

May 8, 1969

A meeting of the Board of Directors of SMRAS, Inc. was held on May 8, 1969 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Messiah. Members present were Messrs. Messiah, Holmes, Ridgeway, Osborne, Lober, Lincoln, Kayser and Nettleton, and Mesdames Ridgeway, Smith, Coyle, Kinamon, Holmes, Anderson, Curnen, Coggeshall and Koste.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Lincoln introduced the new Board members, Mrs. Coyle and Mrs. Kinamon and welcomed them. He also introduced Miss Jean Braidwood as possible replacement for Catherine Holmes as Treasurer. She will consider the position and we will take action at the next board meeting.

Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand as of April 30 of \$3,233.54 and in the Sanctuary Endowment Fund \$5,542.12, \$5,000.00 of which is in bonds with the National Bank of Westchester and the rest in the County Trust Company account.

Mr. Lincoln had received a letter from Conrad Kites of Scotch Plains High School thanking us for his plaque for the Camera Club meeting. The board expressed appreciation to Mrs. Kinamon for securing it.

Motion was made by Mrs. Ridgeway and seconded by Mr. Holmes that we ask and empower Mr. and Mrs. Nettleton to represent us at the New York Federation of Bird Clubs convention.

Will Osborn gave prices he had received from the people who make the Audubon emblem for possible use for our own patch:

4" full size - 84 pieces - \$1.44 apiece

3" patch - 114 pieces - 72¢ apiece
228 pieces - 44¢ apiece

3½" patch - \$1.28
He will have more to report next month.

Mr. Kayser reported on a successful trip to Brigantine with 17 members participating.

Mrs. Coyle mentioned that the first weekend in October was reserved at Block Island for the R.I. Audubon society and it was suggested she go ahead and make reservations for the weekend of Sept. 27 for us if possible.

Sanctuary: Mr. Nettleton reported a new sign at Brinton Brook and a new trail at Gedney Brook.

Naturalist's Report: Mrs. Anderson announced she had spent 27 hrs. on actual tours, ; 8½ hrs. in preparation time this month. Various activities included bird slides for a Cub Scout meeting, more groups of children at Gedney Brook, meeting for Senior Citizens at Ossining, leading a walk at Found Ridge. Mr. McNaughton at Hackley School also wanted to take his children to Brinton Brook on a geology trip.

She also presented the society with a check for \$2.20 from Brownie Troop 1 of Croton-on-Hudson who had been at Brinton Brook.

Brinton Brook: Mrs. Ridgeway announced she had visited Mrs. Brinton, who will be 94 and is feeling fine. Mrs. Ridgeway has been helping out on the Croton nature program. She also took nature walk with a group who are planning to form a Junior Audubon in Tarrytown. 18 girls in her nature group are developing a wild flower badge for Girl Scouts.

Chernick: Will Osborn said it was too wet to work with the railroad ties. New signs are not yet up. After he uncovered the holes of the martin house, starlings moved in.

Conservation: Mrs. Coggeshall has been informed that our Society has not paid its dues to the Federated Conservationists of Westchester. She has agreed to act as their treasurer temporarily.

She wrote to the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs to ask to be put on the mailing list for their conservation bulletin and received a reply saying that we are not members.

She attended the meeting of the Board of Supervisors when the Westchester Parklands resolution was debated and voted on by the supervisors. There is much to be said on both sides. Some conservation groups are opposing it. As it has now been passed by the State legislature, they are urging telegrams to the Governor asking him to veto the bill. We should watch for hearings on a particular project and take action then.

Scenic Hudson Preservation Conference has invited SMRAS to participate in a Citizens' Conservation Dinner. Russell Train, undersecretary of the Interior will be the speaker. Mr. Holmes moved and it was seconded by Mrs. Curnen that we prepare a statement summarizing our particular purpose and area of interest and submit it to them.

The New York State Action for Clean Air Committee plans to get information to the people on what is going on in air quality control. Sweden, Arizona and Michigan have banned DDT.

Program: Mr. Nettleton announced this month's program is all set and they were working on the June 14th Saturday picnic program.

There was discussion on whether we should again become members of the Fed. Conserv. of Westchester and pay annual dues in lieu of the \$15 we have been sending. Sentiment of the group was that we should support a group like this. Motion was made by Mr. Ridgeway, seconded by Mr. Kayser that we should again become members of this group.

Membership: Mr. Holmes announced a total of 438 members.

Mr. Lincoln suggested having a group planning meeting to work on program schedules, field trips, speakers, etc. for next year and June 7 was decided upon to meet at 2:30 at Kaye Anderson's home.

Mr. Lincoln thanked the group; for sending him to the National Convention. He stated that the theme was that there is not much time left, and mentioned that there was a new push toward having State Audubon groups. His full report will appear in the bulletin.

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

Respectfully submitted,


Recording Secretary