

Saw Mill River Audubon Society
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
December 3, 1997

President Jim Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at the Croton Point Nature Center.

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

The minutes of the November 5, 1997 Board of Directors meeting were accepted with the following changes: page 1, line 29, insert "calculated and" after "Committee"; page 1, line 30, replace "portfolio" with "Endowment Fund"; and page 2, line 9, replace "Weinman" with "Weinland".

Jim Anderson said that the latest membership count is 839.

Jim said that he met with Martin Smolin and Dean DiMauro on November 13 to set up posts marking the boundary between Graff Sanctuary and Mrs. Corry's property. Jim and Martin attended a session of the Croton Village Board on November 19 at which the Kaufman property was discussed. Treasurer Berna Lincoln moved that we not approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Village of Croton to manage the Kaufman property in the Town of Cortlandt. John McCall amended this motion to state that we are concerned about an open cistern on this property. Seconded and carried.

Jim said that he and Education Director Anne Swaim attended a meeting of the Planning Board of the Village of Briarcliff Manor on November 26 at which Anne presented the Society's comments on Briar Hall Golf Course's Draft Environmental Impact Statement. On December 2, Jim and Vice-President Jeff Pinerio met with Gladys Goldmann of Central Westchester Audubon to discuss possible joint chapter activities.

Finance Chair Rita Wecker reported that the Finance Committee decided to close the Society's investment in the Janus Fund and to invest \$60,000 of the proceeds in a certificate of deposit with interest at 6% compounded daily. The remainder of the proceeds is to be invested in the Tweedy Browne American Value Fund. Our investment in the Lindner Dividend Fund will be transferred to the Invesco Total Return Fund. Rita reported that the value of our investments on November 13 was \$853,013.

Berna Lincoln moved that we authorize President Anderson and herself to redeem all shares in the Lindner Dividend Fund. Berna moved that we authorize any two of the following officers, President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Chairman of the Board, to act on the Society's behalf regarding all deposits in the MBNA America Bank. Berna moved that we authorize any two of the following officers, President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Chairman of the Board, to act on the Society's behalf regarding all the Society's investments in the

Invesco Funds Group. The foregoing motions were seconded and carried together.

Berna said that she anticipates a deficit in the Capital Fund after the Pruyn House driveway repair is paid for. Berna presented the attached proposed 1998 Operating Budget. Stan Wecker distributed an analysis prepared by Anne Swaim of the numbers of students she has taught and the program fees billed since 1993. Polly Kuhn moved that this proposed Budget be adopted. Seconded and carried. We thanked Berna for her careful work when there was little time to do it.

Stan Lincoln moved that we authorize a nay vote on the proposed amendments to the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs by-laws. Seconded and carried.

Sophie Keyes will co-ordinate the Christmas Tea on December 14. The Peekskill Christmas Bird count is set for December 20.

Jeff Pinerio reviewed recent work at the Pruyn House grounds. A long-term plan for the arboretum area is needed.

Martin Smolin said that about 15 people took part in the Pruyn Sanctuary boardwalk project on November 22nd. Dean DiMauro will undertake repairs on older boardwalk sections at Pruyn. Martin reported that a hunter removed "No Hunting" signs at Brinton Brook Sanctuary and tore a hole in the Sanctuary's boundary fence with Amberlands in order to remove a deer carcass.

Jim Anderson distributed copies of Anne Swaim's November report and of her December schedule. Jim relayed Pam McKown's report that the Armchair Activist issue of the month is the most recent, strengthened revision of the Open Space Plan for New York State.

Stan Wecker circulated flyers describing our adult and youth scholarships and the application process.

Our next meeting is scheduled for January 7, 1998 at the First Congregational Church in Chappaqua.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 PM.

William Romaine

Directions to the First Congregational Church- From the Saw Mill River Parkway, take the Roaring Brook Road exit EAST, up the hill past Reader's Digest to the "T" intersection with Route 117. Turn RIGHT, south, on Route 117 and continue 1 mile to First Congregational Church on the RIGHT, approximately 1/4 mile before the intersection of Route 117 with Route 120 (King Street) in Chappaqua.