

Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 7, 2017, 7:03 p.m. to 8:53 p.m.

Civic Centre, Thomson Room

Attendees: Ron, Carrie, Chuck, Mark, Carl, Bill, Jerry, Val,

Regrets: Angela, Jeff, Robert, Don

Guests: none

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

1. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- None
- ..

2. REVISION/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

- Feb 14, 2017 Executive Committee Minutes.
- Approved with two amendments: Moved by Carl Seconded by Bill, Carried
- ..
- AGM Feb 28, 2017 Minutes.
- Approved with two amendments Moved by Carrie Seconded by Chuck, Carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) AGM Report back by Chuck
 - Detailed report to follow
 - No Negative feedback, good food, good presentation, good auction
 - initial analysis is that the AGM broke even financially
 - additional revenue will come from a well-run silent auction (amount TBD)

- b) Congratulations to new positions
 - Angela Henley as Treasurer, and Jerry Kroetsch as Secretary

4. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

- a) **Treasurer's Report** (via Gail)
 - Can Acct: \$4,563.84
 - US Acct: \$427.21
 - GIC #1 \$4,010.35 Maturing Jan 18/18
 - GIC #2 \$4,110.37 Maturing June 19/17.

b) Outings

- Saturday Mar 11 schedule for *Horst Wetzl Memorial Canyon Ski (Stay tuned ; due to warm weather, Leader may change location.)*
- Saturday Mar 18 *Ashmun Creek Snowshoe*

c) Programs

- March 14 Val Walker report on Sault Naturalists' Dragonfly Research at Bayliss Library
- April 11, Jeff Lange, The Dance of the Sandhill Crane at Bayliss Library
- possible future meeting on MTO perspective on wildlife overpasses

d) Membership Report,

- See Attachment A
- Ron looking after until a membership lead is found

e) Environmental Action Committee Review

- No action on Algoma Forest Management Plan
- Discussion on West end Creek revitalization... see "Ongoing Business"

f) Michigan Audubon

- Purple Marten Workshop in Lansing Area, Mar 14
- Tawas Point birding Festival May 18-20, 2017
- Raptor Feast April 7,8,9 accepting registration
- April 29 Whitefish Point, hawk watch

g) Ontario Nature,

- Youth Summit September 22 ish
- Christopher Interested in attending.
- Transportation an issue , ON may help, stay tuned

- ON annual gathering in Barrie area..
- ON Regional meeting on Manitoulin...

Carrie will send out more information about June meeting.

h) S.S.M. Trails Committee

- Chuck now contact.
- No meetings yet

i) Publicity

- **No report**

j) Local Citizens Committee Forest Management

- Pellet plant in Wawa no longer being developed; project shelved
- Training took place for Forest Management Plan input
- LCC has picked their main contact for FMP input
- Other MNRF Business
 - Elk numbers at just less than 300 are conflict with farmers in Algoma
 - Crown Land “Land Use Permit” Campgrounds being closed. Ranger Laker, Garden River and Tunnel Lake

5. OLD BUSINESS

a) Creek Revitalization Plan

- on hold

Ron to setup meeting with City Parks and Engineers to see what they are open to consider

b) Website and Social Media

- Carter to be invited as guest at a future meeting
- Ron had input about “Weebly” on a newer format for websites
- Keep looking at options
- Are their costs for storing webpages, for hosting, for domain name?

6. UPDATES AND REMINDERS

a)

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- ..
- ..

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) SSMRCA forest management plan Review..

- Invitation to attend
- Tuesday March 7 4:30-7:30
- Plan in preliminary stages No harvest prescriptions detailed; “all cutting will be to improve forest health.”
- SSMRCA will take Soo Naturalists input on location of Wildlife values (nests, habitat etc.)

b) Celebrate National Wildlife Week April 9-15.

- Part of Canada 150 celebration
- Jack Miner celebration (wild goose Jack)
- “Preserve the Wonder”
- Activities on April 12
 1. Bird impact reduction day

2. April 12 Walks Soo Nat an advertise our events via them
 3. CWF wild nature event
- c) Resignation of Jen Harvey Member at Large
- Committee is sorry to see her go, asked Mark to pass along our thanks.
- d) Valerie- Earth Day event by AlgomaTrad... (Traditional Music).
- Building nest boxes on Island.
 - Appeal for support from birding community (Bird ID/ Bird calls)
 - Also looking for support from Algoma Woodworkers
- Val to put out a request for assistance to birders.**
- e) MNRF Bait Management Policy.
- Comment period 120 days
 - See EBR site to review Policy and to input to Policy 012-9791
 - Appropriate to offer Leadership to members...
- Val to review and make suggestion to membership**
Carrie/Val to check, if Ontario Nature has responded to this policy.
- f) International Joint Committee (IJC)
- Held Meeting in town
 - Ron attended
 - Membership can still participate and input on Great Lakes Water Quality study via www.participateijc.org before April 15, 2017

8. NATURE OBSERVATIONS

- ..
- March 4th 19 Snowy Owls, 17 Rough Leg Hawks West of Rudyard...
- Due to successful migration of Wild Turkeys on the main land adjacent to St Joe's Island, MNRF is planning to offer Turkey Hunting off the Island also. (Mark).

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm

Moved by Chuck, Seconded by Carrie Carried

ATTACHMENT A: MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Total No. Memberships (not including Organizations)	2017	2016	2015
Life (paid)	19		
Individual	30	34	3
Family	20	33	3
Student	3		
Complimentary senior members	4		
Complimentary for guest speakers		5	
Total Membership Break down	76	72	6
Total memberships	154		
Total # CA	130		
Total # USA	<u>24</u>		
Total Membership	154		
Organizations, Audubon, Ontario Nature etc.		6	

Date: March 7th, 2017

- reminder letters were emailed until February 2017
- turning books over to Ron Prickett
- Clubs - 3 Canada and 3 the States
- 4 complimentary memberships for older members, not well at the present time and who have been members for 10 years or more
- 5 complimentary are for guest speakers from 2016

By: Don and Vivian Hall