

Saw Mill River Audubon Society
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
October 1, 1998

Polly Kuhn was host at her house for the meeting called for 7:30 PM. Thirteen directors were present: Anderson, Bickford, Bloom, Hartmann, Keyes, Kuhn, Lincoln, Lunetta, Pinerio, Romaine, Smolin, and Rita & Stan Wecker. Naturalist/Education Director Anne Swaim was also present.

Minutes of the Board Meeting of 9/10/98 were corrected for the Finance Committee to change the date of the high market point from 7/19 to 7/17 and to add a statement that at its 9/3 meeting it decided to sit tight with the current portfolio. On our insurance, it was noted that Franey, Parr & Muha was an insurance broker, not an insurance company. On the Environmental Action Committee, the name Molye was changed to Molye and extensive editing submitted by McKown was entered about the County Board of Legislators Environment Committee.

Membership was reported by Office Worker Chris Nykwest to be 858.

President's Report—Pinerio reported that Valerie Hail resigned from the board due to personal problems.

On the D & O Insurance, costs for individual liability insurance is much more expensive than anticipated. We are waiting for two proposals.

Board Member Handbooks are being updated.

Bill Romaine agreed to substitute as the Recording Secretary at the November meeting.

The Second Annual Great Backyard Bird Count will be publicized at the bird seed sale. (It was pointed out that this is not the backyard bird observations sponsored by Cornell.)

Other communications from NAS and the NY DEC were noted.

Berna Lincoln reported on the Federation of NYS Bird Clubs meeting in Rochester. She also reported that Bull's Birds of NY State has been published and that she and Stan Lincoln have been given recognition on the title page.

On the Treasurer's report, Lincoln reported the 9/30 balance on the Operating Fund was \$15,914.14; the Capital Fund, \$6,871; and the Pinecliff Fund, \$746.70. She moved and Rita Wecker seconded that <Permission be given to take \$132.00 from the Pinecliff Fund for Dean Di Mauro's services and supplies for repairs at Pinecliff.> Passed. Berna also asked for authorization *not* to make the final \$500 payment that had been pledged three years ago for the Bull's Birds of NY State since that is no longer needed. The authorization request was granted. The third quarter budget report was handed out. Lincoln reported our dues from National have been reduced to \$738. She pointed out that fewer

than the number of members which are reported for our chapter are used to calculate our dues share since not all reported members pay dues. Since the 1999 Budget must be passed at the December board meeting, estimates of costs must be submitted by October 31.

There was discussion on the present formula to determine the share of the Endowment Fund to be made available for the budget, but action was postponed to the November meeting.

On the Finance Committee, Rita Wecker reported that the value of our portfolio on 9/30 was \$875,759, which is up from \$855,271 on 8/31.

Anderson reported on progress with the Bird Seed Sale, noting that the current week was critical since telephone calls were being made to previous buyers who had not ordered by the 9/27 deadline. He estimated we might order 25 tons of seed, but hoped for 26 tons.

Sanctuaries—Smolin reported on damage at Pinecliff, noting other trees are ready to fall. Mowing has been done at Brinton. Swaim and Smolin walked the new Kaufman property.

A new map has been prepared.

There are new signs in Pruyn. Bill Arnold's testing of Trex submerged in water indicated it is okay. Another contender is Ecoboard which is 100% plastic, but expensive.

Bulletin—Keyes reported on changes in format, particularly opening with a news story. She would like suggestions for a new logo.

Environmental Action—Report received from McKown about a Greeley High School project monitoring water quality in the Kisco River. She and Swaim walked sections of the river which led to suggestions being made to the County Planning Dept on restorations of stream banks and wetlands. Stan Wecker added that Adult Volunteers are needed to help on the water testing.

Pruyn House & Arboretum—Bloom reported on the need for a fence for the butterfly garden estimated to cost \$900 for a 40x20 foot rectangle area with a swing gate. It was noted that Midge Arnold had her surgical operation on Tuesday (10/29.)

Swaim handed out her Naturalist's report, highlighting forest ecology at Byram Hills High School, a talk to the Cortlandville Historical Society on Westchester Wildlife, the construction of a bluebird trail by the Todd School in Briarcliff Manor, and a cooperative venture with NAS at the Constitution Marsh sanctuary. Swaim also described Partners in Flight as being a look at habitats for birds to save these spaces before birds become

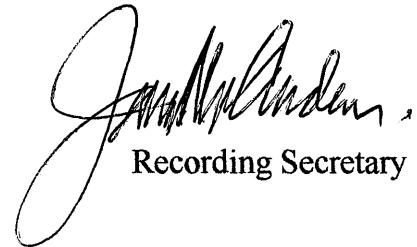
endangered. Berna Lincoln moved and Rita Wecker seconded <That we sign up with Birds in Flight.> Passed.

Sophie Keyes reported on the memorial for Jim Rod at Boscobel, which was also attended by Pete Seeger, Gov. Pataki, and Ralph Odell. She noted that various groups are making donations to the Constitution Marsh Endowment Fund in honor of Jim Rod. Stan Wecker moved <to send in a donation of \$100.> Passed.

Polly Kuhn asked about the standing of our annual audits. Berna Lincoln advised that Bud Larsen was given information on Sunday for the preparation of the audit reports. She also noted we had been given an extension of time from New York State.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 5 at the Hartmann's.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM.


Recording Secretary

Directions to the home of the Hartmann's- From Chappaqua, go north on 117. Take a right onto Whippoorwill. Stornoway is the second road on the right off of Whippoorwill. The Hartmann home is number 55, 1/4 mile down on the left. Look for the brown mailbox with the number 55 on it. Please phone if you are unable to attend (914) 238-4876 and carpool if possible. *Thanks!*