

January 8, 1970

A meeting of the Board of Directors of SMRAS, Inc. was held on January 8, 1970 at the home of Mrs. Coyle. Members and officers present were: Mr. and Mrs. Lester Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ridgeway, Mesdames Coyle, Curnen, Kinaman, Coggeshall, Anderson, Koste, and Messrs. Messiah, Nettleton, Powell, Kayser, Wecker and Lincoln.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand as of Dec. 31, 1969 of \$3,126.44 and in the sanctuary fund \$5,573.94.

Mr. Lincoln reported the two items previously referred to were located in the safe deposit box. Also the board meeting to be held at Mrs. Brinton's has been delayed until the weather gets better.

Membership: Mr. Holmes announced a total of 478 members. There is a possibility of a few transfers secured at the Audubon Films meetings. Mrs. Lindsey is reported to be writing up a story for the newspapers.

Sanctuary Report: Mr. Nettleton had called Mr. Mahon who said his deputy had stopped three hunters but did not remember if they were in the sanctuary itself, but got their names and told them to keep out. Mr. Mahon asked where the other \$50 was and found that we pay that in February. Mrs. Holmes made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kinaman, that we give a subscription to the deputy, Mr. Donecker.

Mr. Lincoln brought up the subject of how could a person belong to two Audubon Societies. Mr. Holmes suggested she contribute to the endowment fund and Mrs. Coyle will send her bulletins and notices.

Mrs. Anderson said she has been working on a folder for Gedney Brook for self-guiding. She had been at Brinton Brook and Mrs. Brinton had reported a number of wild domestic dogs around. Mrs. Anderson thought it might be interesting to schedule some photography days combining two of our sanctuary hikes in the spring. She would also like to have a fern day at Gedney in June and is working with warren Balgooyen for a day in April. The field trip committee will work up the photography day angle.

Gedney Brook: Mr. Kayser said he had no report but wants to do some more posting on the back side.

Mr. Lincoln reported concerning the Roseson property, that he had wanted to get it transferred to us before the end of the year for tax purposes but his lawyer was not able to get it done so fast. Mrs. Robeson had raised the question about having a provision in the deed that would allow their dogs to have access to this piece of property. Mr. Brisson said if we wanted to take the property under these conditions we would be entitled to have a restriction in the deed that it would not be transferable when they sold their property or that it would not revert to their heirs. Mr. Lincoln questioned whether we wanted to refuse the property under these

Mr. Lincoln read a letter from a Mr. Vandobie, a charter member, who had written to Mr. Moore offering to lead a trip through the grounds of the New York Hospital, and Mrs. Ridgeway offered to reply to it.

Program: Mr. Wecker stated the pancake supper night was all set, and they would be serving from 6:30 to 7:45, charging \$1.50 for adults and \$1.00 for children. Mr. Wecker also suggested running a program in the educational vein, but was told we had tried it before and found poor attendance.

Brinton Brook: Mr. Ridgeway said after the bird count at Brinton on Sunday we were all invited to Mrs. Brinton's for lunch.

Mrs. Kinaman reported publicity has been sent to newspapers and to radio stations.

Mrs. Coyle reported the next bulletin would be published next week, and that the permit has been taken care of.

Conservation: Mrs. Coggeshall reported the following:

Under the sponsorship of Senator Gaylord Nelson, there will be a national environmental teach-in on April 22, 1970 on the undergraduate level. Congressman Ottinger is coordinating it in New York State. Some local high schools are also participating and the Federated Conservationists of Westchester County has been asked to help.

As part of the AAAS convention in Boston in December, there was a session on undergraduate studies in environmental science, arranged by Everett Hafner of Hampshire College, to which students were invited. The idea was to build academic support for the study of environmental science as a new discipline.

It is interesting to note that both President Nixon and Governor Rockefeller are taking action on environmental problems.

The Federated Conservationists have arranged for the State Teachers College at New Paltz to give a course for teachers in Westchester called "Man and His Environment": the Dynamics of Conservation" in March. If this is a success, it will be continued in the fall, hopefully funded by the State Education Dept. There will be a fee for the spring session and the FCWC is asking for money to provide scholarships. (Partial) Pace College will also give a course for teachers in the Fall. Mrs. Coggeshall wondered how we felt about giving some money toward scholarships, and Mr. Nettleton said we should remember to consider this in our next year's budget.

Mr. Lincoln reminded us about the By-Laws and asked anyone who was interested to work on the committee.

He then suggested getting communication out to schools regarding our Junior membership, that we should get someone in each school to make sure the students are aware of it. Mr. Wecker mentioned that the main problem in recruiting younger members into the society was to keep their interest up and suggested we work on some structure like an Environmental Action Team that they would feel a part of.

Mr. Wecker offered to head up such a committee, with Carol Coggeshall, and Kaye Anderson. Ken Curtis, Hugh Moore and Donald Abb will also be invited to serve.

Mr. Lincoln stated that in regard to our tax qualification at the 30% level, our first attempt was inadequate. Internal Revenue had called and explained what should have been done. The material has now been sent to him and we should get our ruling by the end of January. This information included a description of who the board members are in private life. This should qualify us on a retroactive basis.

Planning Committee: Mr. Lincoln said they had agreed earlier this year to have the benefit program this fall and the fund drive in the spring. The group met and felt it would be significant this year to continue to improve upon our personal contact with the people. A mail campaign had been discussed, or perhaps to have an organized telephone evening and try a concentrated effort later on. The Budget Committee is to meet in February.

With thanks to Mrs. Coyle for her hospitality, the meeting adjourned at 10:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Koste

Recording Secretary