

**Saw Mill River Audubon Society**  
Summary of Discussion at Board Meeting  
October 7, 1999

1. **Present-** J. Anderson, L. Bickford, J. Epstein, S. Keyes, J. Lunetta, J. Pinerio, R. Saravay, M. Smolin, B. Wiesendanger
2. **Membership-**Chris Nykwest reports membership at 794.
3. **President's Report-**Jeff Pinerio reported on a 9/28 meeting with other Audubon chapters in Westchester. Announced a meeting of the Capital Fund Committee on November 3rd at his house. Discussed current status of Chappaqua School System's plans to build a new school; question again arose about whether SMRAS should be taking a position on the matter. Reminded board members about the board retreat on November 20. Announced that Midge Arnold offered special thanks for everyone who helped with the butterfly garden and asked that it be entered into the meeting minutes.
4. **Bird Seed Sale-**J. Anderson announced that order volume is up over last year, thanks to volunteers who made follow-up calls. He is assembling a crew of volunteers to staff the sale.
5. **Fall Council Meeting-**R. Saravay was SMRAS's representative at the Fall Council Meeting of the New York State Audubon Society. Reported that discussions fell into six major areas:
  - Establishment of 20 physical facilities in each state that would serve as educational centers
  - Updating of the "Breeding Bird Atlas" in 2000
  - Arguments for a Birdathon
  - Tips on recruiting board members
  - Trip to the Dominican Republic to help repair a sanctuary there
  - Recruitment of "prominent people" for NYS Audubon Society board
6. **Finance Committee-**J. Anderson announced on R. Wecker's behalf that the committee is reducing the proportion of stocks SMRAS's portfolio, from 64 percent to 62 percent.
7. **Sanctuaries-**M. Smolin reported that there was little damage from last month's hurricanes: A few trees were down and a few boardwalks were tilted but easily repaired. Also introduced a resolution nominating Stanley Lincoln as honorary director. No action was taken, since a quorum was not present.

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8. **Naturalist's Report-Anne** Swaim distributed a report on the month's planned activities. Also distributed a draft of a SMRAS position paper (copy attached) prepared by S. Wecker and herself regarding recent spraying to control mosquitoes. The paper will be distributed to local press, the county executive, other chapters, and the Audubon state office.
9. **Arboretum Committee-Work** continues on getting proposals for modification of the Pruyn driveway. Planting of trees will be delayed until spring.
10. **Environmental Action-J.** Pinerio distributed on P. McKown's behalf postcards regarding the Army Corps of Engineers' proposal to modify nationwide permits. Other current environmental issues, including pending classification of the Whitney property in the Adirondacks, was discussed.
11. **Next meeting-** will be Thursday, November 4, 1999, at John & Nina McCall's house.

Betsy Wiesendanger  
Recording Secretary

**Directions to the McCall's home:** Take the Saw Mill River Parkway and get off at the Chappaqua exit. Hamilton Road is on the west side of the Parkway, directly behind the statue of Horace Greeley. The address is 260 Hamilton Road, Chappaqua. Please telephone if you are unable to attend the meeting, 238-5203. *Thanks!*