

## Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2017, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Civic Centre, Thompson Room

Member	Present	Regrets
Ron Prickett, President		X
Chuck Miller, vice President, Trails and Membership Programs	Y	
Angela Henley, Treasurer		X
Jerry Kroetsch, Secretary		X
Robert Cohen, Member at large	Y	
Carter Dorscht, Member at large	Y	
Carrie Ginou, Ontario Nature	Y	
Mark Harvey, Forest Management Planning LCC		X
Bill Meades, Environmental Action	Y	
Jeff Robinson, Archives	Y	
Barb Scott, Membership	Y	
Val Walker, Outings		X
Vacant, Michigan Audubon Society		

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

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### 1. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OR NEW MEMBERS

- None

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### 2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- None

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### 3. REVISION/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

- No quorum, so no vote was taken.

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### 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Draft letter for guest memberships – Chuck: Will draft at a later date and give to Barb.
- Calls to unpaid members – Barb: Completed but no membership renewals from this list yet.
- Meritorious Service Awards – All: Discussed plaques, one for individual and one for all of the awardees over the years. Also gift such as a book or other memento. Robert proposed that a committee be formed to choose person and gift. Bill suggested criteria needs to be developed for who would be eligible. Decision tabled until next meeting.
- Bird List Fort Saint Joseph – Carter: Received a copy of Harry D. Graham's 1976 avian study from Donna. From this list Carter added 27 new species to the Fort's list plus red-necked grebe recently seen by Carter. There are now 160 species on the list. Val circulated list to general membership for comment but Carter has received no comments.

- e) Duck Sign – Ron: Moved to next meeting since Ron is absent.
- f) Milkweed Project – Ron: Moved to next meeting since Ron is absent. Carter mentioned that Kensington Conservancy is willing to help.

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## 5. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

### a) Treasurer's Report (Angela)

- No report

### b) Outings (Val)

- Val is absent but Barb volunteered to send out reminders to the membership for the next two outings.

### c) Programs (Chuck)

- *The State of the Birds* by Dave Euler on October 10<sup>th</sup> at the Forestry Centre. Barb to send list of members (names only) to Chuck for sign-in sheet.

### d) Membership Report (Barb)

- No report; next report will be issued in November.
- All those in arrears have been contacted about renewing their membership, either by email or phone. Good response but we haven't received funds from any of these people yet. Three people asked to be taken off the list.

### e) Environmental Action Committee Review (Bill)

- Nothing new but Ron has to make a request to MNR to have the club be included as an agency of interest.
- **Action Item:** Ron to ask to be added to mailing list for the Algoma Forest Management Plan.

### f) Michigan Audubon (vacant)

- **Action Item:** Chuck or Ron to mention vacancy at upcoming club programs and ask if anyone is interested in filling this position.

### g) Ontario Nature (Carrie)

- Christopher (last name?), our nominee, attended Youth Summit in Orillia and sent us a thank you letter.
- Carrie asked for receipts from Christopher. Hasn't received them yet.
- Carrie to sit in on Ontario Nature Regional annual conference call on October 16<sup>th</sup>. She is collecting questions and comments from club members. Robert suggested she mention Mark Olivier's butterfly inventory program.
- Commenting on criteria for natural heritage areas.
- **Action Item:** Carrie to ask Christopher if he would like to talk about the Youth Summit at the Christmas meeting.

### h) S.S.M. Trails Advisory Committee (Chuck)

- No meeting, so nothing new to report

**h) Publicity (Vacant)**

- **Action Item:** Ron or Chuck to ask if anyone is interested in the position at the upcoming programs.

**i) Local Citizens Committee Forest Management (Mark)**

- No Report.

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**6. OLD BUSINESS**

**a) Creek Revitalization**

**Action Item:** Ron to setup meeting with City Parks and Engineers to see what they are open to consider.

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**7. UPDATES AND REMINDERS**

- None

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**8. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) UP Environmental Commission (Bill): Good talks at the UPEC-sponsored Celebrate the U.P.! gathering on September 16th, but attendance by the public at large was poor.
- b) Robert suggested that we produce a species list of flora and fauna during each outing and publish on the Wiki. Discussion ensued as to whether we should list rare species due to poaching by collectors. Determining this on a case-by-case basis may work for the club; tabled for the next meeting.
- c) Robert proposed that we make it easy for people to will money to the Soo Nats by developing a bequest form. People remembered that this had come up before, but no one could remember what the last action was. Tabled for next meeting.
- d) Robert suggested we have a gear swap at each program, where members could sell used outdoor equipment. Other members said the Wiki might be a better forum for this. Tabled for next meeting.

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**e) NATURE OBSERVATIONS**

- Bunch berries (*Cornus canadensis*) and common strawberry were observed blooming by Bill.
- Chuck heard spring peepers calling.
- Carter said some bird species are late starting their fall migration. Saw Ross's goose and cackling geese.
- Robert saw painted lady butterflies gathering in Montreal for their migration south.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Scott

