

SMRAS Board Meeting
September 7, 1983

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 p.m. by Pam Rubin at the home of Betty Wiltse. The following members were present: Midge Arnold, Alice Avouris, Peter Burckmyer, Harold Bischoff, Frank Gillette, Ellen Heidelberger, Drew Panko, Donna Nye, Pam Rubin, Stan Wecker and Betty Wiltse. Kaye Anderson and Sophie Keyes were also present.

The minutes of the June Board Meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's report: Excess Expense over Revenue April 1--August 31, 1983 - \$522.06. The balance - \$19,477.94. Endowment Fund - \$51,572.91. Light Memorial Scholarship Fund - \$5,529.76. Saw Mill Audubon Scholarship Fund - \$5,727.00

The President announced that no decisions had been made during the summer.

The members of the Nominating Committee are Lloyd Jamieson, Chairman; Dot Kinaman, and Dot Rath.

The Sanctuary Maintenance Committee will have specific people who will be responsible for each sanctuary with Kaye Anderson in charge.

National Audubon will have a downstate Audubon Council at Greenwich Audubon on October 15th.

Frank Gillette reported on the progress of the seed sale. It may be possible to hold it at a parking lot on the Singer property on Washington Avenue. Our insurance will protect us. It may be possible to use CBs for communication. Drew Panko said CBs would also be very useful on field trips. It was agreed that Frank Gillette would get them if necessary. It may also be necessary to hire men to help move the seed if enough people do not volunteer. 8 volunteers are necessary.

Frank Gillette reported that he had had a meeting with Mr. Ruan who is responsible for properties owned by National. He is having problems with Mrs. Corey in regard to the encroachment on Graff. National would like to give Graff and Brinton to SMRAS. Our insurance would increase \$385 if we took them on. The Board is inclined to respond favorably to the acquisition of these two sanctuaries if they are offered by National.

Membership is somewhere between 761 and 809. National's records are a bit confusing.

Peter Burckmyer moved that a special mailing be authorized for the seed sale. Seconded and carried.

Drew Panko suggested that \$15. would be an appropriate amount for a contribution to the Bi-State Hawkwatch Coalition.

Drew Panko reported on a meeting he had attended in Albany on the Wildlife Fund. Commissioner Williams is trying a balanced approach, but it will be necessary to keep watch of developments. The hunters would like to see more money go for hunting game than non-game. We feel that the bulk of the money should go to endangered species.

Kaye Anderson reported that the Wild Care Program is very successful. She also said that Dr. Pruyn would not like a big celebration for his generous contributions to SMRAS and thought a small picnic type supper on Sunday, October 23rd, would be appropriate.

Stan Wecker said the Benefit tickets would be \$5. for adults and \$1. for children and students.

Kaye Anderson will write to the Patent Trader about the Bill regarding the possession of dead birds. It might encourage shooting of birds if people can have them preserved,

Frank Gillette moved that Stan Wecker be allowed the privilege of using the mailing list to advertise his African trip during next summer. Seconded and carried.

Pam Rubin reported on the National Convention she attended during the summer. One message brought back - Clean Water and Air Bills should concern us all.

We should probably consider taking part in the Birdathon.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Frank Gillette.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Elizabeth Wiltse
Recording Secretary