

**Saw Mill River Audubon
Minutes of June 2, 2014 Board Meeting
Annual Picnic & Board Meeting at Senasqua Park, Croton, NY**

Quorum Present: Robert McCrillis, Joan Wyly, Valerie Lyle, Tom Ruth, Jan Bass, Karalyn Lamb, Christine McCluskey, Larry Trachtenberg, Bill Kellner, Ponie Sheehan, Brian Kluepfel, Sally Dow, Jean Sparacin, Tom McEnerney, Philip Heidelberger, Michael Madias, Nina Romanoff, Ken Novenster. **Anne Swaim** was present as Executive Director. Also present: Bonnie Talluto, Rudy Fasciani, Caroline McCrillis, Carol Hurford, Ellen Heidelberger.

Minutes of May 5, 2014 Board Meeting were unanimously approved.

President's Report (Robert McCrillis)

- Board Retreat planning meeting will be held on Monday June 9, 7 pm
- Rocky Hills private garden tour was discussed: a date was proposed and enough members are interested in attending so that we will go forward with the trip.

Community Relations and Development (Robert McCrillis)

Donation and Membership Report circulated and discussed.

Finance Committee (Phil Heidelberger)

The portfolio balance as of June 1, 2014 was \$963,294, a year-to-date increase of 1.6% over the January 1, 2014 balance of \$948,376 and a 1.6% increase for the month of May. There have been \$18,000 in withdrawals from the portfolio during 2014.

Treasurer's Report (Tom McEnerney)

Tom briefly discussed the financial report, showing actual results as compared to budget for the first 5 months of the year, which was distributed to the board. The board also adopted the resolutions, on file with these minutes, removing George Shakespear as an authorized signatory on SMRA brokerage and mutual fund accounts. George has resigned from the Finance Committee.

Executive Director's Report (Anne Swaim)

- Progress on the Town of New Castle Master Plan was briefly discussed, including Anne's involvement on the Environment Subcommittee.
- Rockefeller SP birding blitz, June 19-23 was briefly discussed and volunteers solicited.
- Preliminary 2015 travel plan was mentioned with a proposal to go to the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State in May 2015 as the strongest candidate thus far.

Advocacy Richard Saravay was not present.

Sanctuaries Committee (Michael Madias)

Brinton Brook shared driveway was recently paved by the Weinstein Family.

Programs and Field Trips (Christine McCluskey)

Upcoming trips and programs: Birders U shorebird workshop and field trip on July 18-19; Tree Walk by John Grant on June 7; Birding Blitz at Rockefeller Park on June 19-23.

Our Monday bird walks are attracting larger numbers of participants, many of whom have become new donors/members.

Newsletter Brian Kluepfel was introduced as the new newsletter editor. The board gave great praise to Bill Kellner for many years of hard work on the project.

- Next Deadline August 1
- Newsletter redesign committee update—the committee met once and plans to meet again over the summer; no firm plan has taken wing (or root).

Bird Seed Sale (Ken Novenstern)

Bird seed now 30% off – supplies limited.

Hospitality was provided by Sally Dow and Jean Sparacin. Many board members brought food items for this friendly annual affair and we were blessed by the weather gods this year.

New Business: There was no new business to discuss and the meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm, a near-record in brevity.

Remaining 2014 meeting dates: 9/8, 9/20 (Retreat), 10/6, 12/1

Minutes taken by Brian Kluepfel, Secretary.