

Saw Mill River Audubon—Draft Board Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2008
Held at the Community Bible Church of Northern Westchester

Members present: Robert McCrillis, presiding; George Shakespear, Tom McEnerney, Joan Coffey, Cori Cumming, Sally Dow, Rik Kaufman, Bill Kellner, Michael Madias, Erika Miller, Ken Novenstern, Jeanne Romeu, Ponie Sheehan, Meredith Smith, Jean Sparacin, Larry Trachtenberg **Staff:** Anne Swaim, Executive Director **Guests:** Joanne McAuley, Nick Fischer, Leen Provost, Carol Capobianco

Meeting called to order at 7:20 with a quorum present. Minutes of February 4, 2008 meeting were accepted with no corrections.

President's Report: Robert McCrillis introduced our guests:
Nick Fischer – National Audubon member for some time; background in Sierra Club; looking for outdoor activities especially land management.
Leen Provost – moved to Croton four years ago and interested in birds and photography; volunteered at EagleFest.
Joanne McAuley – Ossining resident for 23 years; now retired from being head of human resources for state government agency.
Carol Capobianco – past president Hudson River Audubon Society; works at NY Botanical Garden; worked on Audubon at Home program for NY State Audubon.
The following mail/correspondence was circulated: Audubon National trip to Alaska; Audubon NY Council Meeting on Mar 28-30.

Treasurer's Report: Tom McEnerney submitted the two month report.

Finance Committee: Tom reported on behalf of Phil Heidelberger. The portfolio balance was \$968,624 at the end of February, down 1% for the month. In 2007 we saw an increase of 6.4%, bringing our portfolio to \$1,030,596 at December 31, 2007. So far in 2008, we have had a 5% loss in January and a 1% loss in February. This represents a loss of our 2007 gains but is consistent with the overall market, or maybe a little better. The Finance Committee did transfer \$75,000 out of investments into cash during 2007.

Executive Director's Report: Anne Swaim reported: Nominating Committee presented a slate for the proxy ballot which will be mailed on Wednesday, March 5. Arizona Trip—there is one slot remaining. Education outreach is increasing with favorable feedback for Pat Mutolo and Mary Charbonneau.

Sanctuaries Committee:

Boundary Walks—February 16 was the Pinecliff boundary walk. March 1 was the Choate boundary walk. A potential encroachment was observed in the portion of the sanctuary owned by the Town of New Castle and under the 99-year lease with SMRA.

Community Relations and Development: Donation, Membership, and Grant Report was distributed. The 2008 annual appeal is starting up now and the membership packets will be distributed to the board this month.

Pruyn House Vision: We have selected the architect for the feasibility study: Steven Winter Associates. Initial walk-through and brainstorming scheduled for Monday, March 10. The question of carbon credit generated by our project and paid for by corporations was suggested. We will explore this further with our architects.

Bird Seed Sale: Ken Novenster reported that our next sales are coming up on Saturday, March 15 and April 19. We will put in a small order for additional seed. Black oil sunflower has gone up 40% since October, 2007.

Programs: Winged Beauties of the Rainforest, Saturday, March 8, 2 pm at Ossining Library. Shorebird Identification Workshop, Friday, March 28, 7:30 pm at Chappaqua Library.

Field Trips: Spring Peeper Prowl at Pinecliff, Sunday, March 30, 6pm. Shorebirds at Jamaica Bay, Saturday, April 5, 8:30 am.

Publicity: Press release on rainforest program and walk on March 8 was sent.

Hospitality: Thanks for the refreshments.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. There will not be a board meeting in April because of the Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, April 6.

Minutes for March, 2008 were recorded by Anne Swaim.