

SMRAS Board Meeting
September 8, 1988

The meeting was called to order by Stan Lincoln at 8:30 p.m. at the home of Ellen Heidelberger. The following Directors were present: Midge Arnold, Alice Avouris, Peter Burckmyer, Frank Gillette, Ellen Heidelberger, David McIntyre, Sophie Keyes, Stan Lincoln, Nina McCall, Donna Nye, Pam Rubin, Barbara Spengler, Stan and Rita Wecker and Betty Wiltse.

The minutes of the August 4th Board Meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer's report - Excess Expense over Revenue April 1 - August 31, 1988 - \$1,996.77. The Balance \$19,696.48. The Endowment Fund - \$71,792.27. Light Memorial Scholarship Fund - \$12,324.00. Saw Mill Audubon Scholarship Fund - \$2,820.00.

Rita Wecker, Chairman of the Finance Committee, said that it is recommended that the Society keep the money received in the trust agreement in the Kemper Fund. Mr. Casper has been in touch with Kemper. We will have a money market account with check writing privileges to facilitate the movement of funds.

There will be a Downstate Audubon Council Meeting on November 5, 1988.

Barbara Spengler has agreed to plan for the Sanctuary Property Dedication Program to be held next Spring.

The Personnel Committee, Peter Burckmyer, Donna Nye and David McIntyre will have recommendations at the next Board Meeting and will take the lead in recruiting a Naturalist. They will also make a draft of personnel policies.

Stan Wecker moved that Thelma Smith be Chairman of the Nominating Committee with Ken Smith as a member and another to be named later. Seconded and Carried.

Barbara Spengler moved that Phyllis Jacoby be Chairman of the Auditing Committee. Seconded and carried.

Frank Gillette reported that the tractor at the Pruyn property had caught fire and had to be repaired at a cost of \$190. The decision has been made to spend \$800 more on the roof than originally planned in order to get a better looking roof.

Frank Gillette will check with the Town of New Castle about payment of taxes.

Stan Lincoln said that we need a Hospitality Chairman. Barbara Spengler will take the September general meeting.

Ellen Heidelberger reported that she had had a discussion with a CPA and finds that we will require a professional audit next year because of the change in our financial situation. That will cost from \$1,000 to \$1,500. The suggestion was made that we try to find a member who is a CPA and will be willing to do an audit for free. Frank Gillette will contact the Senior Group to see if there is anyone there who would qualify. The professional audit would be necessary for only the next two years and will not be necessary later on.

Frank Gillette said that the rent received on the house will be offset by the tax bill so the rent will not be additional income.

The Budget Committee should get together to make plans on how much we can afford to pay a Naturalist.

Membership as of July 31, 1988 - 789.

Stan Lincoln recommended that we make plans to increase our membership. It was suggested that everyone bring a prospective member to a meeting. We should also try to get new members from the parents who come to the Quizz Program Next Spring.

Nina McCall moved that Stan Lincoln be our delegate to the meeting of the New York State Bird Clubs this year. Seconded and carried.

It was noted that the next issue of the "Bulletin" will be the 200th issue.

David McIntyre reported that Jod Baldwin will take over the construction of the board walk at Gedney. Money is needed for materials. It was decided that the 180 foot section was most critical. We need an estimate for the total cost including labor and materials. Also we should try to get some volunteers to help with the work.

Frank Gillette reported that the cost of bird seed has increased considerably.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Betty Wiltse.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Elizabeth Wiltse
Recording Secretary