

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

1. The meeting, which was hosted by Anderson at the Chappaqua First Congregational Church, was called to order at 7:40. Sixteen directors were present: Anderson, Bickford, Bloom, Kuhn, Lincoln, Lunetta, Maram, John & Nina McCall, McKown, Pinerio, Saravay, Smolin, Sultanik, and Rita & Stan Wecker. Naturalist/Education Director Anne Swaim was also present as were two potential candidates for the board, Mark Engel and Betsy Wiesendanger
2. **Minutes** of the Board Meeting of 2/4/99 were read and the sanctuary report (item 7) corrected that the bridge being repaired was in Pruyn, not Pinecliff, and that we would receive an 80% advance on a grant for the Crystal Spring boardwalk.
3. **Membership** was reported by Office Worker Chris Nykwest to be 936.
4. **Nominating Committee**—Nina McCall distributed the slate of nominees for the one-year term of all officers, the seven who will constitute the class of 2002 and one who will be added to the class of 2001. These will go out in the 1999 proxy ballot.
5. **President's Report**—Jeff Pinerio  
Presented Jim Anderson with NAS award for presidential service recognition.  
Reported that he, Anderson, and Anne Swaim had attended the League of Women Voters meeting in White Plains that morning dealing with Sustainable Development or Smart Growth and the problem of sprawl in new developments.
6. **Scholarship Committee**—Stan Wecker reported the committee met on February 22 and proposed awarding eight Larry Light Youth Scholarships: Natara Fellar, Laura Nuffer, Jason Sacks, Caitlin Benedetto, Mark Alison, Peter Olsen, Anthony Gisandi, and Jeff Dewaters for a total cost of \$6,990. Smolin moved and John McCall seconded that *we award the eight Larry Light Scholarships as proposed.* Motion Passed.  
As budgeted, two adult scholarships of \$525 each were awarded: one to Cathy Chiaramonte, being paid by the Chappaqua Garden Club, and the other to Andrea Sauro.
7. **Finance Committee**—Rita Wecker reported that the present value of our investments is approximately nine-hundred seventy eight-thousand dollars.
8. **Sanctuaries**—Martin Smolin reported that Trimax material was scheduled to be delivered early the next morning at Crystal Spring, having been given permission by the Birchwood Swim and Tennis Club to use their entrance. Since the boards will be in 24 ft

lengths, some additional time will be needed by Di Mauro to cut them. The major work day is scheduled for March 13, but additional help sought for this Saturday to carry boards to where they are needed.

It was noted that Brinton will be mowed. Contact was made with a Jim O'Toole, Public Relations of Con Edison, that indicated they would be willing for SMRAS to use the land under the power lines as a wildlife corridor and nature sanctuary. This would give us clear access to the Kaufman property and to the Croton Arboretum.

9. **Spring New York Council Meeting**—Jim Anderson, who will be attending the meeting in Oswego on March 27 and 28, reviewed the new resolutions being proposed. Martin wondered if the proposal on Personal Water Craft would affect the Croton Estuary.

It was also reported that the council meeting will also discuss the proposal to form a State Board for the National Audubon Society of New York State to meet growing needs and provide a wider base of funding.

Anne Swaim noted she was resigning her position with the New York Council. See first part of item 11.

10. **Naturalist's Report**—Anne Swaim distributed her Education Director's Report, noting favorable response to a Science Olympiad, more activity in middle schools and high schools, and an outreach to a senior program at Treetop of Mohegan Lake.

On the Feeder Watch Program, the Department of Parks and Recreation will work with Cornell education material.

Despite rumors, Jack Robbins, Westchester Co. Deputy Commissioner of Conservation, said that a fish farm was *not* being planned for Croton Point.

It was noted that next year the Hudson River Museum will be focusing on raptors.

11. **Environmental Action**—Pam McKown

A proposed resolution has been submitted for consideration by the NY Council dealing with Croton watershed protection.

On the alum pilot project at Croton Reservoir, there is no more information except that support is growing among the environmental community for a full environmental impact statement.

Two Greeley high school students have been testing the Kisco River water quality. They have tested about six times.

The CWCWC wants to hire a reservoir keeper.

Yonkers Audubon wishes to have us lend our name to a meeting on the Alaska rainforest they want to hold in May.

12. **Audit Committee**—Polly Kuhn expects we will have the '98 audit ready by the end of April. There is some uncertainty on the returns for '96 and '97. Jeff Pinerio will prepare a letter of understanding of what we wanted CPA Barbara Kravitz to do.

Polly presented a proposal for a By-Law change on the Audit Committee. An initial reading was made at the meeting and the proposal is being mailed to all Board members who were not present at the March meeting.

13. **Treasurer's Report**—The balance of the operating fund at the end of February was \$1,913.44 after outlaying \$8,030.17. Paid capital expenses of \$2,386.45.

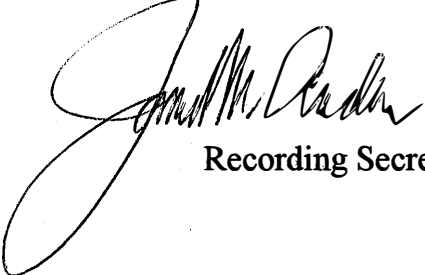
14. **Membership Committee**—Pinerio discussed and handed out a report prepared by Chairman Doug Fletcher. A summary of the present geographic distribution of the present membership prepared by Stan Wecker and Chris Nykwest was also distributed. It was noted that we need more effective publication.

Jo Lunetta suggested that Westchester TV might welcome volunteers to run a TV camera to record our activities.

It was also suggested that we should get photos of the upcoming construction of the boardwalk at Crystal Spring.

15. Nina McCall noted that the Phonathon will be held on April 21 and 22 at Holmes and Kennedy in Chappaqua. She seeks volunteers to man the telephones.

16. Meeting was adjourned at 9:15.



Recording Secretary