

Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2017, 7:00 p.m. to 9:08 p.m.

Civic Centre, Biggins Room

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

1. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OR NEW MEMBERS

- a) Mark Olivier

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- various (see Minutes items f, g, h, i, j)

3. REVISION/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

- MOTION: “**Accept September 5, 2017 Minutes as submitted**” by Robert, Seconded Bill, **Carried**
- MOTION: “**Accept October 3, 2017 Minutes with one amendment**” by Chuck, Seconded Robert, **Carried**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) Roadside Brushing and Monarchs - Mark O
 - Explained problem of Townships mowing down roadside milkweed with Monarch eggs, caterpillars and chrysalis present.
 - Handed out a Canadian Federal report explaining the “Species of Concern” status of the Monarch.
 - Discussion:

- Where to implement no mowing zones?
 - When to implement no mowing? (complicated with 2-3 generations between June and September)
 - Which Townships to engage? We have a relationship with Laird, could start there.
 - How important is mowing roadsides to Townships (safety?)?
 - Which species of Milkweed are hosts to Monarchs?
 - What is the new Federal “Best Practice”?
 - How much effort does Sault Naturalist’s want to put into this initiative?
 - Maybe milkweed could be planted on right of ways.
- **Actions:**
 1. Mark O to do more Research on Biology and Federal Guidelines
 2. Barb and Angela to look for Monarch Policies / Guidelines proposed for Michigan
 3. Executive to think about how extensive and what scope of initiative we would support
 4. Mark to table item again when more information available. Prior to next Spring.
- b) Ontario Wetlands Conservation Strategy – Barb
- Input requested in memo not applicable to our club at present (we do not actively use the classification tool being reviewed).
- c) Meritorious Service Award/Recognition
- Need scope / criteria
 - **MOTION: to establish an award.** Robert, Seconded Bill, **Carried**
 - **MOTION; to establish a working group to set criteria,** Bill, seconded Robert, **Carried**
 - Call for volunteers, Robert raised his hand; any other volunteers to email Ron if they are interested.
- d) Bird List for Fort St. Joseph Copying Cost – Carter
- New list, had designed one in September, now has copy of 2004 list, needs an estimate of cost to print a bunch for Fort St. Joseph. Needed for next meeting.
 -
- e) Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol –Val
- Ryan Namespetra from Sault College, Proposed “Soo Nats to assess some key streams”
 - Measure: Discharge, Velocity, Slope, Crest Stage Gauges, at road crossings
 - Usually done on a blitz day. Repeated annually,
 - Contact with college on hold for now...
 - Could ask him to provide more information (scope, tools) or ask Val to further scope project more with Ryan
- f) Gear Selling, Robert
- Maybe enough of us who have items bird books, scopes to sell/exchange
 - Use Facebook page or Website
 - Try low key list of what you have ...at next monthly meeting.
 - If you want to sell gear, bring item or notice to meeting... so other can contact you.

- g) Bequeathal Forms
 - a statement such as “Please remember us during Estate Planning” to be added to Membership form -- Barb.

- h) Retouched Logo --Ron
 - MOTION: **“to accept new logo”**, Chuck, seconded Carter... **Carried.**
 - MOTION: **“Give a year’s Family Membership to Graham Hussey for 2018”**, Val, Seconded Jeff, **Carried**

- i) List of Flora and Fauna for every outing --Robert
 - For every outings which focuses on flora or fauna; good idea to have a species list for members (Common and Scientific names of Flora or Fauna).
 - MOTION: **“Encourage creation of species list for outings focused on flora or fauna, but not mandatory** Jerry, seconded by Jeff , **Carried**

- j) Sault Naturalist Club House – Robert
 - Robert asked Executive to think about benefits of a club house.
 - Minimal discussion.

5. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

- a) **Treasurer's Report (Angela)**
 - See attachment.

- b) **Outings (Val)**
 - No outing this weekend (Remembrance day)
 - In two weeks, “Walk along Hub Trail” –Val
 - Beaver Loop Trail three weeks
 - Ila’s surprise hike following week.
 - Call for Winter outings coming out soon.

