

Saw Mill River Audubon Society  
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting  
November 5, 1997

President Jim Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at Jeff Pinerio's.

The following directors were present: Anderson, Arnold, Bickford, Bloom, Berna Lincoln, Stan Lincoln, Maram, John McCall, Nina McCall, McKown, Pinerio, Romaine, Smolin, and Rita and Stan Wecker.

The minutes of the October 8, 1997 Board of Directors Meeting were approved with the replacement of "Pinecliff" by "Pruyn" on the next to last line of the first page.

Jim Anderson said that the Society's latest membership count was 830.

Jim reported that members of the Village of Croton Police Department had visited Mrs. Corry to investigate our complaint about the trespass at Graff Sanctuary. Mrs. Corry, Jim and Martin Smolin have arranged to meet on November 7. Martin said that a deed to transfer a portion of Graff Sanctuary to Mrs. Corry for \$1,000 has been drawn and awaits her review.

Jim read a letter of resignation from Andy Rothlein, who explained that the travel requirements of his work made this necessary.

Jim said that we had supported Scarsdale Audubon Society by sending a mailing to our Tarrytown membership urging them to vote for an open space preservation assessment.

Jim said that he had written a letter of condolence to Beverly Langdon. We discussed planting a tree at Pruy House in Louis Langdon's memory. Midge Arnold and Vice-President Jeff Pinerio will report back with a recommendation.

Treasurer Berna Lincoln presented her third quarter Operating and Capital Budget reports. Berna moved that the Recording Secretary sign and seal the Multi-Purpose Certification form supplied by Domini Social Investments designating any two of the persons currently holding the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Chairman of the Board to act on behalf of the corporation in connection with any Domini Social Equity Fund shares owned by the corporation. Seconded and carried.

Finance Committee Chair Rita Wecker presented her Investment Portfolio Performance Report for Period Ending Sept. 30, 1997. Rita reported that the Society's investment portfolio lost some 2% of its value in October and was worth about \$846,931 on November 4. Rita said that the Finance Committee had decided to eventually close out our investment in the Fidelity Fund group. The Committee recommended that in 1998, \$32,500 could be withdrawn from the portfolio for the Operating Budget and \$3,600 for the Capital Fund.

Jeff Pinerio submitted a report from the Capital Fund Committee recommending the installation of drainage in front of the garage at Pruy House along with the regrading

and resurfacing of the driveway at a cost of \$6,000. John McCall moved that \$3,600 be added to the Capital Fund for 1998. Seconded and carried. John McCall moved that this motion be rescinded. Seconded and carried. Stan Wecker moved that \$3,600 be allocated to the Capital Fund. Seconded and carried.

Stan Lincoln reported that he and Berna were our delegates to the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs Annual Meeting in September. They abstained from a vote on amendments to the Federation's by-laws, convinced that more work was needed.

Midge Arnold and Jeff Pinerio reported on a work meeting at the Pruyn Arboretum. Sarah Stein and Virginia Weinman have visited the Arboretum and made suggestions for clearing out invasive or non-native plants. Midge plans another work meeting tomorrow.

Martin Smolin distributed minutes of a Sanctuaries Committee meeting on October 22. Martin said that Trimax material is supposed to be delivered tomorrow at Pruyn Sanctuary in preparation for the November 15 boardwalk workday. Martin reported that the new boundary fence at Brinton Brook Sanctuary was damaged by a tree fall. Dean DiMauro may be able to make some repairs. Martin is working on an expanded map of the Brinton Brook area. Martin circulated an updated map of Pruyn Sanctuary. Stan Lincoln observed that we should be concerned about memorializing use of a right of way from Woodmill Road into Pruyn.

Jim Anderson distributed copies of Education Director Anne Swaim's October report and of her November schedule. Jim remarked that we are apparently not interested in Membership Committee work. Until this changes, Jim will monitor Secretary Chris Nykwist's performance of membership-related duties.

Pam McKown volunteered to attend meetings of the Croton Watershed Clean Water Coalition and to report back to us. Pam said that the Armchair Activist issue of the month is re-authorization of the Endangered Species Act. There is a Senate Bill (S. 1180), which weakens some protection, and a better House Bill (H.R. 2351), which is being held in committee. Pam reported that Karan Development has prepared a voluminous Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the former Union Carbide tract. Pam attended a course on wetland plantings at the Institute for Eco-System Studies in Millbrook, New York.

Jim reported that there is not as much birdseed left unsold as last year.

Chairman of the Board Nina McCall said that the Nominating Committee would welcome suggestions for candidates.

Berna Lincoln thanked Jim Anderson for handling transactions during her 5-week absence.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 3 at the Croton Point Nature Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

*William Romaine*