would like to have more projects. Work at Thurber and repairing of dam leakage at Brinton were suggested. Mr. Lincoln offered to give a lecture on bird-banding to the troop.

New Sanctuary - A meeting of the committee with Dr. and Mrs. Pruyne will shortly be called. Mr. Spindel reported that 103 species of birds have been identified in the locality of the sanctuary. He has obtained the promise of Dr. John McKelvey of the Rockefeller Foundation to come and help identify the trees, shrubs, and plants on the trails.

Thurber - Mrs. Ridgeway has been in the hospital for about eight

weeks, is home now with her health much improved. She is anxious to continue her chairmanship, and full of ideas for improving the sanctuary. Mr. Messiah will inform Mr. Ridgeway about the availability of the scouts for work at Thurber.

Suggestions of names of persons for possible appointment to fill two vacancies on the Board of Directors and several committee chairmanships were discussed. It was decided that it was more important to fill the latter first.

Mr. Lincoln will handle the mailing of the bulletins.

Mr. Messiah has asked Mrs. Mack to be our delegate to the Audubon Convention in Sacramento, California. Mr. Holmes suggested that we appropriate \$25 towards her expenses. Mr. Osborn made this motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ditterline, and carried.

It was suggested that money from the Joe Malone Memorial Fund be given to the Pleasantville Library to buy a set of books, the Audubon Prints, in his memory. Dr. Bligh made a motion that such funds be used to buy the two volumes, if so allowed by the conditions of the Memorial Fund. This motion was seconded by Mr. Lincoln and passed unanimously.

The meeting ended with a long discussion of the advisability of any statements by the Saw Mill River Audubon Society concerning Route 117. It was decided to confer about this with National Audubon because such a statement might jeopardize our tax exempt situation.

Mr. Osborn made a motion that a letter of thanks be written to the Sierra Club for its stand on the realignment of Route 117. This was seconded by Mrs. Coggeshall to start discussion, but the motion was not passed on a later vote.

The next meeting of the Board is to take place at the home of

Mrs. Paul Anderson on November 10. A vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. Coggeshall for her hospitality, and the meeting was adjourned after 11:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Recording Secretary