

Saw Mill River Audubon Society  
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting  
June 4, 1997

President Jim Anderson called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM at the Arnolds'.

The following directors were present: Anderson, Arnold, Bickford, Bloom, Keyes, Kuhn, Langdon, Berna Lincoln, Maram, John and Nina McCall, McKown, Pinerio, Romaine, and Rita and Stan Wecker. Neil Arena, Evelyn Bloom, Secretary Chris Nykwist and Education Director Anne Swaim were also present, as was Valerie Hail, a possible volunteer, who left after being introduced by Stan Wecker.

The minutes of the May 7, 1997 Board of Directors meeting were accepted with the addition of Pam McKown to the list of directors present.

Chris reported that the Society's latest membership count was 857.

Jim reported that he and Vice-President Jeff Pinerio attended a meeting with other Westchester County Audubon chapter heads on June 3 at which the desirability of more joint activity was discussed.

Treasurer Berna Lincoln presented a "Statement of Support, Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets" for the Society for the nine months ended December 31, 1996, a short fiscal year. Highlights of this report include an increase in total fund balances for the period of \$33,194.45 to \$686,774.78. Operating Fund expenses exceeded net support and revenues by \$22,617.69 for the period, and a total of \$19,992.50 was transferred from the Endowment Fund to the Operating Fund. Net Endowment Fund revenue was \$60,523.48. The balance in the Pinecliff Boardwalk Fund was drawn down by \$5,054.39. Finance Chair Rita Wecker reported that the market value of the Society's portfolio on May 31 was \$789,579.

Pam McKown said that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has issued a guidance document exempting Federal agencies from the Migratory Bird Act. This is the Armchair Activist issue of the month. Alice Maram moved that we support National Audubon's effort urging Vice-President Gore and Secretary of the Interior Babbitt to have this guidance document rescinded. Seconded and carried.

Larry Bickford moved that we elect Polly Kuhn and Martha Child as an Audit Committee. Seconded and carried. Jim Anderson moved that he, Louis Langdon, Berna Lincoln, Martin Smolin, and Stan Wecker serve as an Executive Committee until the September Board Meeting. Seconded and carried. Berna Lincoln moved that we elect a Nominating Committee consisting of Nina McCall, Chair; Evelyn Bloom and Jo Lunetta. Seconded and carried. There was an extended discussion of the members of other committees not requiring our approval. Jim will circulate an updated listing.

Larry Bickford said that the Field Trip Committee has put together a schedule of outings from August 31, 1997 through February 28, 1998. There will be a beginning birding hike in November and a couple of hikes where the emphasis will be on exercise, not birding.

Education Director Anne Swaim presented her May report and June schedule. Anne will be active in the Mount Kisco Summer Camp Program from June 30 into August. Anne has been invited to attend the National Audubon Society Board Meeting on Saturday June 7 in the Minneapolis area to discuss chapter programs.

Anne distributed copies of a Pinecliff brochure. John McCall said that the chipping of brush is proceeding at Pinecliff. More pruning, leveling of the boardwalk, and planting of ferns and wildflowers are planned. Berna Lincoln said that about \$1,700 is left in the Pinecliff Boardwalk Fund.

Jeff Pinerio reported that the tractor had been sold for \$600. Jeff reported that he had canceled our fuel oil and service contract with Robison Oil. A new contract with Burke Fuel at a 20¢ per gallon discount from retail includes a service contract at no extra charge. Berna Lincoln said that the Capital Budget for the year has been overspent by about \$200. John McCall said that Jeff deserved our thanks for his work at Prun House.

Jim Anderson said that about 1¼ tons of unsold bird seed have been donated to Pace University Environmental Center.

Stan Wecker reported that nine people took part in the Birding Big Day and that twelve people went on the Delmarva trip. Stan is considering organizing a trip to Hunter Mountain to see or hear Bicknell's thrush.

Our next meeting is scheduled for September 10 at Polly Kuhn's.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

*William Romaine*

Directions to the home of Polly Kuhn: Polly's address is 58 Spring Lane, Chappaqua. Please call Polly if you are unable to attend. Her number is 238-3733.

Spring Lane is located off Route 120 (Quaker Street), about 1/8 mile north of the last traffic light out of Chappaqua. Polly's house is located at the end of Spring Lane.