

Jan. 11, 1968

A meeting of the board of directors of SMRAS was held on Jan. 11, 1968 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kayser. Present were Messrs. Kayser, Messiah, Holmes, Lincoln, Osborn and Cotter and Mesdames Holmes, Miller, Coggeshall, Curnen, and Koste. Previous minutes read and approved.

Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand as of December 31 of \$3,068.21 and a balance in the sanctuary fund of \$751.62.

Membership: Mr. Holmes announced a membership of 406.

Conservation: Mrs. Coggeshall reported that the Interior Department is investigating the possibility of establishing a Federal Wildlife Refuge on a wetlands area in Oyster Bay on Long Island Sound. This is the area suggested by Governor Rockefeller for a bridge linking the Rye area to Long Island. The department would oppose the bridge construction if it felt that the bridge would seriously impair the use of the land for migratory birds. The osprey nests in the area and is regarded as an endangered species according to the Fish and Wildlife Bureau.

The problem of ducks getting stuck in the ice on the Bronx River has arisen again this year with the arrival of cold weather. The ducks are mainly a domesticated variety of the sort that people give children for Easter and cannot fly. An effort is now being made to extricate the ducks and it is planned next year to remove them before freezing weather.

Program: Mr. Lincoln announced the January meeting would be a display and discussion on bird banding and bird breeding and Christmas census. Mr. Messiah said the Board should express gratitude to Ed Ditterline for his services to the society.

Gedney Brook: The other sign has been planted at the Southeast corner and the Spindelow boys with the help of a Boy Scout had done more work on the trails.

Brinton Brook: Mr. Messiah had contacted Hoch Reid regarding the communication of Mr. Kaufman concerning possible donation of land. Reid has contacted Kaufman, who has about 20 acres of land which he thinks he wants to donate to the National Audubon Society. It adjoins Brinton Brook. Information from George Porter revealed they never assess any value to donated property and the value is set by the donor. It was learned that Hoch Reid is interested in being of service to us but may not have much time. Mr. Holmes suggested a lawyer named Bob Brisson who would be willing to do work for us at no fee.

Thurber and Chernick - no report.

Junior Audubon: Mrs. Holmes has started a nature study class at Grasslands.

Long Range Planning: Mr. Lincoln stated they expected to have a meeting shortly to discuss publicity consideration for the endowment fund campaign next Spring.

Miscellaneous: Mr. Holmes expressed interest in starting an Ecology Class in Adult Education next fall, and would contact a possible teacher.

Mr. Messiah expressed thanks to Mr. Lincoln for the Bulletin and to Mr. Nettleton for the Directory, and also to Dot Kenney and Miss Reiter for the mailing. Several copies have been sent to Mrs. Fennell.

Mr. Messiah also mentioned the passing of Emily Scholerman, and that of Bill Lane, custodian at Roselle School.

Mrs. Miller is working on the Audubon scholarships and has sent for brochures relating to this.

With a vote of thanks to the Kayser's for their hospitality, the meeting adjourned at 10:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Koste, Recording Secretary