

Sault Naturalists Executive Meeting Sept 3, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was held at the residence of Jeanne Mannesto, Sault Ste. Marie Michigan.

Attendance: Dave Euler, Gail Andrew, Robert D. Cohen, Jeanne Mannesto, Harvey Robbins, Tony Walker, and Val Walker.

Business arising from the minutes:

- Viewing Platforms: Dave Euler reported that we have not made any progress with sign design. We have not heard from Graham or Aja yet. We need signs for Pumpkin Pt. (two), and Echo Bay. As we need to move on with this we need to find out if Graham and Aja are still willing to do the design. If not, alternate action will be necessary.
ACTION: Robert Cohen will speak to Helen Hutchison to get closure.
- Programs: As we are to have the Nature Photo Contest in December, which is listed on our Wiki site, Dave reminded us of the need for publicity. There was some discussion about Evelyn Simon's present involvement in publicity. If Evelyn is not willing to continue, Leslie Askwith has done some of our publicity and might be willing to do it in the future.
ACTION: Dave will speak to Evelyn to see if she wishes to continue to do it.

New business:

- Programs:
 1. John Lehman has asked for approval of USD 60.00 expenses for Paul Rossi our September 2010 presenter on owls. Motion by Tony Walker. Seconded by Jeanne Mannesto. Motion carried.
 2. As the January 12 meeting has no presenter yet, Gail Andrew suggested that we plan to view a video on the status of Bees (Apis and Bombus), a subject of great concern for all of us.
ACTION: Gail will talk to John to find out if the DVD can be ordered from PBS. Additionally, she will mention to John that we might like to have an entomologist present at the meeting who would comment on the subject.
 3. Carl has offered two framed prints: a 31" x 37" raccoon family and a 22" x 27" chipmunk and butterfly item.
ACTION: Dave is to recommend to John that they be presented in a silent auction at our February meeting.
 4. Harvey Robbins noted that we do not have a remote control to use with a laptop and our projector, making it awkward for a presenter. Harvey moved that we purchase one. Tony seconded the motion. Carried.
ACTION: Harvey is to find out what is available.

Treasurer's Report;

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| General Funds | | 1215.07 |
| Platform funds | | <u>2542.14</u> |
| CIBC Operating Acct (CAD) | | 3757.21 |
| Huntington Bank (USD) | | 1148.56 |
| GIC (CAD) | #1 (due Nov.20/09) | 3744.16 |
| | #2 (due June 15/10) | 2221.83 |

- Outings: Our outing schedule is complete, thanks to Val Walker. She drew our attention to the fact that our Oct.17 King Mountain hike is being lead by two non-members; therefore we ought to make sure that members show up for this event. Dave suggested that we promote the outing.
- Membership: Harvey Robbins stated that we have a total of 112 paid up members: 25 are US members and 87 are Canadian. He read off the names of members who have not renewed their membership. Executive members agreed to call selected individuals with the hope that they will renew.
- US Outing Liability Insurance: Dave reported that the insurance company has accepted John's version of the waiver. He added that the insurance company requires that outing participants who are 18 yr. old or younger to have signed permission by a parent or guardian. Gail has mailed a check to the insurance company.
ACTION: Dave will work with John and Harvey on a new membership renewal form, which will include a responsibility waiver.
Val raised the issue of the yearly insurance cost to the club. Is this insurance within our budget? Executive members concluded that we are well within our budget.
ACTION: For our information Gail will give us an overview of our expenses at the next Executive Meeting.
- Viewing Platforms: Tony reported that he and Jack have cleared a trail to our viewing platform at Laird Twp Park. Tony suggested that we need material to cover the path. Dave indicated that there is enough money in our platform account to cover the cost. He thought that two truckloads of gravel would be adequate. Harvey moved that we purchase gravel and wood for a structure to reach the platform. Seconded by Val. Carried.
ACTION: Dave will arrange for the gravel. Tony will purchase the material and build a pier from the dry ground to the platform so that one can avoid getting one's feet wet (To be done this fall).

- Bird List: Tony suggested that our old list was well put together but needed updating.
ACTION: Tony will bring the list to Ken McIlwrick for modification.
- Bird Guide: The status is presently unknown.
ACTION: Tony will contact Ed Czerwinski to ask if it has been sent to John.
- Kestrel Boxes: Tony was instrumental in placing these boxes along Highway I-75 a number of years ago.
ACTION: Tony will check the condition of the boxes.
- Secretary Position: As the position on the Wiki is shown to be vacant. Robert suggested that we list both he and Val as Interim Secretary.
ACTION: Dave will speak to John about this.

Next Executive Meeting October 8, 2009.

Adjournment: 9:00 p.m.

robertD

Robert D. Cohen
Interim Secretary