

**Saw Mill River Audubon Board Meeting
Held at the Community Bible Church of Northern Westchester
Draft Minutes for January 3, 2011**

Present: Robert McCrillis, presiding, Larry Trachtenberg, Nick Fischer, William Kellner, Michael Madias, Jr., Valerie Lyle, Sally Dow, Jean Sparacin, Donna Lassiter, Nina Romanoff, George Shakespear, Ponie Sheehan, Christine Smith, Joan Coffey, Tom McEnerney, Rik Kaufman, Ken Novenstern. Anne Swaim was also present.

Minutes from the December 2010 board meeting were reviewed and approved.

President's Report | Development. Robert reviewed the duties of the annual Nominating Committee, which will need to be appointed at our next meeting in February. Robert reviewed the donation and membership report. Annual Fund donations are higher in 2010 than they were in 2009. A list of directors for Westchester-based family foundations, compiled by Barbara, was circulated to all SMRA directors. Board members should let the office know if they have any connections with foundation directors.

Treasurer's Report. Revenues for 2010 were slightly ahead of budget due primarily to the Con Edison grant. 2010 expenses were less than budget due primarily to lower bird seed costs and lower billings from Barbara Campbell. However, non-budget expenses significantly exceeded non-budget revenues resulting in cash expenses during 2010 that more than offset the positive performance of budgeted revenue and expenses. Non-budget expenses consisted primarily of the payment in 2010 of expenses related to monies collected in 2009 and the Pruyn water pipe repair. See attached report.

Finance Committee Report. (read by Tom McEnerney in Phil Heidelberger's absence)

As of January 1, 2011 the portfolio balance was \$797,113, a 7.2% increase for the year. There were \$20,000 in additions to and \$71,900 in withdrawals from the endowment during the year 2010.

Executive Director's Report. Anne reported on the recently completed forestry plan for Pruyn sanctuary. Once this plan is accepted by the Agricultural Council, we will be eligible for grants up to \$5000/sanctuary/year. We will also apply for Choate and Haas. Anne asked for assistance to help review interpretive signs and grant requirements at Haas. We have received a Larry Light Scholarship application for \$600 for Lewis Lolya to attend the Audubon youth birding camp at Hog Island. This scholarship was affirmed by the board. With the approved \$1000 scholarship for Kyle Bardwell (via email vote) to attend the SMRA Costa Rica trip in March 2010, this brings our total 2011 Light Scholarship disbursements to \$1600. Tom affirmed that this amount is well within our disbursement guidelines.

Sanctuaries Committee. Work days are coming up and will be announced in the newsletter and through email notices. Volunteers were present for the Brinton work days earlier this season.

Newsletter. We will not have the Teatown eagle map to insert this year because they did not receiving funding to underwrite the printing cost. But we will promote the eagle fest through our usual channels. The Feb/Mar newsletter deadline is now.

Bird Seed Sale. We will submit a supplemental bird seed order this week. Third Saturday sales will continue through the winter. Ken thanked the volunteers.

Programs and Field Trips. Christine reported on SMRA participation on the area Christmas Bird Counts and reviewed the upcoming scheduled events. A meeting will be held in January to review the field trips planned for January through June.

Publicity. George is having success getting our events connected to various blogs and online calendars.

Hospitality. Jean Sparacin asked for volunteers for the next board meeting and Rik offered to bring refreshments.

New Business. Richard reminded us of the idea of a Lower Hudson Audubon Roundtable especially with the idea of connecting with local and regional politicians who may not be environmentally conscious. Another goal would be developing resolutions for the Audubon New York Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Minutes taken by Anne Swaim in Joanne McAuley's absence.