

**Saw Mill River Audubon
Corrected Minutes – Board of Directors Meeting
June 17, 2002**

Richard Saravay, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Board members in attendance were: J. Lunetta, J. Anderson, R. McCrillis, R. Wecker, S. Wecker. A. Maram, J. Coffey, I. Jorgensen, H. Seduski, J. Romeu, J. Pinerio, J. Epstein. Also attending were: Anne Swaim, Naturalist and Education Director, S. Keyes, M. Arnold, and C. Coggeshall.

Minutes

J. Coffey moved to accept the minutes of the 2002 Annual Meeting of April 18, 2002. Seconded and unanimously passed.

The May 13th minutes were accepted with the following changes: report by M. Smolin on Brinton should read: "He has been asked to obtain estimates for a fence.." instead of "He is concerned with... for a fence." Also the name Corrigan re: the fence bids should be changed to Carjen.

Naturalist Report – Anne Swaim

The office will be closed the first two weeks of July since both Anne and Ellen will be on vacation. Ellen is leaving June 21st and will return July 10th. Anne is leaving June 30th and will be back in the office on July 15th. Anne has a walk next week with WARC (Westchester Assn of Retarded Citizens) at Pinecliff – this is another segment of the population that we reach with our education programs. She will be doing summer programs with "All Aboard" Day Care in Mount Kisco at Leonard Park and also three weeks of day camp programming with Mount Kisco Recreation. Other summer projects include digitizing the SMRA slide collection and the "Urban Ecology" teachers' workshop at Pace University

President's Report – Richard Saravay

Mail: Jeffrey Pinerio received the National Audubon Presidential Service Award for outstanding service and education as President of SMRA. There was an "action alert" letter received from Bill Cook of the state office regarding a new statewide reporting hotline for dead birds related to the West Nile Virus. We received a letter from the attorney for the Hembdt Estate informing us that there will be a delay in the disbursement of her estate. We received a copy of the Annual Report from National Audubon and it was noted that there is a new Museum of Natural History in the Adirondacks.

Director's Handbook: this still needs to be brought up to date and work on this will be reviewed this summer. **Committee Chairs:** there are still openings for chairs of committees and we also need a Nominating Chair. Ilse Jorgensen is interested in being head of sanctuaries and will look into it.

Fall 2002: Hosts are needed for the monthly board meetings. Richard Saravay will host the September 9th board meeting at his house as the library is not available. Stan will give us dates for the Fall programs at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Henry Seduski

Highlights of the first five months: \$12,012 collected through Phoneathon with money still coming in. Lynn is on a leave of absence. \$11,019 spent from the Selz Fund during this time with an overall total of \$35,250 spent. We are ahead of budget in both expenses and operating revenue. Henry was asked to add the yearly budget of the Education Committee to the budget. Two letters were received from IRS and Workman's Compensation Board saying that we are subject to certain monetary penalties. This is being worked on by Jo and Henry and we do not anticipate having to pay the penalties at this time.

Finance Committee – Rita Wecker

Date	Value of Portfolio
End of March	\$891,890
End of April	\$860,277
End of May	\$849,130

Twenty-two percent (22%) of budget is fixed income.

Community Relations & Development – Jeff Pinerio

The Phoneathon was very successful. We will need to raise money for outside toilet facilities at Pruyn. Jeff will follow-up with Bernard Selz to show him what his gift has done at Pruyn. It was suggested that an art auction might work as a fundraiser. **50th Anniversary:** Sophie reported that a good-looking book will come out. She would like to send to one each SMRA member. Advertising has to be discussed further. Sophie is working on the text. Lynn's job is to get advertising. **2002 Pruyn Celebration:** is scheduled for Saturday, September 28 and will include celebration of new boardwalk loop and teaching platform. **Newsletter:** Sophie and Lynn won first prize from National Audubon for the Bulletin and Jeff noted that the new bulletin design is very professional.

Bird Seed – Jim Anderson

A very successful "extra" sale was held on June 1st and raised \$1800. A discussion was held about what to do with seed storage next year. Lockers in the garage will not work. A total of 9 tons of seed would be moved to Pruyn after the October sale. A metal shed of 12 feet by 17 feet would accommodate this. A shed of this size costs \$1240 and a 12 ft by 20 ft ones costs \$1556 at Home Depot. We would need concrete foundations. We could tear down the old shed (\$3000) and buy a new one that would be rodent proof. It was suggested that Home Depot might donate a shed to us. Alice Maram moved that Jim Anderson be authorized to go to the Town of New Castle for a permit. Seconded by Stan Wecker. Jeff Pinerio noted that we should get bids to build the shed. Jim Anderson & Richard Saravay will meet with the town Building Inspector on July 2nd to find out permit requirements.

Environmental Advocacy – Judy Epstein

Judy Epstein noted that Stan Wecker is working on the proposition regarding Indian Point. Stan said he will email the proposition to the board and asked for an email vote.

Memoranda of Understanding for Brinton Brook Neighbors – Martin Smolin

New MOU have not been received. Martin contacted Temple Israel about a possible MOU. He would like other people in Croton to sign a MOU even if they don't adjoin Brinton Brook. Richard suggested that this energy should be expanded to other sanctuaries as well and that the MOU is a model that others might want to use and could be tied into the "Audubon at Home" initiative by National Audubon.

Program Committee – Stan Wecker

There will be a meeting to plan the next year's programs and field trips tomorrow night at Weckers.

Sanctuaries Committees

Pruyn – Jeff Pinerio is trying to wrap up the new boardwalk program this summer so that it will be ready for the Pruyn Fall Celebration at the end of September. Benches will be sold for \$1300. It will cost about \$2300 to build about fifteen benches. **Butterfly Garden** – Robert McCrillis showed a draft of a brochure for the Butterfly Garden prepared by Mattie & Steve Varvaro and Midge Arnold. Midge is hoping to have this brochure ready for June 29th when there is a public walk at the garden. Cost of printing is not known. The paper is being donated by the Varvaros. The brochure will be machine folded and have a front graphic.

Summer Executive Committee – This consists of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Stan Wecker, Joan Coffey, as well as Jo Lunetta and Jim Anderson, if needed as alternates.

New Business – Stan Wecker reported that National Audubon has mandated two alternate resolutions to be added to chapter by-laws regarding chapter-only memberships. Details are being worked out but we will not have this completed before the Annual Report to National Audubon due in August.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Judith Epstein, Recording Secretary