

Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2017, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Civic Centre, Thompson Room

Attendees: Ron, Jerry, Angela, Chuck, Jeff, Mark, Val, Carl, Bill,

Regrets: Don, Cindy, Barb, Robert, Carrie

Guests: Carter Dorscht

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm

1. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OR NEW MEMBERS

- Carter Dorscht Land Stewardship Coordinator for the Kensington Conservancy

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- None..

3. REVISION/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

- Moved by Angela Seconded by Chuck
- Approved

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Social Media Carter Dorscht

- Facebook page idea, post ongoing items, allows members to get the latest update
- Allows members to share this info with other /their Facebook contacts.
- Carter does one or two listings a day.
- Secondary to website, but each have own purpose.
- Good for reaching new interested parties.
- Can have a number of Facebook editor's (but must designate one as lead)
- Kensington Conservancy also uses Twitter and Instagram
- **Discussion**
 - Good idea for Sault Naturalists
 - Need to respond to questions posted on Facebook wall.
 - Start small
 - General support

ACTION: Ron to ask for volunteer to get a Facebook site started for Sault Naturalists

b) Website Jerry Kroetsch

- Review of content on Sault Naturalist's PBWORKS website
- Main Navigation by a Side Bar with 26 Items (vs. key groups at top of page)
- Layout Hierarchy maybe confusing (E.g. "Outings" is under "About the Sault

- Naturalists”)
- Information very up to date
- Few updates Needed (3)
- What does the Membership read most?
- Need some Content Management (Your Page, Travelogues, seem dated)
- Thunder Bay Field Naturalist is redoing their website at a quoted cost of \$5,000
- They pay GoDaddy.com \$40 per 24 months for domain name.
- Their Facebook is popular.
- Their Twitter is less popular (needs frequent “tweets” to get followers)
- They Use PayPal icon for Membership and annual Dinner tickets

ACTION: Jerry to:

- Fix the items he noted as outdated (work with John Lehman as needed)
- Consult with Membership what they use most on the Website
- Propose deleting/archiving some infrequently used content
- Research e-Payment Mechanism on-line (work with John)
- Defer to the future; looking for new improved layout and web engine that also improves mobile phone viewing

c) AGM Report – Chuck/Angela

- \$ 110.6 Surplus from dinner (thanks to an anonymous donor of a gift for the speaker)
- \$ 393.00 Raised from silent auction (thanks again to organizers and all who contributed).
- Buffet style meal was a problem for members with walkers/canes
- Food was good but expensive.
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- Success 80+ people in attendance

d) Bait Management; Provincial Regulations Public Review; Val

- Val provided a summary of differences Bait regulations across Canada (many provinces ban the use of live bait)
- Reviewed the Ontario Nature’s position from December 2014 to ban the use, harvest or storage of live bait in Parks and Conservation Reserves. **Val looking to see if Ontario Nature has a newer stance on the current regulations.**
- Comments due by end of June

ACTION: Val to advise Executive Committee how to respond/ input to review by next meeting.

e) Changes to the Canadian Species at Risk List (for Birds); Bill

- Opportunity for public input
- Proposal to remove one bird from list
- Proposes to move a few from threatened to endangered
- Left birding community to reply or input as they see fit

5. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

- a) **Treasurer's Report, See Attachment A for details**
- Most active time of year
 - Keeping data on excel (Not likely to buy Quicken accounting software)
 - Suggestion made for more detailed project codes and keeping special purpose funds (i.e. Platform construction and Dragon Fly project) identified separately.
- b) **Outings**
- This Friday, Saturday and Sunday is the Raptorfest in Michigan
 - Last weekend's outing served as a reminder of the need to keep the group together for safety
- c) **Programs**
- Sault Naturalists received a thank you note from Bayliss Library for the \$100.00 donation, (they are using the money to sponsor Anish Anderson's talk on April 13, 2017)
 - April 11 Jeff Lange on the Dance of the Sandhill Cranes at Bayliss Library
- d) **Membership Report, Attachment --- none today**
- Barb Scott sends her regrets for today's meeting.
 - She has the forms and procedures
- e) **Environmental Action Committee Review**
- Nothing to report
- f) **Michigan Audubon,**
- Nest Box Monitoring Workshop April 11 2017, in Okemos MI
 - Cerulean Warbler Weekend June 10-11, Barry County MI
- g) **Ontario Nature,**
- Carrie sends regrets, no report.
- h) **S.S.M. Trails Committee**
- Next meeting on April 13, 2017; no agenda yet
 - Andre Riopel asking for support for addition of a bike lane when repaving Second line between Great Northern Road and Old Garden River Road
- h) **Publicity, Vacant**
- Vacant no Report

- i) **Local Citizens Committee Forest Management**
No changes, meeting next week.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a) Creek Revitalization

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

7. UPDATES AND REMINDERS

- **CHANGE:** Next Executive Committee Meeting Thursday May 4th

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Dragonfly Meeting with MNRF
- Wednesday April 19 Dragonfly 10 AM
- b) Swift Project; Update/Status
- Thursday April 06 meeting with Jennie Pearce.
- c) Garlic Mustard Pull; Meeting
- April 19, 2 PM

9. NATURE OBSERVATIONS

- Gyrfalcon in northern Michigan.
- Eastern Towhee on Third line SSM ON
- Greater White Fronted Geese in Laird

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm

Moved by, Carl

Seconded by Mark

ATTACHMENT A: TREASURERS REPORT**Treasurer's Report April 4, 2017****Canadian Account**

Date	Description	Category	Amount	Balance
1-Mar	Balance forward			1,275.84
1-Mar	Silent Auction	AGM	393.00	
2-Mar	AGM Tickets	AGM	2,815.00	
23-Mar	AGM Catering	AGM	(2,600.40)	
23-Mar	AGM Centerpieces	AGM	(103.96)	1,779.48
4-Mar	Memberships	Mem	845.00	2,624.48
16-Mar	Post & Printing	Oper	(47.35)	2,577.13
16-Mar	Donation	Donations	25.00	2,602.13
16-Mar	Dragonfly	Dragonfly	1,671.61	4,273.74
23-Mar	Dragonfly	Dragonfly	(37.10)	4,236.64
2-Apr	Dragonfly	Dragonfly	(1,624.00)	2,612.64
27-Mar	Rotary	Misc	(100.00)	2,512.64

US Account

Date	Description	Category	Amount	Balance
3-Jan	Balance Forward			497.21
3-Jan	Deposit	Misc	30.00	527.21
15-Feb	Bayliss	Misc	(100.00)	427.21
15-Mar	Deposit	Misc	30.00	457.21
17-Mar	Memberships	Mem	80.00	537.21

GICs

#1	matures 01/18/18			4,010.35
#2	Matures 06/19/17			4,110.37

Platform Funds (in C\$ chequing acct) **1,050.91**

ATTACHMENT B: MEMBERSHIP REPORT (No Update)