

Saw Mill River Audubon Society
Board of Directors Meeting
December 5, 1991

President McCall called the meeting to order at 8:20 PM at the home of Sophie Keyes. The following directors were present: Anderson, Andrews, Arnold, Avouris, Heidelberger, Keyes, Berna Lincoln, Stan Lincoln, Lolya, John McCall, Nina McCall, McIntyre, Miller, Neski, Nye, Romaine and Smolin. Anne Swaim was also present.

President McCall displayed a certificate of meritorious service awarded jointly by SMRAS and the National Audubon Society to Stan Lincoln "in grateful recognition of [his] outstanding contributions to the advancement of the purposes and goals" of these organizations.

The minutes of the November 7 Board Meeting were accepted with a change in style.

Ellen Heidelberger reported that revenue exceeded expense by \$5,780.76 for the eight months ended November 30, 1991. Fund balances on that date totaled \$493,138.67. The Bird Seed sale has netted about \$8,130 so far.

President McCall announced that the Society expects to receive some \$40- to \$50,000 from the estate of Mildred Hembdt within a year.

Jim Miller reported that, in 1953, a prior owner granted an easement for access across a portion of what became Graff Sanctuary. President McCall then read the attached letter from the Gallellis, who use this easement, in which they give their view of the appropriate use of this area.

Stan Lincoln said that now is the time for submitting nominations for candidates for the National Audubon Society Board of Directors.

President McCall said that she had received a copy of the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Prickly Pear development, which David McIntyre undertook to read. The Croton Planning Board will discuss this document on December 11th beginning at 8 pm.

Berna Lincoln reminded us of the Peekskill Christmas bird count on December 14th and of the Greenwich-Stamford count on the 15th.

Donna Nye said that she is canvassing for candidates for SMRAS scholarships. Donna moved that the "Christmas Tea" be known henceforth as the "Holiday Tea". Seconded and carried.

Midge Arnold reported that among the unusual trees identified at Pruyn Sanctuary are an "Abies vetchia" and a "Franklinia".

Anne Swaim volunteered to find out what is happening in the campaign to keep Bald Mountain undeveloped.

David McIntyre attended a Regional Plan meeting as our unofficial representative. His committee will meet to discuss the encroachments at Graff Sanctuary.

Jack Andrews presented bids received for upgrading the electric service at the Pruyn house. Stan Lincoln moved that the House Committee be empowered to select a bid of not more than \$3,250 to install two metered services, providing at least two bids are received. Seconded and carried.

Jim Anderson said that repairs to bathroom tile and the crumbling walls underneath are necessary at the Pruyn house.

John McCall reported that Rita Wecker had told him that our portfolio was currently worth about \$506,000. John said that he and Bill Arnold are pursuing the capital campaign. John gave Ellen Heidelberger a check for \$1,000 received from a foundation that wishes to remain anonymous.

Michael Lolya went over the arrangements for the January 17 weekend outing to Montauk. Michael asked whether the opening of The Country Store in High Falls could be noted in the bulletin since birding items will be stocked. This was approved as providing useful information.

Anne Swaim asked that we reimburse her for \$211 spent on computer repairs. Sophie Keyes so moved. Seconded and carried.

Alice Avouris reported our membership stood at 871 as of the end of October.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 9th at Diane Neski's.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 pm.

Recording Secretary