

Saw Mill River Audubon Society  
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting  
April 2, 1997

President Jim Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM in the employee lunchroom of the New Castle Town Hall.

The following directors were present: Amaral, Anderson, Arnold, Bickford, Bloom, Kuhn, Langdon, Lunetta, John and Nina McCall, Pinerio, Romaine, Rothlein, Smolin, and Rita and Stan Wecker. Education Director Anne Swaim was also present.

The minutes of the March 5, 1997 Board of Directors meeting were accepted as circulated.

Jim said that the Society's latest membership count was 843.

Jim reported that the deed for the Crystal Springs property given to the Society by Dr. Aggarwal has been received and filed. Jim has applied for property tax exemption for this land. Jim reminded us of the membership workshop at the Greenwich Audubon Center on April 19, and of the Spring Audubon Council Meeting at the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology April 4 - April 6.

Anne Swaim reviewed a letter and enclosures the Society received inviting us to join the Croton Watershed Clean Water Coalition. Larry Bickford volunteered to attend an organizational meeting of this coalition April 14 and to report back in writing.

Anne also reviewed a letter from Yonkers Audubon Society discussing their wish to have their membership territory extended to include unassigned Westchester County zip codes 10503 and 10533 (Ardsley-on-Hudson and Irvington). Jim Anderson moved that we support Yonkers Audubon Society's petition to the Audubon Council of New York State to extend its membership territory to zip codes 10503 and 10533. Seconded and carried.

Anne Swaim presented the attached "Sanctuary Damage Report & Work Priorities & Needs." As a result of the March 31 - April 1 storm, Anne estimates that between 88 and 95 hours of Dean DiMauro's labor will be needed for clean-up and repairs. There was an inconclusive discussion of how Dean is to be directed and assisted in his work. We agreed that clean-up and repair at Pinecliff are to be done first. Midge Arnold and Jeff Pinerio said that about one-third of the trees in the Pruyn Arboretum have been lost. Anne distributed copies of her March activity report and of her April schedule.

Vice-President Martin Smolin presented the attached report of the Sanctuary Committee's March 27 meeting. John McCall moved that we lend support to Martin in his effort to work out a memorandum of understanding with the Village of Croton regarding the Kaufman property, and that the question of access be clarified. Seconded and carried.

Polly Kuhn and Anne Swaim reported that the New York State Department of Environmental

Conservation has an ISTEA matching grant program for trail construction and maintenance. The minimum grant is \$5,000 and the current application deadline is April 30. Anne Swaim, Nina McCall and John McCall said that they would work on a grant application.

Jeff Pinerio said that Mrs. Margaret Foti, President of the New Castle Historical Society, had approached him with a request that our chapter membership list be made available for the Historical Society's campaign to buy the Greeley House. The sense of the Board was no.

Jeff said that the garage door at the Pruyn House is to be repaired Saturday and that painting the siding is to begin soon.

Nina McCall reported that the March 19 and 20 Phonathon raised \$4,200 including \$400 that will be matched. Nina thanked all who participated.

Jim Anderson said that the unsold birdseed will be offered at a reduced price through April and that what remains at the end of the month will be given to the Pace University Environmental Center.

Finance Committee Chair Rita Wecker reported that Treasurer Berna Lincoln moved \$10,900 from the Endowment Fund to the Operating Fund. Rita also reported that Berna has completed the investment transfers ~~we authorized at our March 5 meeting~~ <sup>file Finance Committee authorized at their January 29 and February 27 meetings</sup>

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 7 at the Chappaqua Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

*William Romaine*

The Chappaqua Library is located at 195 South Greeley Ave. in the village. It is across the street from the police station where Washington Ave. connects with Greeley. Their number is 238-4779. The village of Chappaqua is easily accessible from the Saw Mill Parkway either north or southbound.