

Dec. 14, 1967

the directors of

A meeting of/the Sawmill River Audubon Society Inc. was held at the home of Mrs. Koste on December 14, 1967. Members present were Messrs. Messiah, Holmes, Kayser, Lincoln, Osborn and Spendelow and Mesdames Anderson, Coggeshall, Ridgeway, Kurnen, Holmes, Forsythe and Koste.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand as of November 30 of \$4,134.12. Mrs. Holmes read a letter from the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs asking us to let them know whether we want to pay our dues. Mr. Lincoln mentioned that this group depends on dues as their main source of income and that most of it goes into the publishing of the Kingbird. Mr. Messiah stated we should either make a clean break or make a donation. Kaye Anderson made a motion, seconded by Mary Forsyth that we remain members of the Bird Club and make a payment of our regular dues. Motion was carried.

Mrs. Holmes also reported that she had heard from a mysterious donor who is willing to contribute the sum of \$1000 to SMRAS to carry on our sanctuary programs.

Conservation: Mrs. Coggeshall reported that N. Y. State will create a 3000 acre park on the east bank of the Hudson between Cold Spring and Beacon. It will be called the New Hudson Highlands State Park.

Yorktown will buy 124 acres on Turkey Mountain for recreational and open space purposes.

SMRAS released a statement calling for early adoption of a Conservation Bill of Rights similar to that in the proposed constitution which was turned down by the voters in November. Among the names on the state-ment and position paper was Mrs. Coggeshall's, at the request of Mr. David Sive, executive director of the Constitutional Convention Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture.

Mr. Walter S. Boardman, Consultant to the National Parks Assoc., Washington D. C. invited Mrs. Coggeshall to attend a meeting in New York to plan for a conference on the Hudson River to be held in March, possibly at Vassar College, the purpose being to generate activity on some legislation to protect the Hudson.

A letter was received from Gov. Rockefeller relating to protecting historic and natural resources in relation to the new transportation bond issue passed in November.

Lenni Lenape League is working to prevent the destruction of Sunfish Pond and presented material to the Middle Atlantic Resources Council meeting on Nov. 30. Announcement was made about a 2-day pilgrimage on May 25 and 26, 1968.

Mary Forsyth mentioned that in the Dec. 11 issue of SPORTS ILLUSTRATED there was an article containing reports from several people in various fields of conservation, and Bob Boyle had requested that we write to say we enjoyed the article because they do not as a rule run this sort of thing.

Membership: Let Holmes announced a membership of 405.

Mr. Messiah mentioned the January program is in the works, despite the fact that Mr. Ditterline is moving. Stan Lincoln is working on it and welcomes assistance from anyone.

Gedney Brook - Howard Spendelow said he had had calls from the Open Spaces Sanctuary Committee with a lot of questions and the suggestion that Crystal Springs owns a large amount of property behind the sanctuary. He had also had a call from a neighbor who is willing to give 2.2 acres of land, the corner of which touches the Pruyn property. He asked that Mrs. Holmes look into the matter of when the tax rolls for 1968 would be made up.

Brinton Brook - Mr. Haas had had a letter from Farida Wiley asking to bring a group of 65 people to visit the sanctuary on May 18, and Mary Forsyth said they had done it before in very good order. Mr. Messiah talked about the fireplace and that someone had been cooking there.

Mrs. Forsyth had heard from A. C. Kaufman who has land bordering the property, and wishes to discuss this with our attorney. Stan Lincoln made a motion, seconded by Dave Kayser that our President be empowered to seek the services of Mr. Hoch Reid as the society's legal counsel. Motion carried.

Thurber - Mrs. Ridgeway reported that the boy scout is making progress on the trails and plans to continue working. She had written Mrs. Thurber about this.

Chernick - Mr. Osborn announced that new labeling of plants would be done in the Spring.

Directory - The new directory will be ready on the 18th of December and will be mailed after Christmas.

Junior Audubon - Catherine Holmes mentioned that Miss Brooks in Ossining is still interested.

Long Range Planning - Mr. Ridgeway will serve on the Long Range Planning Committee to replace Ed Ditterline. Mr. Lincoln asked that the Board agree to establish a special fund for endowment. He made the motion, seconded by Lester Holmes, that we establish a separate bank account titled as the SMRAS Sanctuary Endowment Fund and transfer the present balance of the Joe Malone Memorial fund supplemented by the memorial fund for James Jutte plus the \$300 voted by the Board at the June meeting. Motion was carried.

Leon Nettleton has been working on the possibility of our getting library space for storage. Also we have now acquired several cartons of books

and articles on conservation as well as several cases of color slides from Mrs. Fennell. Mrs. Forsyth mentioned we ought to try Lyndhurst as another possible area for storage. Mr. Nettleton, Kaye Anderson and Kay Koste will be the committee to look into this.

The next meeting will be at the home of Dave Kayser on Jan. 11. With a vote of thanks to Mrs. Koste for her hospitality, the meeting adjourned at 10:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Koste
Recording Secretary