

October 9, 1969

A meeting of the Board of Directors of SMRAS, Inc. was held on October 9, 1969 at the home of Mrs. Paul Anderson. Members and officers present were: Messrs. Lincoln, Osborn, Wecker, Nettleton, Kayser, Holmes and Mesdames Coggeshall, Smith, Coyle, Koste, Holmes, Curnen, Kinaman, Weiss and Anderson.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved with corrections. Addition to the minutes was that the Board had agreed to be a sponsor with the Westchester County Parks and Recreation Commission of a series of conservation meetings.

Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand as of Sept. 30, 1969 of \$2,629.29 and in the Sanctuary Endowment Fund \$5,573.94.

President Lincoln announced the resignation from the Board by James Lober, due to other commitments. Motion was made by Mr. Nettleton, seconded by Mrs. Kinaman, to accept the resignation of Mr. Lober. Mrs. Holmes nominated Mrs. Weiss to fill the position, and Mr. Lincoln also suggested Mr. Wecker and Mrs. Lober. Mrs. Holmes made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Coggeshall, to place Mrs. Weiss's name in nomination and the motion was carried. The Board appointed and elected Mrs. Weiss to fill the term of Mr. Lober until April 1971.

Mr. Lincoln said he would re-activate the committee to study the by-laws for possible amendments.

Conservation: Mrs. Coggeshall reported that the State had agreed not to go through Gregory Pond, but to skirt it, and she had made a statement commending them for leaving it open. They are to keep us informed as to the route.

\$600 million has been voted for the Crusade of Clean Water.

Mrs. Coggeshall has been trying to get the Town of Mt. Pleasant to set up a conservation advisory council and will talk to Lois Lober. Blythedale Home would like to start a nature program and approached the Federated Conservationists about this and asked our leaders to start a program there.

Program - Mr. Wecker said the Oct. 24th meeting will be held at Westlake High School and the Nov. 14 meeting at Pleasantville High School. The annual meeting April 24 is set for the Roselle Ave. school.

Mr. Nettleton mentioned he had talked with our historian, Mr. Youmans who has not yet resigned, but has some other ideas.

Field Trips - Mr. Kayser announced Sunday's field trip to Oyster Bay. Plans were in the making for the Nov. 1 weekend trip to Bombay Hook and Blackwater.

Sanctuary report is attached. Mr. Nettleton will send a letter to Mr. Haas thanking him for his work at Brinton Brook.

Concerning a charge of \$10 in connection with the map and deed of Brinton Brook, Mr. Lincoln made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Curnen, that we honor this charge. National Audubon has no idea where our northern boundary line is. Mr. Nettleton would like to turn the maps over to Will Osborn to study so he can help us look for landmarks. Brinton Brook advisory committee is to meet on Sunday Oct. 19 to pre-sift thoughts about what should be done and bring recommendations to the Board.

Mr. Lincoln brought up the matter of our full responsibility for Thurber Sanctuary since Nature Conservancy has never seen it. There is an official ruling from the town that there would be no tax relief until last year. If this were to be brought back to the public eye again and the society take a position that the property cannot be used we would pay the back taxes as land-locked property. Someone should go through the old correspondence and get the history of the whole thing. No action taken tonight but Mr. Lincoln will ask a committee to do this, considering alternatives open to us and find out from neighbors what they wish us to do, approach the town to see what their feeling is about it. Mr. Nettleton moved that we restore our liability insurance on Thurber. Seconded by Thelma Smith, motion was carried.

Chernick - Mr. Osborn reports making a plank trail and wants second-hand planks and people to put it together. The corduroy trail has not proven successful in wet weather.

Mr. Lincoln announced he had had a call from Mr. Clark Robeson, property owner near Gedney Brook, who is interested in donating to us an acre and a half for tax reasons. Mr. Holmes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wecker, that Mr. Brisson be contacted to give us his views on the subject. Motion was made by Mrs. Coggeshall, seconded by Mrs. Coyle, that the Board would be happy to receive the donation of his land.

Mr. Lincoln told us Lee Pierson is no longer with Greenwich Sanctuary and Mike Shannon is now Director. Also Mr. Tony Buzzanco is the new director at Westmoreland.

Membership: Mr. Holmes announced a total of 475 members. He also announced that the Ecology class at the High School under Mr. Wecker boasts 24 members.

Mr. Holmes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nettleton that we continue to sell the shoulder patches at 50¢. Mrs. Anderson said she would like to give patches to the children of the Gedney neighbors who are interested in the sanctuary. Mr. Nettleton made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Curnen, that we give these as a gift and consider the expense as one of Gedney Brook sanctuary fund. Mrs. Anderson reported she had an area cleared at Gency for a council ring.

It was decided to change the Board meeting to the first Thursday of the month. With thanks to the Andersons for their hospitality, meeting adjourned at 10:38.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Koste
Kay Koste, Recording Secretary