

Saw Mill River Audubon Society
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
March 10, 1994

President McCall called the meeting to order at 8:10 PM at the Chappaqua Library. Refreshments were provided by the McCalls'. The Board meeting was held one week late due to inclement weather.

Directors Present - Arnold, Keyes, Berna and Stan Lincoln, Joyce MacNair, Nina and John McCall, Miller, Neski, Nye, Romaine, Smolin and Stan Wecker. Naturalist Anne Swaim and Nominating Chairman Tom MacNair were also present.

Minutes of the February 3, 1994 meeting were reviewed and accepted with the following corrections: Stan Wecker's motion to send a check for \$300 should read "in support of the Northeast Regional Office". Regarding Ritterman Pond, groups have "opposed", not turned down the project. On Stan Wecker's proxy vote motion, remove wording in parenthesis. Martin Smolin "arranged for" but did not write an article for Audubon Magazine. Regarding Martin's motion about exchange of property at Brinton, pending approval should be from "National Audubon's Sanctuaries Department". Regarding Pinecliff Sanctuary, John McCall walked with Lucille Munz of the "County Planning Board" and the grant is a "Community Block Grant."

Treasurer's Report - Bill Romaine read his report. For the eleven months ending February 28, 1994, expense exceeded revenue by \$3,969.44. Operating Fund balance was \$31,993.93. Total Fund balance was \$631,863.11. Bill noted a large fuel oil expenditure. The Endowment Fund increased by over \$6,000 due to the proceeds of the sale of funds. At the end of March, the entire portfolio will be re-evaluated. Bill made a motion to close the Kemper Money Market Fund. Seconded and carried. Bill made a second motion that the balance in the Environmental Education Fund as of April 1, 1994, be transferred to the Endowment Fund. Seconded and carried. Bill also noted a Seed Sale net profit of \$11,470.

Membership Report - Nina McCall reported 839 memberships as of February 28th.

President's Report - Nina reported that the chapter did not get the Pepsi Home Town Award. National Audubon Society announced an Open House at the Headquarters in New York City on April 30th.

Naturalist's Report - Anne Swaim talked about a forum to be held at Town Hall to discuss New York watershed regulations that will be sponsored by various groups. The League of Women Voters has asked SMRAS to co-sponsor the forum with them. Berna Lincoln made a motion for SMRAS to co-sponsor with the LWV the New York

Watershed Conference to be held on April 13th. Seconded and carried. Anne reported that school programming exceeds all expectations. She circulated a list of Completed and Scheduled School Programs 1993-1994. She also compiled a draft Checklist of Sanctuary Plants by specie. She thought perhaps a plant interest group might be started. In checking over the membership database, one half of SMRAS members have joined since 1990. Anne thought she could provide a list of new members with addresses and phone numbers for the Board members' information. Board members could then phone people in their area and personally invite them to meetings.

Hospitality - Diane Neski asked for refreshment volunteers for the next three meetings. She also distributed new brochures for library handouts.

Budget Report and Vote - John McCall circulated SMRAS Budget for April 1, 1994 to March 31, 1995, and discussed it with the Board. John made a motion for the Board to approve the Budget as presented. Seconded and carried. There was some discussion about publishing the Budget in the Newsletter. As shown in the April 1, 1993 minutes, Berna Lincoln moved to refer proposed changes in the by-laws relating to publishing the budget to a by-law revision committee. The Board approved the move but no subsequent action was taken. Berna will further research this matter. It seems that since no change was made in the by-laws, the Budget must at this time be published in the Newsletter. John McCall made a second motion to increase the hours of the part-time Office Assistant from 200 hours per year to up to 400 hours per year @ \$8.50 an hour. Work hours, Social Security, Medicare, and Disability will cost approximately \$4,000 per year. Seconded and carried.

Bulletin - Sophie Keyes reminded Board members that May 1st was the deadline for the next bulletin.

Publicity - Nina reported that all releases were out.

Scholarships - Donna Nye reported no adult interest at this time.

Sanctuary Report - Martin Smolin announced a Sanctuary Committee meeting on March 17th. At Arrowcrest, the environmental easements will be granted to the Village of Croton-on-Hudson. The Village has named SMRAS as an interested party. If the Village needs to enforce the easements it can appoint SMRAS to do so. Homeowners at Arrowcrest are prohibited from building anything outside of the building "envelope". Martin attended a presentation given by Hudson National Golf. Practice greens have been moved to 100 feet from the property line. The only objection seems to be a possibility of drainage in the wetlands. They are planning a 13,000 square foot vernal pool. Martin will be in touch with Tom Plant of Hudson National to discuss the possibility of a land swap. Jim Miller reported that the

deposition is ready for the Corry case. Her use of the property and the former owner's permission for using it remain unclear. The case will be heard in Westchester County Supreme Court. At Choate Sanctuary we are waiting for the insurer's OK. The certificate of insurance should be on hand if it is needed.

Annual Election - Stan Wecker reported that the proxies for the annual elections were mailed out. 830 were mailed out and 290 were returned so far. The proxies will be counted prior to the Annual Meeting.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 7th. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Loyce MacLain
Recording Secretary