

Sault Naturalists Executive Meeting
November 5, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was held at the Sault Ste. Marie Ontario Civic Centre.

Attendance: Dave Euler, Gail Andrew, Robert D. Cohen, Don Hall, Helen Hutchinson, Carl Linhart, Jeanne Mannesto, Harvey Robbins, Tony Walker and Valerie Walker.

Business arising from the minutes:

- Programs: Harvey Robbins has purchased the remote control for presenters' laptops.
John Lehman has sent out the poster about our upcoming photo contest to executive members by email. Dave Euler stated that we need to talk about publicity.
- Birding Guide: Don Hall stated that he has put Ed's Birding Guide on our Wiki site but that it has to be printed in order to be viewed.
ACTION: Valerie Walker to email members about the guide.
- Hwy 17 Extension: Dave reported that Don has sent out a letter about our concerns that is "clear and punchy."
Gail Andrew moved that the minutes be approved. Second: Val.

New Business:

- Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Gail.

General Funds		1224.85
Platform funds		<u>2542.14</u>
CIBC Operating Acct (CAD)		3766.99
Huntington Bank (USD)		584.58
GIC (CAD)	#1 (due Nov.20/09)	3744.16
	#2 (due June 15/10)	2221.83

Gail asked if we are to cover expenses for our General Meeting speaker.

The amount that has been approved is \$100.00.

ACTION: Gail will give Damon McCormick a check for USD 100.00 at next Tuesday's General Meeting.

- Outings: Val reported that Don has sent in some suggestions for outings. George Ford will be leading an outing. Tony mentioned that if this winter is cold enough we could have an "Owl Prowl" outing.
Val reminded us that the new Outing schedule will be coming out at the end of the month.

- Membership Form: Dave stated that we need to “tidy up our waiver.” He has a copy of the Mycological Society’s form that will serve as a good model.
ACTION: Dave will bring the final edited form to the next Executive Meeting.
- Viewing Platform Signs: Robert D. showed proofs of two possible sizes of signs: 4” x 8” and 8 1/2” x 11”. The sign makers proposed that they be made out of Dibond, an aluminum sandwich with a rubber core as opposed to a straight metal sign. Tony made a motion, seconded by Helen, to purchase signs regarding quantity and sizes, amended by Gail, then amended by Don. Gail’s amendment was defeated. Don’s amendment seconded by Robert was passed. (Tony’s motion as amended was passed.)
ACTION: Robert will order two 8 1/2” x 11” and four 4” x 8” signs from Superior 7 Advertising Ltd. to be made of Dibond.^{1 2}
- Bird List: Tony has been working on the list.
ACTION: Tony will give us a progress report at the next Executive Meeting.
- Outing Leader Training: Don reported that Katie Pearson and Dawn Elmore of the Voyageur Trail Club have found out that in order to get funding approved for the course, we would have to signify our commitment and put up a nominal sum of money for each participant, \$25.00. (To bring the leader to the Sault it would cost about \$3000.00.) Gail moved that we support the program and put up \$50.00.
Seconded: Tony. Motion passed.
- Photo Contest: John has 80 photos submitted to date. Contestant’s names have been blocked so that judging will be unprejudiced. The judges have been appointed: Greg Steele, Gene Santoro and another. As yet there has been no provision for Canadian newspaper coverage.
ACTION: Jeanne Mannesto has agreed to send Tony and Val information about the event.
ACTION: Tony will take the information to the Features Editor of the Sault Star.
ACTION: Val will submit the information to Coffee Perks.
- Laird Twp Platform: Dave reported that we owe thanks to Don and Vivian who have spread the sand given to us by the Township for the pathway. Tony raised the issue of winter ice dislodging the platform. He thought that perhaps rocks placed around the base would serve as protection. He stated that he would build the ramp to the platform.
ACTION: Tony will build the ramp and find out if there is a need for rocks to beef up the base.
- Constitution: Carl Linhart reported that during his presidency a number of changes had been voted on by the executive but have not been incorporated into the document. In Vivian’s informal version some changes had been made that were not necessarily approved.
ACTION: Carl will incorporate the changes to the 1993 version and give us a copy at the next Executive Meeting for discussion and approval.

- **Species at Risk Funding:** Dave reported that the MNR's application form is very extensive (23 pages) and that the deadline is November 16, 2009 for submission. Nathan Hanes, the Species at Risk biologist at the MNR, would like us to be a sponsor for the initiative. Dave has tried to reach him but his voice mail stated that he will be away for two weeks (past the deadline). In view of these difficulties we will likely not participate.
- **Wiki Amendments.** Robert reported that he was unable to get his email address changed so that he could receive the updates to the Wiki. This is no longer done so it becomes a non-issue.
- **In Memoriam:** Gail thought that we should be writing an account of each of our members who have died in the last year or so in our Annual Report.
ACTION: Gail will produce the names for us at the next Executive Meeting so that we can incorporate them into our Annual Report.
- **Purple Coneflower Stewardship:** At the outing at the reserve near Moran, MI, (Oct. 1/09), George Ford asked us if we would like to purchase 10 to 15 acres adjacent property that is not being managed for Purple Coneflowers. (They will be undoubtedly be encroached upon by the forest.) As we do not purchase land this is a non-issue.
- **Christmas Bird Count:** Ken McIlwrick reported to Dave that he would not be able to coordinate the count this year. Dave stated that he would take on the responsibility but has not been able to reach Ken yet. It is to be December 19, 2009. Judy Falkins will coordinate the potluck at her facility.
ACTION: Dave to follow up with Ken.
- **Investment Certificate Renewal:** Gail asked if we should rollover the certificate that is coming due Nov. 20, 2009.
ACTION: Gail to rollover certificate.

Next Executive meeting Dec 3, 2009

ACTION: Jeanne to see if we can meet at the Bayliss Public Library.

Adjournment: 9:10 p.m.

robertD

Robert D. Cohen
Interim Secretary

¹ Blayn Morley of Superior revised the price Nov. 6, 2009: Six signs, \$80.50 (incl. tax)

² The size of the small sign will be changed: 3 ½" x 8" to fit the 2 x 4 handrail.