

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. John and Nina McCall hosted. Fifteen directors were present: J. Anderson, J. Epstein, D. Fletcher, S. Keyes, B. Lincoln, J. Lunetta, M. Magel, A. Maram, J. McCall, J. Pinerio, R. Saravay, M. Smolin, R. Wecker, S. Wecker, and B. Wiesendanger.
2. Membership was reported by office assistant Chris Nykwest to be 810.
3. President's Report—J. Pinerio announced that our chapter has been recertified. Noted that the Federation of NYS Bird Club Newsletter listed that Berna Lincoln led several categories with a list of NYS bird sightings of 351. Noted that two board members, Martin Smolin and Jim Anderson, have had perfect attendance this year. Noted receipt of a letter from New Castle to property owners on Crow Hill, which includes Choate Sanctuary that a sewer installation is being considered.
4. Naturalist's Report—Anne Swaim was not in attendance, due to an illness in her family. However, J. Pinerio noted on her behalf that bookings for educational programs during November were lighter than usual due to lingering fear of mosquitoes and the West Nile-like disease.
5. Sanctuaries—M. Smolin reported that there has been progress in discussions with ConEd to have SMRAS manage power line property next to Brinton Brook. Smolin motioned that SMRAS establish the position of honorary director, a position that carries no responsibility or authority. Motion passed. A second motion was made that Stan Lincoln be such a director. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Bird Seed Sale—Jim Anderson reported that our order had increased to 27 tons this year and that inventory control had been tightened through use of a laptop computer at the sale. Anderson estimates we will come close to our goal of \$10,000 in profit. J. Pinerio moved that SMRAS pay for damage to Anderson's computer that occurred during the sale. Motion was passed, with one abstention.
7. Bulletin—S. Keyes announced that the deadline for the Dec./Jan. issue is ASAP. Suggestion was made that an abbreviated version of SMRAS' letter re: mosquito spraying be included. R. Wecker moved that audited figures for 1998 income, expenses, and holdings be included in pie chart form. Discussion arose whether showing SMRAS' total holdings is advantageous. A vote was taken, and it was decided by an 8-6 margin that total holdings should be shown.

8. Treasurer's Report – J. Anderson announced that September income totaled \$8,575 and that \$5,856 had been spent. October income was \$19,277 (mostly from seed sale revenues) and \$23,864 was spent (mostly for seed). A resolution\* was passed that designate signatories for a second Domini Social Investments Account, since our present account contains Larry Light scholarship funds and a separate fund should exist for SMRAS' use.
9. Budget Report – J. Anderson asked that committee chairpeople who have not yet submitted budget estimates for the year 2000 do so. A budget will be prepared and delivered at the December meeting. Also, J. Pinerio appointed J. Anderson as budget chairman.
10. Finance Committee – R. Wecker distributed a chart showing SMRAS' investment portfolio performance as of September 30, 1999. The opening balance as of January 1, 1999, was \$997,018. There were withdrawals of \$39,714, and the ending balance was \$990,456, reflecting a 3.42% rate of return.  
In order to fulfill the board's April 8 resolution urging that SMRAS's holdings in socially responsible funds be increased, the finance committee will increase our holdings to approximately 10% of the investment portfolio. Another account, separate from the Light Memorial account, will be opened in Domini Social Equity.
11. Westchester County Panel Meeting on Encephalitis – S. Wecker reported on the meeting, which took place at Sarah Lawrence College. Andrew Spano, who was part of the meeting, said he did not like the idea of spraying and would like to explore alternatives. Wecker proposed a study and monitoring of the effects of spraying, perhaps cooperatively with other organizations including other local Audubon chapters.
12. Audit Committee – J. Lunetta reported that the committee would make a recommendation on who should do the audit for 1999 at the next meeting.
13. Insurance Committee – J. Lunetta reported that as long as there was no new property to be covered, insurance rates should remain about the same.
14. Capital Fund Committee – J. Pinerio asked that \$5,000 be set aside for a study and conceptual design by a consulting engineering firm to remedy safety problems at the end of the driveway at Pruyn House. D. Fletcher moved that we approve up to \$6,500 so there is no need for the committee to obtain additional board approval for funds. Motion passed unanimously.
15. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m. The next meeting will take place Thursday, December 2, 1999, at Chappaqua Library.

Betsy Wiesendanger  
Recording Secretary

\*Resolution to Open a Second Social Investments Account: Be it resolved that we designate Treasurer James W. Anderson, President Jeffrey W. Pinerio, Vice-President Lawrence C. Bickford, or Chairman of the Board Martin Smolin to act as signatories in opening a new investment with Domini Social Investments, authorizing and directing our secretary to certify this with her signature and the Corporate Seal.