

September 12, 1968

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held on September 12 at the home of Mr. Lincoln. Attendees were Messrs. Kayser, Messiah, Lincoln, Lober, Osborn, Nettleton, Powell and Holmes and Mesdames Holmes, Smith, Curnen, and Coggeshall.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read. The following corrections were made to the Brinton Brook report: Mr. Holmes stated that the insurance policy on the cabin had been paid and it was stated that maps may have been filed concerning the right of way. Also, Mr. Buchanan, not Mrs. had made the inquiry concerning a joint meeting. The minutes were then approved as corrected.

The treasurers report was read by Mrs. Holmes and placed on file. The balance as of August 31, 1968 was \$3378.97.

Mr. Lincoln reported that no special meetings of the executive committee had been held over the summer although other committees had met.

A letter was read from Mr. Spendelow expressing appreciation for SMRAS offer of scholarships for his two sons.

Mr. Lincoln announced the following appointments: Mrs. Koste as co-chairman of the program committee in addition to secretary. Also helping on the program committee were Mr. Messiah and Mr. Powell. Miss Thelma Smith will be the bulletin editor and also co-chairman for field trips. Mr. Holmes and Miss Reiter have worked on the directory with the help of Miss Pickard.

The program for the following year was presented and a copy is attached. There was discussion as to the award for the best nature photograph for which we provide an amount of money. Mr. Lincoln recommended that the program committee discuss with the camera club the kind of award they desire. The date of the annual meeting was changed to April 11th in order not to be too close to the Camera Club meeting on the 21st. An additional meeting will be planned in May. There will be a social hour preceding the Sept. 20th meeting.

Mr Kayser announced that the field trip schedule had been completed and a copy is attached. However, the Brigantine trip scheduled for 3 and 4 will be a one day May trip on May 3rd.

Mr. Nettleton, Sanctuary Director, gave the following report:  
Gedney Brook: A meeting of the Gedney Brook Committee was held on Sept. 8 at the home of Dr. Pruyn and it was reported that the trails had been improved, plans for a trail map were discussed, plans for a bridge were discussed, as well as details of digging out the pond. It was decided to build a simple shelter at the entrance which could contain a bulletin board. The problem of public relations with the neighbors was also discussed.

Mr. Nettleton presented qualifications for a naturalist (copy attached) and the board approved these qualifications as guidelines with adjustments as needed. The Board agreed that if a member of the Society met the requirements for a naturalist, there would be no objection to the

the employment of such a member. Mr. Nettleton then read a letter from Kay Anderson, a member of the board, applying for the position. The letter outlined her qualifications and included suggestions for future use and development of all our sanctuaries. A motion was made by Mr. Nettleton, seconded by Mrs. Curnen, and passed unanimously to accept Mrs. Anderson as part time naturalist. Mrs. Anderson's resignation from the board was accepted with regret, but it was agreed that she would requested to attend board meetings. It was agreed that Mrs. Anderson would start on October 1st and that payment would be on a salary basis, rather than exact time. The details and exact duties will be worked out. It was suggested that we try to work out an independent contract which would mean the elimination of our paying withholding tax and additional insurance.

Mr. Osborn presented several designs for a SMRAS insignia. It was decided to appoint a committee to decide on a design and also methods of distribution.

Mrs. Curnen announced that she intended to start a Junior Audubon Club in her neighborhood.

Mr. Holmes, membership chairman, announced that we have 415 members.

Conservation: Mrs. Coggeshall reported that as a result of a request from the Catholic Kolping Society, she and Mr. and Mrs. Holmes had made a visit to the Koping property in Montrose, to give our opinion as to the value of the land from a natural resources point of view. It is a 52 acre piece of land on the Hudson, without the railroad or any highway between it and the river. Con Ed wants the land for a power plant and due to a law passed during the last legislative session, may condemn if the Society does not sell voluntarily. The board agreed to support the Kolping Society in its fight to retain its land.

The Village of Irvington announced plans to build a parking lot on a portion of the Croton Aqueduct. This was opposed by a group recently formed to make a walkway out of the entire 22 miles of aqueduct land in Westchester. This group asked for our support and a telegram was sent asking the Hudson River Valley Commission to hold a public hearing on the project. The hearing was scheduled and later canceled because the Taconic State Park Commission, which has jurisdiction over the aqueduct announced a review of its plans for the aqueduct and Irvington stated that temporarily, it would not go ahead with the parking lot.

The Next Decade Conference held by the Hudson River Valley Commission was not as successful as hoped for mainly for two reasons. First, it was held at Hackley School, which is not air-conditioned, on one of the hottest and most humid days of the summer. Secondly, the decision of the Commission to unanimously approve the Hudson River Expressway was announced at the beginning of the session, and was so shocking to so many people at the conference that it was difficult to think ahead in the broad terms and philosophy which was the purpose of the conference.

The Federal Highway Bill passed into law in spite of the many objections voiced by conservation groups. It no longer includes the protection for

parks, recreation areas and wildlife refuges which were included in the former bill and it mandates construction of a highway and a bridge over the Potomac which many conservation groups have objected to.

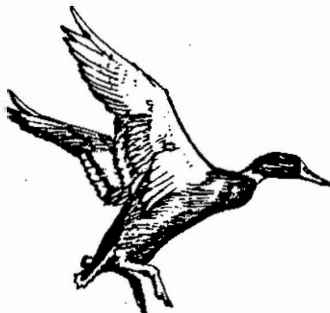
Details of an in-service conservation course for elementary teachers of Boces Districts 1 and 2 to begin in September 1968 were given. This pilot project was started by the Federated Conservationists of West. Co.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carl Coggeshall*  
Acting Secretary

Saw Mill River



Audubon Society  
Inc.

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FOUNDED IN 1895 AND DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S NATURAL RESOURCES

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September 17, 1968

Dear Saw Mill River Audubon Society Member,

Here is a motto for the year... We are "ON OUR WAY!" A look at the enclosed brochure makes the meaning clear. The Society is at a crossroads.....a decision point.... We think we should and will propel the Society into a new spectrum of activity and service to the causes of conservation in 1968.

We are hiring a naturalist to guide and assist in the development and operation of our sanctuary programs. This is, we believe, a key step in enabling our sanctuary programs to keep pace with the growing challenges of the day. We now have a variety of sanctuary properties that permit a wide scope of programs -from quiet seclusion and self-study ... to more nature center oriented activities ... from nature preservation ... to nature education. Employment will be on a part-time basis (8 -10 hours per week) until funds are available to enlarge the scope of the program. We have funds for the first year, and we have set a goal for the Society: A FULL TIME NATURALIST BY 1975.

We realize that our goal cannot be reached unless we get special financial help in the form of a number of large gifts and/or bequests from members, friends, community and business organizations. We will make a determined and continuous effort to get this special help, but before we take our cause and appeal outside the membership, we should demonstrate what the members are ready and able to do. Therefore, a Membership Fund Drive is being launched. Team members, under the Chairmanship of former President Hugh Moore, will be visiting every member in the month ahead. At a kick-off meeting on September 15th, twelve families contributed or pledged over \$800.00.

An average gift of \$25 per family would launch our program in a significant way. However, we will need a number of \$50, \$100, \$250, and \$500 gifts as well. We urge each member to consider this appeal as one of his major giving objectives for the year. All contributions in excess of next year's actual requirements, and all large special gifts will be added to the endowment fund. This fund is currently at \$1800.

Please call either of us or any officer or director with your questions or suggestions. We know you will want to help!

  
H. D. Moore, General Chairman

  
S. R. Lincoln, President

BRANCH: NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY