

Saw Mill River Audubon Society  
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting  
November 5, 1998

President Jeff Pinerio called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM at the Hartmanns'.

The following directors were present: Bickford, Bloom, Hartmann, Keyes, Kuhn, Lincoln, Lunetta, Maram, John and Nina McCall, McKown, Pinerio, Romaine, Smolin, Sultanik, and Rita and Stan Wecker. Education Director Anne Swaim was also present.

Jeff welcomed Douglas Fletcher and, later, Richard Saravay who introduced themselves.

The minutes of the October 8, 1998 Board of Directors meeting were accepted with the following corrections: page 1, lines 31 and 32, replace "The authorization" with "Her"; page 2, line 5, insert "Operating" before "budget"; page 2, line 14, replace "has" with "is being"; and page 2 line 26, change the date to "9/29".

Jeff made sure that we knew that Neal Arena has resigned as a director. Jeff said that the Society's latest membership count from Chris Nykwist is 873. Jeff noted that the Society has received a copy of the Important Bird Areas of New York inventory and a copy of the Westchester Environmental Directory.

There is to be a dedication ceremony at Read Sanctuary on November 17 of Important Bird Areas in the County: Marshlands Sanctuary, Read Sanctuary, and Ward Pound Ridge Reservation. Jeff reported on Dr. Steven Kress' lecture at The Osborn on October 22nd and on an impromptu visit to Dr. Lucy Waletzky's property in Pocantico Hills the following day. Dr. Waletzky has been nominated to the Board of National Audubon Society.

Svend Hartmann reviewed last month's bird seed sale including Jim Anderson's written report. Polly Kuhn moved that we commend Jim Anderson for a superb job. Seconded and carried.

Education Director Anne Swaim distributed updated pages for the Board Member Handbooks. Anne and Martin Smolin are beginning a review of the boundary lines of our sanctuaries. There is to be a National Audubon Society Council meeting November 6-8 at Bear Mountain at which a resolution in favor of "Smart Growth" will be presented. Anne distributed copies of her October report and of her November schedule. Anne said she gave many school programs in October and is fully booked for next May.

Treasurer Berna Lincoln reported that as of October 31, fund balances were as follows: Operating Fund, \$13,705.66; Pinecliff Boardwalk Fund, \$746.70; and Capital Fund \$6,871.00. The Budget Committee is to meet November 13.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Rita Wecker presented an "Investment Portfolio Performance Report for period ending Sept. 30, 1998." Rita calculated the value of the Society's investment portfolio as of October 31 at some \$935,535. Rita reported that at its

October 29 meeting, the Finance Committee decided to move \$15,000 out of each of the Vanguard Index 500 and the Vanguard Asset Allocation Funds into the Vanguard Money Market Fund, in order to reduce the percentage of the portfolio invested in common stocks below 70%. Martin Smolin urged that the Finance Committee continue to consider socially responsible investments.

On behalf of the Insurance Committee, Jo Lunetta recommended the purchase of Directors and Officers liability coverage written by Chubb Insurance through the AON agency for \$750.

Johnnie Sultanik deferred to Herb Bloom, who said that a post and rail fence has been put up at the Pruyne Arboretum garden and that a load of compost has been received. He and Johnnie could use help with this project. Jeff said that the Louis Langdon memorial tree has been replaced at no charge.

Sophie Keyes is working on the December/January bulletin.

John McCall reported that the Personnel Committee has proposed salary increases for next year to the Budget Committee.

Pam McKown said that she believes that New York City has decided not to add alum, a flocculating agent, to the New Croton Reservoir. Pam noted that the County Board of Legislators is set to consider, at its November 9 session, General Electric Company's request to build a new hangar at the Westchester County Airport without an environmental study.

Martin Smolin reported on the Sanctuaries Committee's October 8 meeting. Martin plans to clear the Seven Bridges Trail on Saturday the 6th at Pruyne Sanctuary and to lay out a trail into the Crystal Springs area on Monday the 9th, also at Pruyne. Nina McCall said that she has seen trash along the Choate Sanctuary road frontages.

Stan Wecker reviewed the arrangements for the Holiday Tea December 6 at the Chappaqua Library. Andy and Susan Young expect to be overseas, but will furnish a tape. Stan said the elder Mrs. Young plans to attend.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 3 at Sophie Keyes'.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

*William Romaine*

**Directions to Sophie Keyes home-** From the intersection of Pinesbridge Road and the Taconic Parkway, travel east about one mile on Pinesbridge Road. Turn left on to Chadeayne Road and then take a left onto Syska Road. Proceed on Syska Road and a short distance to the end, then turn right on Barnes Street. Sophie's home is immediately on the left. There is an exit to Pinesbridge Road from the Taconic Parkway northbound, but not southbound. Sophie's address is 209 Barnes Street, Ossining. Please call Sophie if you are unable to attend the meeting. 762-2569 *Thanks!*