

April 11, 1968

A meeting of the Board of Directors of SMRAS was held on Apr. 11, 1968 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Lincoln. Members present were Messrs. Dave Kayser, Lester Holmes, Howard Spendelow, Robert Ridgeway and Stan Lincoln, and Mesdames Catherine Holmes, Mary Forsyth, Florence Miller, Mary Curnen, Carol Coggeshall and Kay Koste. Mr. Lincoln presided in the absence of President Messiah.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand as of March 31 of \$3,386.14 and in the Sanctuary fund \$1,789.08

Mr. Lincoln reported a call ^{to Cat Holmes} from Fred Preiss who offered to sell us 4 acres of land near the Gedney Brook property rather than donating us the land. The Nominating Committee has reported to the President that they have completed their assignment.

Scholarships - Mrs. Miller stated she had had 14 requests for application blanks, the following of which she submitted for consideration:

Donald Aab, instructor in Biology at Kings College
Carl Howenstein, senior at Ossining High School
Brona Fisher, Teacher at Grafflin School
Mrs. Thea Frey, teacher at Grafflin
Mrs. Ryan, teacher in Bronx and Conservation chairman of Mt. Vernon Garden Club
Mr. and Mrs. Nowland Thrope, Rye Colony, social workers
Glen Swertfager, social worker Croton schools
Mrs. Martin Golden Librarian at Peekskill
Patricia Knudson, nurse from Thornwood

After some discussion, Mrs. Miller made a motion seconded by Howard Spendelow that we award scholarships to Mr. Aab, for two weeks at Wyoming Camp, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ a two week scholarship to Mrs. Frey at ^{add Fisher} ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~, and two one week scholarships at the Conn. camp to ^{2 who Maine} Carl Howenstein and Mrs. Ryan. Mr. Lincoln suggested that we notify both the winners and the losers, and that Catherine Holmes send reservations and checks. The winners should also be asked to submit a report.

Long Range Planning: Mr. Lincoln announced the committee had met again last week. Mr. Messiah has not confirmed as yet the person in mind for the job of part time naturalist. We are still also in need of a Sanctuary Director.

The Sanctuary inspection tour is set for Saturday, April 20, when Mr. Lee Pierson from the Greenwich Center will be our guest for the day. Planning committee members Bob Ridgeway, Hugh Moore and Stan Lincoln with Kaye Anderson will be the hosts for the day, and all interested Board members were invited. Kaye Anderson is getting a special flier out announcing the sanctuary bird walks on April 27 and May 4.

Membership: Mr. Holmes announced a total of 410 members.

Conservation: Report on the meeting on the State Pure Waters program at Marymount College on March 14 emphasized the need for new and improved sewage treatment if the County is to conform to the Health Department laws and standards. A program will be announced after a study now being conducted to be released in June.

The Federated Conservationists are among the sponsors for a meeting on the problems of solid waste management to be held on Apr. 29, 1968 at the County Center. A panel of experts will explore the problems.

Letter from National Audubon stresses the importance of opposition to a bill S.2951, relating to State authority over wildlife. Basically, this legislation would have Congress confirm the primary authority of the States to control, regulate, and manage fish and wild life within their territorial boundaries.

Junior Audubon: Mary Curnen said she had used the bird chart in her school and the children had been enthusiastic about it.

Gedney Brook: Mr. Spendelow reported the entrance road has been ditched and drained, and a small parking lot cleared out that will accommodate two cars. He announced receipt of deed from Mr. Benedict, whose lawyer want it in the deed that the property reverts to the Town of New Castle. There is a possibility of getting three more acres in the same area.

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Howard had talked with Dr. Pruyn, who was concerned over what would happen to his house in case of his death, and was pleased to hear of the long range plans for a nature center.

Brinton Brook -Mary Forsyth said she had heard nothing from Mr. Kaufman with regard to his giving us additional land. Hoch Reid and Mr. Messiah are working on this.

Mrs. Ridgeway revealed she had written to Secretary Udall about the Expressway and how it would ruin all the natural resources of the area and cause displacement of people. She had received a reply that he was interested in saving natural areas and preserving the scenic beauty of the Hudson River.

Mr. Lincoln expressed satisfaction to Chairman Dave Kayser and Jackie Coyle for a good trip to Chincoteague, attended by 40 people. Mr. Kayser will work on the reservations for the Pelagic trip in June in conjunction with the Linnean Society.

Mr. Let Holmes announced that he and Mrs. Coggeshall and Mrs. Miller were working on the policy statement for the Society and it would be distributed to board members for discussion, initial copy of draft being read at the meeting.

Mr. Lincoln stated he would report at the next Board meeting on further plans for the Fund Drive this Fall. He also asked Board members to code the lists of members with ideas on what donations could be expected from members.

With thanks to the Lincolns for their hospitality, meeting adjourned at 10:55. Next meeting will be at the home of the Ridgeways.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Koste

Catherine Koste
Recording Secretary

Recognizing the heavy responsibility assumed by the Saw Mill River Audubon Society, for maintaining and developing its Sanctuary Program, and the necessity for focusing the society's energies and funds on the accomplishment of this project, the Policy Committee submits the following:-

QUESTION: What should be the obligations of the Saw Mill River Audubon Society in regard to other groups with similar objectives?

In view of the fact that the Saw Mill River Audubon Society, as a branch of the National Audubon Society, is dedicated to the cause of Conservation, it is not incumbent upon SMRAS to enter into membership with, nor to assume financial obligations toward other organizations, regardless of how worthy their goals.

However, should representation in other groups be deemed desirable, as individual membership may be provided for a specific member of the Society, by the SMRAS Board of Directors. (Conservation Chairman?)

Donations to other organizations may be made, on a free-will basis, at the discretion of the Board of Directors of SMRAS.

Saw Mill River Audubon Society shall maintain a spirit of cooperation with other similar organizations, and outside of dues-paying-memberships shall be free to work with such groups toward a common goal.

Policy Committee: Carol Coggeshall
Florence Miller
Lester Holmes, Ch.