



## Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – February 06, 2018

The meeting was held at the Civic Centre, Sault Ste. Marie Ontario

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		N
Carter Dorscht, Social Media	Y	
Carrie Ginou, Ontario Nature	Y	
Mark Harvey, Forest Management Planning LCC		N
Bill Meades, Environmental Action	Y	
Jeff Robinson, Archives	Y	
Barb Scott, Membership	Y	
Val Walker, Outings	Y	
Vacant, Michigan Audubon Society		
Dave Euler, Guest	Y	

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OR NEW MEMBERS

- a) Dave Euler, a past past president to talk on input to Algoma Forest Management Plans.

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### 2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- none

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

**MOTION:** To accept January 02, 2018 Minutes as submitted with the inclusion of Attachments A (Treasurer's report) and B (Membership Report) Carter, seconded Carrie.  
**Motion carried.**

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### 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) Budget Proposal
  - Hand out
  - Adjustments to Hub Trail line, add Science Festival,
  - Budget shows an operational deficit; which can be made up from previous years savings.

**MOTION:** To accept budget with amendments; *Chuck*, seconded *Jeff*. **Motion carried.**

- b) Monarch Habitat Protection-Next Steps
  - Mark Olivier not available to assist.
  - A group formed to lead; Jerry, Angela, Val, Mark H and Ron... to meet to Discuss next steps.

**ACTION:** Group to meet in next few months and develop an action plan.

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## 5. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

- a) Treasurer's Report (Angela)
- Included as attachment "A"
  - add running total on Dragonfly project;
  - Large expense was for display cases bought for exuviae collection.
  - It is best practise to have our revenue and expenditures Audited.

**ACTION: Ron to ask for an Auditor/reviewer at AGM**

- b) Outings (Val)
- today sent out outing report for South Searchmont Conservation Reserve snowshoe.
  - Jeff leading next trip, behind Robinson's Cliffs. 9 AM start. Up to 10 km
  - Val is stepping down as Outings coordinator.
  - Recommends forming a subcommittee to share work load.
  - **Need a new team in place for April. In time to organize summer outings.**
  - **Ron to solicit volunteers at AGM.**
- c) Programs (Chuck) –
- AGM ticket sales close this Friday.
  - Bring money to Chuck, Carl to Angela
  
  - List of duties....all reviewed. No significant changes.
  
  - Next program at Bayliss in March 13, 2018 Kathy Bricker, [Raptors](#)
- d) Membership Report (Barb)
- Attachment "B"
  - Discussion on Complimentary Senior Members, no issues just clarification.
  
  - Barb is sending out another reminder that memberships are due.
- e) Environmental Action Committee Review (Bill)
- Sub-committee formed to participate in the review of the Algoma FMP for 2020-2030 has met 3 times since November.
  - Dave Euler gave a presentation of Sault Naturalists' concerns to the Algoma FMP Planning Committee on February 6. It was well received. Dave presented to our Executive Committee tonight and reported on the Planning Committee's response.
  - The EAC FMP review sub-committee will continue to participate in the Algoma FMP planning process over the next 3 years.

- f) Michigan Audubon (vacant)
  - remove in future...
- g) Ontario Nature (Carrie)
  - Advertise Youth Summit at AGM (2018 Youth Summit is Sept 21-23, 2018)
  - Protected Places initiative; 17% target
  - [Ontario Nature website active](#)
  - Looking for candidate areas?
  - **Carrie to comeback with more information.**
- h) S.S.M. Trails Advisory Committee (Chuck)
  - STAC meeting in March 14, 2018 (GN Road/2<sup>nd</sup> line options to be tabled. City to announce plans for the \$580.0 k which was previously promised to SSM for the cycle plan)
- i) Publicity (Vacant)
  - ....
- j) Local Citizen's Committee Forest Management (Mark)
  - None...

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## 6. OLD BUSINESS

- a) Creek Revitalization Plan-Report and Next Steps
  - Met with City Planner and Rhonda from CA
  - See notes next opportunity ATTACHMENT "C"...
  - Talk of when to minimize clearing trees to save nesting birds.
  - **Val to provide SSMRCA with dates for song bird nesting.**
  - **Ron to talk with Dean about tree plant and creek cleanup...**
  - Other Opportunity
    - Assisting SSMRCA in applying for additional funding for tree planting (currently TD Friend of the Environment Foundation)
    - Assist SSMRCA in planting trees
    - Choose one current metal weir in disrepair and propose a more natural alternative
    - Clean up a section of Creek (e.g. Central Creek Second Line to Wallace Terrace)
    - Provide support for SSMRCA's application for funds for a Watershed Plan
    -
- b) Duck Feeding Sign makeup
  - Deferred discussion.
- c) Stream Assessment project with Sault College
  - Val will be meeting in the spring regarding stream locations and data to be collected

- d) Gear Selling –
  - **Chuck to announce as part of the March meeting poster.**
- e) Garlic Mustard Pull; Sutton Park
  - Up again in May, 26, 2018 for another Pull
  - Assessments to be redone within the vegetation plots established in 2016.

