

Saw Mill River Audubon Society
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
January 7, 1997

President Jim Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM in a meeting room at the New Castle Town Hall.

The following directors were present: Anderson, Arnold, Bloom, Kuhn, Langdon, Maram, Pinerio, Romaine, Smolin, and Rita and Stan Wecker. Education Director Anne Swaim was also present, as were Board candidates Julie Amaral, Larry Bickford and Andy Rothlein, whom Jim introduced.

Jim moved that Bill Romaine act as Recording Secretary until his successor is appointed or elected. Seconded and carried. The minutes of the December 4, 1996 Board of Directors meeting were accepted as circulated.

Jim Anderson said that current membership stands at 900.

Jim explained that Dr. Aggarwal has proposed the reservation of a 20' wide utility easement along one boundary of the 14 acres of Crystal Springs property which Dr. Aggarwal plans to donate to the Society. Our reaction was favorable.

Jim said that Herb Bloom has agreed to serve as Chair of the Public Relations Committee. Jim also reported that the Society received a Silver Membership Award from National Audubon, which he gave to Membership Committee Chair, Polly Kuhn.

Jim said that Treasurer Berna Lincoln had not closed the books for 1996 because she was waiting for an insurance premium bill.

Jeff Pinerio reported that the Ad Hoc Committee on a Capital Plan had an exploratory meeting at Pruyn House on Monday, January 6, 1997.

Vice-President Martin Smolin said that he has made some wooden trail signs for Graff Sanctuary.

Education Director Anne Swaim distributed copies of her report of her activities in December and of her January schedule. In December, Anne taped two programs for Continental Cablevision on Westchester birds. On Saturday, February 8, Anne plans to lead a workshop at the Greenwich Audubon Center on how to find environmental information on the Internet. Anne informed us that the New York State Society of Professional Engineers has scheduled a program Thursday, January 23 at the Scarsdale Elks Lodge at which Joel Miele, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection will speak. His subject is to be the New York City Watershed Regulations and Agreement.

Audit Committee Chair Polly Kuhn presented a report of this Committee's meeting with Treasurer Berna Lincoln on December 7, 1996. A copy of the report is appended. Polly said that she had examined the cancelled check file in November. Polly moved that we select A. Ernest (Bud) Larsen to audit the Society's books of account for the nine months ended December 1996, a short fiscal year. Seconded and carried.

Stan Wecker made the following motion, after some discussion:

That Saw Mill River Audubon Society send a letter to the Town of Cortlandt recognizing the habitat significance of Lake Meahagh especially for birds and that Saw Mill River Audubon Society would be pleased to work with the Town as it considers future habitat improvements at Lake Meahagh as begun by the Lake Meahagh Association.

Seconded and carried.

Stan Wecker reminded us of the Environmental Quiz scheduled for Saturday, January 18 at the Chappaqua Library.

Jeff Pinerio reported that he had at last obtained a settlement of \$1,531 from CIGNA for water damage at Pruyn House. Jeff moved that he be allowed to exceed the current budget amount for Pruyn House by \$1,531. Seconded and carried.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5, 1997 at the Weckers.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

William Romsine