

**Saw Mill River Audubon Society**  
**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting**  
**February 4, 1999**

1. The meeting, which was held at the Weckers in Chappaqua, was called to order at 7:40. Sixteen directors were present: Anderson, Arnold, Fletcher, Hartmann, Keyes, Kuhn, Lincoln, Lunetta, Maram, Nina McCall, McKown, Pinerio, Romaine, Smolin, and Rita & Stan Wecker. Naturalist/Education Director Anne Swaim was also present as was Jessica Astroff, representing the Tri-State Transportation Campaign.
2. **Minutes** of the Board Meeting of 1/7/99 were read and clarified that the insurance cost of item 17 was for employee benefits.
3. There was no upgrade on the **Membership** tally of 905 because of a computer problem.
4. **President's Report**—Jeff Pinerio  
Reminded that the Spring Audubon Council Meeting was being held in Oswego/Syracuse on March 26-28. Anderson said he planned to attend. Pinerio also noted Ralph Odell is asking for input for that meeting. Letter from Jack Robbins, Deputy Commissioner for Conservation in the Department of Parks, on a bird conservation program that County Executive Andrew Spano supports.  
Letter from David Miller encouraging us to engage in the Birdathon. Members expressed wish, however, to continue simply making a donation.  
Chapter President's meeting on 1/26 attended with Anne Swaim and Stan Wecker, including discussions on fund raising with Rick Werwaiss; Wecker on water testing and monitoring; and a Mike Bochnik report on birding areas.  
New copier will be restricted to small, necessary, SMRAS jobs.  
Host for the 4/8 Board meeting will be Pam McKown at a location to be announced.  
Program meeting hosts will be Jo Lunetta for 2/19, and Jim Anderson for 3/18.  
No one had a suggestion for a recipient for the NAS Audubon Medal.
5. **Environment Action**—Jessica Astroff talked about the goals of the Tri-State Transportation Campaign in regards to reducing traffic on the Tappen Zee Bridge, asking us to endorse their resolution, which is attached. Maureen Morgan of the FCWC helped to draft the resolution. Some thought has also been given to establishing a rail system on the bridge. Some off-hour pricing is in effect for trucks. Martin moved *that we endorse the resolution*. Motion passed.  
Pam McKown reported on the DEP plan to add alum to the new Croton reservoir and that it has applied to the DEC to become the lead agency in this. Pam is preparing a letter to the DEC (NYS) asking that they remain as the lead agency in order that

environment impact statements would not be avoided. McKown moved and Smolin seconded *that she be permitted to write such a letter*. Motion was passed.

A Croton Watershed Resolution is being worked on by the Westchester County Audubon Chapters.

6. **Audit Committee**—Polly Kuhn reported that the Audit Sub-Committee of Bickford, Fletcher, and Anderson met with the new auditor, Barbara Kravitz, to facilitate gathering the information needed for the 1998 audit.

Ernest Larsen is unable to do the audits for '96 and '97. Pinerio has been in touch with Kravitz who made a recommendation to prepare audit statements and the necessary 497 forms for New York State for those years based on what has been filed in the Federal 990 forms for about \$350-\$375 for each year. Pinerio moved and Nina McCall seconded *that we accept the recommendation of CPA Barbara Kravitz to prepare the 1996 and 1997 audits and file the respective NYS 497 forms, with Board approval for spending up to \$800 for this service*. Motion passed with Berna Lincoln registering her abstention.

7. **Sanctuary Committee**—Martin Smolin reported ~~we do not have enough Trimax for repairs in Pinecliff and for the new boardwalk in the Crystal Spring area of Pruyn~~ that although Trimax is moving south, we can still order what we need at a cost of \$2.02 per running foot for 2×6 boards. For Crystal Spring, for which we have a grant of \$10,078, and for which we will be paid 80% in advance, we need to order \$8,897.88 worth of boards, ~~paying 80% in advance~~. This includes extras for repairs. For Pinecliff Pruyn we need to order \$981.30 worth of material to repair the bridge. Volunteer help can be used for Crystal Spring, where material can be brought in through the swim club, but Di Mauro will be needed for all of the work on the Pinecliff Pruyn bridge. We will have to find a shipper for these orders.

The trail in Kaufman will be called the Coyote Trail, pronunciation optional.

8. **Finance Committee**—Rita Wecker distributed a report on the status of our investments, noting the decision of the committee to adjust asset allocation to decrease the percentage of stock holdings from 72.8% to about 66%. Our performance compared to the Balanced Fund Average remains favorable.
9. **Treasurer's Report**—Berna Lincoln, in order to open a new account with T.R. Price, offered the following motion, which was seconded by Keyes: *The Board of Directors directs the Recording Secretary to sign and seal a corporate resolution designating any two of the following officers: President (Jeffrey W. Pinerio), Vice President (Lawrence C. Bickford), Treasurer (Berna B. Lincoln), Chairman of the Board (Martin*

*Smolin), to act on behalf of the corporation and make transactions in the T. Rowe Price mutual fund accounts owned by the corporation. Motion was passed.*

A report on how various budget requirements were met was distributed.

10. **Naturalist's Report**—Anne Swaim distributed her Education Director's Report, noting a favorable scheduling for February. She also reported on the Environmental Quiz that had been held with wide participation. Jeff Pinerio called attention to a report that the Gannet Press (Journal News) had published about the quiz. It was noted that the meeting generated some interest in what we offer as scholarships.

Anne noted that the League of Women Voters scheduled a meeting for Thursday morning, March 4 at the White Plains Library on the problem of Sustainable Development.

11. **Bulletin**—Sophie Keyes reported that the bulletin had been held up because we were audited at the post office. There was a small increase in postage. Deadline for the next issue is March 1. She noted that the annual ballot should go out in that issue.

12. **Butterfly Garden & Pruyn Office**—Midge Arnold noted that there would be a meeting on Wednesday, 2/10, on the butterfly garden. Svend Hartmann noted that we have started painting the Audubon office.

13. Stan Wecker reminded about the Cape May field trip on the weekend of May 21-23.

14. Nina McCall asked for nominations for new board members.

15. Meeting was adjourned at 10:25.

  
Recording Secretary

Next meeting, Thursday, March 4, at the Congregational Church in Chappaqua.