

SMRAS Board Meeting
May 7, 1981

The meeting was called to order by Doug Maynard at 8:30 p.m. at the home of Frank Gillette. The following members were present: Kaye Anderson, Midge Arnold, Alice Avouris, Harold Bischoff, Roger Christian, Carol Coggeshall, Frank Gillette, Ellen Heidelberger, Stan Lincoln, Doug Maynard, Drew Panko, Hoch Reid, Barbara Spengler, Rita Wecker and Betty Wiltse.

The minutes of the April 2, 1981, Board meeting were read. Stan Lincoln moved they be accepted as read. Seconded and approved.

The Treasurer's report: The balance of SMRAS - \$25,273.11. The Sanctuary Endowment Fund - \$36,588.61. The Light Memorial Scholarship Fund - \$1,480.29.

President's report: Eleanor Swink is unable to continue as editor of the Bulletin and has recruited Noa Fusco to replace her.

Marion Neubauer plans to take over the Treasurer's job this month. We are indebted to Rita Wecker for carrying on.

Drew Panko will be our representative to the National Convention at Estes Park.

The summer committee will be Barbara Spengler, Marion Neubauer, Betty Wiltse, Harold Bischoff, Hoch Reid and Doug Maynard.

Albany reports there is an ombudsman office at Purchase which we can call upon.

Carol Coggeshall will handle the notice from Canari on acid rain.

Hoch Reid moved that the Board elect Rita as Treasurer pro tem, effective from the termination of her term until Marion Neubauer takes office. Seconded and approved.

The President brought up the problem of how to handle requests for money from other conservation groups. What policy should we establish and how should it be organized? Should we give a substantial amount to one rather than a small amount here & there?

National has announced a new energy plan and program to implement it in favor of solar energy and efficiency. How chapters can aid should be put on the agenda for the new program year.

Scarsdale has petitions for support of the Bottle Bill and would like our help.

Frank Gillette moved that we present a petition for a Bottle Bill to the appropriate State people - Mary Goodhue and Peter Sullivan. Seconded and approved.

Membership - 78% as of March 31, 1981.

Frank Gillette reported that George Menkle has agreed to do a limited review of the books - cost not to exceed \$200.

Roger Christian, Publicity Chairman, asked that members get in touch with him if they see something adverse.

Harold Bischoff reported that the Education Committee has chosen four candidates for scholarships: Jackie Mann, Joan DeBello, Mildred Gilman and Theresa McMorrow.

Kaye Anderson reported that Jeff Spindelov would like a sponsor for the Great Gull Island Project.

Dr. Pruyn has given \$1,000 for a summer employee. There are several good candidates.

There are a number of projects such as the board walk at Gedney and botanical inventories at the various sanctuaries. Kaye will work with whomever we hire. The question as to whether this should be a contractual relationship was brought up. Hoch Reid said that the important thing is whether a person is an independent contractor or an employee. If an employee, we would have to deduct taxes from his salary.

Drew Panko reported that Big Day was just like previous years. Also the Tape Committee has established a policy that tapes should not be used on field trips. There will be a written summary for the Field Trip Committee at the next meeting. It will also be published in the Bulletin.

Carol Coggeshall reported that under the grant we are co-signers urging the State to use caution in building toxic waste facilities. More research is needed on sludge. The meeting with Nicos on the new grant was not productive. The Berenson project in New Castle is precedent setting and will probably go ahead.

Midge Arnold raised the question of why more people aren't coming out for field trips. After a discussion on why people join Audubon, it was decided that perhaps they could be attracted by having short trips for beginners.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Elizabeth Wiltse
Recording Secretary