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### c) UPDATES AND REMINDERS

- a. none

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### d) NEW BUSINESS

- i.
  - a) FMP Presentation – Dave Euler
    - Algoma FMP Planning Committee accepted an early presentation from Dave on behalf of the Sault Naturalists.
    - Focus for Sault Naturalists to be “Create/Maintain Habitat for Species at Risk”, “Maintain habitat for wildlife as close as possible to the Natural Benchmark” and “Be Ecologically Credible”.
    - Sault Naturalists could; provide information from ebird, prepare summaries of habitat requirements and make field observations.
    - **Dave to circulate a summary of his presentation**



presentation to  
FMPlanning committee

- b) Storm Water Advisory Committee
  - City looking for Sault Naturalists membership on their committee to review alternative funding of storm water infrastructure.
  - Anticipate 3 meetings
  - talk to Ron if interested.
- c) Annual Report
  - Review report please
  - Val to send out electronically and ask for input

d) Nature Observations

- Lots of Owls
  - Barred Owl Angela and Val
  - Great Grey Owl
  - Northern Saw Whet Owl
  - Snowy Owls in Rudyard area
- Pied-bill Grebe at St Joe`s Island Bridge
- Good year for Waxwings, and Pine Grosbeaks

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting. Moved by Jeff. Seconded by Carter. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Jerry*

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**ATTACHMENT "A" TREASURER'S REPORT****Treasurer's Report February 6, 2018****Canadian Account**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Balance</b>
01-Jan	Balance forward			5,741.564
	Membership Deposits		110.00	
	Dragonfly Expenses		-1048.08	4,803.42
February	Printing& Postage		- 75.26	
	PO Box Rental		-187.58	
	Insurance		-1,405.08	
	Misc		- 22.84	
	Membership		815.00	3,927.66

**US Account**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Balance</b>
1-Jun	Balance Forward			592.21
	no activity			
	Deposit to be made		\$105.00	

**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**

*Submitted by Angela*

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ATTACHMENT "B" MEMBERSHIP REPORT

<b>Total No. Memberships</b>	
<b>Life (paid)</b>	22
<b>Individual paid</b>	22
<b>Family paid</b>	16
<b>Student paid</b>	1
<b>Total Paid Memberships (sum of the above)</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Complimentary senior members</b>	5
<b>Complimentary for guest speakers</b>	1
<b>Number not renewed yet (individual and family)</b>	87
<b>Total (Paid + unpaid + complimentary)</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>Total # CA paid*</b>	61
<b>Total # USA paid*</b>	6
<b>Organizations- Audubon, Ontario Nature, etc.</b>	<b>1</b>

\*Sum for 2018 only

**Date: February 3, 2018**

*By: Barb Scott*

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## ATTACHMENT “C” - West End Creeks Meeting Report

January 31, 2018

### PARTICIPANTS

- Director of Planning and Enterprise Services, Don McConnell,
- SSM Regional Conservation Authority General Manager, Rhonda Bateman
- Ron, Val, Chuck and Jerry of the Sault Naturalists.

### BACKGROUND

- West End Creeks are primarily managed to minimize flooding
- Some opportunity to increase “naturalization” of these creeks
- Some opportunity to increase recreation opportunities adjacent to these creeks

### City Responsibilities

- Ensuring ground water recharge areas are part of new developments.
- Developing Trails through STAC
  - Has funding for bike trails, looking to expand west across these creeks
- Maintaining HUB trail where it has an easement for the trail
- Leading initiative for “Future SSM Plan” which has four pillars; Economic, Social Equity, Arts and Culture, and Environment (see FutureSSM.com).
- City had considered developing park land at Mouth of Fort Creek (between Casino and River), but is concerned about appearance of creek (heavy siltation). Has been told Fort Creek is critical fish habitat

### SSMRCA

- Is a major landowner on many sections of the west end creeks
- Open to more naturalization on stream lands outside of stream flow basin and outside of access routes for their maintenance vehicle
- **Rhonda to check with other CA's regarding costs & approaches to naturalization**
- Open to expanding community involvement projects (e.g. expand their tree planting)
- Needs watershed plans to help identify what gets done where.
- Can ask for funds for watershed plans under WECEI (Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure). Is considering looking for a Graduate student to do Watershed plan and then WECEI funding to implement.

### Opportunity for Sault Naturalist Club

- Assisting SSMRCA in applying for additional funding for tree planting (currently TD Friend of the Environment Foundation)
- Assist SSMRCA in planting trees
- Choose one current metal weir in disrepair and propose a more natural alternative
- Clean up a section of Creek (e.g. Central Creek Second Line to Wallace Terrace)
- Provide support for SSMRCA's application for funds for a Watershed Plan
- Provide information to CA's channel maintenance schedule to reduce the impact on birds during their critical nesting periods within the flood channels (Val)