

SMRAS Board Meeting
April 3, 1986

The meeting was called to order by Roger Garrison at the home of Peter Burckmyer at 8:30 p.m. The following Directors were present: Midge Arnold, Peter Burckmyer, Roger Garrison, Frank Gillette, Ellen Heidelberger, Sophie Keyes, Stan Lincoln, Drew Panko, Pam Rubin, Stan Wecker, Coleen McGrath and Betty Wiltse. Kaye Anderson, David McIntire, Lisa Mechaley and George Case were also present, and five of the members of the Youth Group.

The minutes of the March Board Meeting were read. Peter Burckmyer moved that they be accepted as read. Seconded and carried.

The Treasurer's report: Excess of Revenue over Expense April 1, 1985--March 31, 1986 \$2,473.19. The Balance - \$22,473.19. The Endowment Fund - \$64,807.99. Light Memorial Scholarship Fund - \$11,562.00. Saw Mill Audubon Scholarship Fund - \$6,867.00. Naturalist Medical Benefits Fund - \$732.35.

Frank Gillette moved that the surplus funds of \$2,473.19 be transferred to the Endowment Fund. Seconded and carried.

Membership is now 839.

Roger Garrison introduced five young people from his Youth Group, which has a total membership of about 15. They talked about their outings and mentioned some of the problems. The lack of money is one and they hope to earn some by having a car wash. They also want to have a booth at OHS Day to publicize Audubon.

Another problem for the Youth Group is transportation, especially on overnight trips. Lisa Mechaley and Roger Garrison are advisors and need help from people who can drive.

Frank Gillette moved that SMRAS pay for one membership for a student to be purchased in the name of an individual to form a liason with the Society. Seconded and carried.

Stan Wecker suggested that we might have a program with a panel from different schools. It would be a question and answer program with prizes.

After Roger left with the students, Peter Burckmyer conducted the rest of the meeting.

George Case spoke about the petition to oppose the request to increase in density of holdings at Pocantico Lake. He asked that SMRAS have its President sign the petition.

Stan Lincoln moved that we reaffirm the motion made at the June 1985 Board Meeting to sign the petition from the Pocantico Lake Civic Association regarding rezoning of property around Pocantico Lake, and direct our President to sign the petition on our behalf, subject to a review of the petition. Seconded and carried.

Stan Wecker reported that the acquisition of the new property would increase the cost of insurance by \$200. and taxes \$150 to \$200. The County Court ^{must} interpret the will as giving the property directly to us. The Historical Society has indicated that they will take the part of the property offered to them.

Pam Rubin moved that we send a letter signed by the Chairman of the Board to the Estate of Mrs. Marshall stating the terms of our acceptance of the property. Seconded and carried.

Drew Panko reported that there ^{are} two bills in the legislature to cancel the excellent Wild Bird Act we now have.

Stan Wecker moved that Drew send a letter to the appropriate State Assembly persons asking that they vote against Bills 5864 and A-7558 which will repeal the Wild Bird Act. Seconded and carried.

Kaye Anderson reported that Donna Nya has expressed concern about the liability of SMRAS with respect to Roger's group and also liability of individual members of the Board. The Education Committee may need some guidance on what to do about grants for scholarships. For instance, the request for funds to do the Mocking Bird Study and other such projects should not be ruled out because of past policy of the Board.

Sophie Keyes reported that postage has increased to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents and that we have 926 pieces of mail.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Wiltse
Recording Secretary