

Feb. 8, 1968

A meeting of the Board of Directors of SMRAS was held on Feb. 8, 1968 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Holmes. Members present were Messrs. Messiah, Holmes, Osborn, Kayser, Lincoln, Spendelow and Cotter and Mesdames Coggeshall, Anderson, Miller, Holmes, Curnen, and Koste.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand as of Jan. 31 of \$3382.84 and a balance of \$1,759.08 in the Sanctuary Endowment Fund.

Conservation: Mrs. Coggeshall reported she joined a hike along the Olmsted Trail on Staten Island to protest the destruction of a greenbelt area by a highway. With the possible exception of Jamaica Bay, the Staten Island Greenbelt is the greatest open space resource in New York City.

In a large ad in the Times, Charles Luce, Chairman of the Board of the Consolidated Edison Co. stated that Con Ed has adopted a policy of putting underground new distribution lines under certain circumstances. SMRAS joined in a campaign last summer with other groups to urge this.

The national park proposal for the Adirondacks has been turned down by the State of New York.

Hearings will be held on plans for the Hudson River Expressway on Feb. 19 and 20th in Ossining and Tarrytown. Lester Holmes made a motion, seconded by Kaye Anderson, that our President and Conservation Chairman be empowered to speak for our society concerning saving the natural resources of the Hudson River at the meeting in Tarrytown on Feb. 20. Carol Coggeshall is to draw up the statement.

Bills protecting the kingfisher are being considered and Carol will write letters trying to get the kingfisher on the protected list. The Conservation Bill of Rights is being reintroduced into the State legislature.

Lester Holmes announced a membership of 407.

Program - Kaye Anderson announced that Dr. Roma would give a program on Oceanography on Feb. 23.

Gedney Brook - Dave Kayser will become the new chairman of Gedney Brook and will also take the place of Howard Spendelow as Co-Chairman for field trips. He reported calls from the Open Space Action Committee as to what progress we are making with it. Mr. Messiah will contact Ned Smith and Chuck Little regarding this.

Brinton Brook - Lester Holmes had taken a walk through the sanctuary and found everything in order.

Thurber - The Ridgeways had been there and found things in shape, and the Boy Scout is still working at it.

Chernick - Will Osborn is planning to meet with an Eagle Scout next Sunday. The martin house must be taken down and the sparrows taken out of it.

Lester Holmes said regarding the possibility of an ecology class in the adult school there is a man at King's College who may be able to take it next year. He also said he would get information to Mrs. Miller on scholarships at Cedar Knolls School and Cottage School.

Jr. Audubon - No new reports. Mr. Holmes had received a wired chart showing birds from Ed Ditterline which can be used by Jr. Audubon classes.

Long Range Planning - Mr. Lincoln said they have had a meeting, which Kaye Anderson also attended for publicity. They have set aside Sat., April 20 for inspection and a walking tour of our sanctuaries by Duryea Morton of National and Mr. Pearson from Greenwich Center to give us guidance. They plan to meet with the sanctuary committees at each one.

They recommend that we conduct a campaign for funds from our members this spring and hope to put out a brochure. Mr. Lincoln made a motion that we make a sanctuary fund drive. Seconded by Mary Curnen, motion was carried. Mr. Lincoln also stated that it was the opinion of the planning committee that one of the best ways they can publicize this is to hire a part time naturalist next year, even if we had a man to do this only one day a week on a monetary basis of \$1200 to \$1500, and then make it known to schools and the community. He would like to recommend that when the budget committee meets for next year's budget we consider an expense of \$1500 for the purpose of paying a part time naturalist for next year. Mr. Messiah made a motion that the Board ask the budget committee to consider the inclusion of paying this sum to a part time naturalist for the 1968-69 budget. Seconded by Kaye Anderson, motion was carried.

Miscellaneous - Regarding the records of the Society, Mr. Messiah will contact Leon Nettleton as chairman of the committee to go over the collection of items left us by Bill Fennell. Mr. Nettleton is looking into the possibility of using space in the old Pleasantville Library. An announcement will be put in the bulletin about our need for a 4 or 5 drawer steel file.

It was decided we would not send anyone to the Federated Bird Clubs convention in Rochester on May 3-5.

The date of April 19 was chosen for the Annual meeting. We must elect a nominating committee of three members who are not officers or members of the Board of Directors. The Vanninnis were elected to serve as the Auditing committee. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Miller.

With thanks to the Holmes' for their hospitality, the meeting adjourned at 10:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Kostz
Recording Secretary