- c) **Programs (Chuck)**
 - Next Week Catherine Taddo, SSM City Storm water Infrastructure.
 - December at Bayliss Library is “open mike” night. Membership is encouraged to bring snacks and/ or pictures of Nature.
 - Appreciation, to speakers, will be a gift or a complimentary family Membership... Executive to suggest changes to memo circulated by Chuck.

 - AGM February 13, 2018 is tentatively booked at Sault College.

 - Chuck participated in Lake Huron Summit (Lake Huron - Georgian Bay Canadian Initiative for Community Action) on our behalf.
 - Possibility of Whitefish population crash (due to changes in fish’s food chain)
 - Zebra Mussels and Quagga Mussels at greater depths have cleaned phytoplankton out of food chain. Lake Huron is now low in nutrients.
 - Huge biotic changes; three major populations shifts have occurred since the year 2000 alone.

d) Membership Report (Barb)

- Needs some updating Barb to send out after discussing with Ron.

e) Environmental Action Committee Review (Bill)

- Ron's request for the Sault Naturalists to participate in Algoma Forest Management Planning has been made.
- Those interested in a Forest Management Planning sub-committee will meet after November's program meeting to discuss a broad plan to move forward.
- Update from Mark Harvey—"Desired Forest Benefits" meeting likely in April or May 2018

f) Michigan Audubon (vacant)

- May not need a formal representative

g) Ontario Nature (Carrie)

- Carrie, Christopher to make a short presentation at the November Meeting or if time sensitive December.
- Are we interested in sponsoring someone for next year? Great idea...promote through our network of Naturalists
- ..
- Regional Conference Call... protective places campaign.. goal 17% protected by 2020.
- Looking for ideas regarding geographic areas to focus on.

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

- Committee met with city Mayor, No Minutes yet

h) Publicity (Vacant)

- Any ideas let Ron know

i) Local Citizens Committee Forest Management (Mark)

- Meeting last night. New Employee just hired by MNRF to author report.
- "Our Values" is first meeting.
- Very structured planning schedule.
- Update from Mark Harvey—"Desired Forest Benefits" meeting will likely be April or May 2018

6. OLD BUSINESS

a) Creek Revitalization

- Ron setup meeting with City Parks and Engineers to see what they are open to consider. Meeting Wednesday morning.

7. UPDATES AND REMINDERS

- While at City Hall Ron will try to meet with parks about not feeding ducks bread signs.
- Early Detection Rapid Response (Invasive Species) group meeting at Sugar Shack, Nov 20th, 2017. Looking for input from partners in how to engage the public.
- Raptor Watch looking for donations. They plan to hire staff to assist in counting Raptors. Raptor Fest is April 6-8, 2018 in Mackinaw City

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. NATURE OBSERVATIONS

- Coyotes
- Harlequin Duck near Bushplane Museum
- Wawa an Eurasian Tree Sparrow; 13th in Ontario; [see wiki](#)

MOTION: Meeting to adjourn at 9:08 pm, Jeff, seconded Jerry, Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry

ATTACHMENT "A" TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report November 7, 2017

Canadian Account

Date	Description	Category	Amount	Balance
31-May	Balance forward			3,015.64
June	Printing& Postage		- 52.26	
	Bank Fees		- 5.33	
	Science Fair		- 22.04	
	Dragonfly		- 37.05	2,898.96
August	Membership deposits		+180.00	3,078.96
September	Hub Trail		-179.61	
October	Ontario Nature		-350.00	
November	Outings		- 10.52	
	President (printing)		- 16.50	
	Dragonfly		- 80.61	2,441.75

US Account

Date	Description	Category	Amount	Balance
1-Jun	Balance Forward			592.21
	no activity in Summer			

GICs

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

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

ATTACHMENT “B” MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Attachment submitted after meeting; not reviewed at meeting.

Total No. Memberships	
Life (paid)	20
Individual paid	48
Family paid	43
Student paid	7
Total Paid Memberships (sum of the above)	118
Complimentary senior members	4
Complimentary for guest speakers	5
In arrears (individual and family)	25
Total memberships*	152
Total # CA*	135
Total # USA*	17
Organizations, Audubon, Ontario Nature, etc.	6

*Sum of paid, in arrears, and complimentary