



Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – December 4, 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 Programs	Y	
Angela Henley, Treasurer	Y	
Jerry Kroetsch, Secretary	Y	
Carter Dorscht, Social Media		N
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,		N

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

1. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OR NEW MEMBERS

- None.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- None.

3. REVISION/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

MOTION: To accept November 14, 2018 Minutes as submitted. Proposed by Angela and seconded by Jeff. **Motion carried.**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Nominations for elected positions
 - The incumbent Vice –President, Treasurer and Secretary each agreed to stand for reelection.
 - Executive members must approach other members and ask them to run for the open position of President.
- Wiki Contributions
 - Ron is taking over the lead on the Soo Nats Wiki page.
 - John Lehman suggests we divide up ongoing maintenance of the site.
 - Currently: Val is maintaining “outings”, Carter “bird sightings”, Jerry

- “minutes” and Chuck has started updating the “programs”
- Bill to take on Environmental updates
 - Jerry to provide executive with a layout of the current website.

MOTION: The Executive wishes to thank John Lehman for his years of service in developing and maintaining the club’s website/wiki. The president is asked to relay our appreciation to John.

Proposed by Chuck and seconded by Carrie. **Motion carried.**

c) Project Proposals

- On Nov 29th 2018 OMNRF met with the club and presented a list of possible projects the clubs could under take.
- Unlike other years OMNRF does not have access to funding for partners.
- A number of the projects could be done as one day outings to observe and report occurrences of species. Other projects would require longer term monitoring.
- After a lengthy discussion it was decided

Butterfly Habitat	Val, Mark O and Jerry research sampling protocol and proceed
Garlic Mustard Pull	Carry on
SSM Waterways protection	Carry on Chuck interested in proposed tree plantings
Odonate Project continuation	no action
Freshwater Mussel Survey	no action
Bumble Bee Inventory	Encourage members to participate in Bumble Bee Watch database. Angela to lead Bees and Beetles
SARS Bird Inventory	could do Gibboney Lake _?????????_ to lead
BogBean/ BuckBean Moth Survey	Bill to Lead
Chimney Swifts	Need ongoing surveys
Reptiles and Amphibians	Salamander Boards - Chuck Looking for Blanding’s Turtles – Chuck Frogs Barb and Carrie
Significant Wildlife Habitat	Club could survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shore Ridges • Mary Ann Lake

5. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

- a) Treasurer's Report (Angela)
- No transactions in November/ no summary nor attachment
 - GIC rolling over in January 2019
 - E transfer set up for renewals (not for new members – need waiver and contact information).
 - Need to run a few examples prior to announcing to Membership, Need to define protocol on waivers and communication of emails and contact information. Barb to work on an e-accessible membership form.
- b) Outings-Chair
- Winter 2019 Draft see list....assigned people to gather information
 - Executive to do homework
 - Barb contact Merkel,
 - Mark contact Don Hall,
 - Barb description of Sugar Island outing
 - Ron to share his notes with Val
 - All share what they learn with Val. NOTE: ASAP as outings list should go out soon.
- c) Programs (Chuck) –
- December 11 at Bayliss 6:30 PM start; poster is out
 - Barb to provide cider
 - Jan 8 Lake Sturgeon with focus on St Mary's River population.
 - Feb 12 AGM Menu is planned

 - March is vacant; looking for ideas (one from Barb)
- d) Membership Report (Barb)
- No changes, no update to previously minuted report.
- e) Environmental Action Committee (Bill)
- No willingness by OMNRF to do modelling for species at risk in the Algoma Forest.
 - OMNRF did agree to let Policy people know of desire to model for species at risk.
 - See also LCC
- f) Ontario Nature (Carrie)
- Follow up from Nature Summit
 - Carrie will contact Chris to act a mentor / champion for other candidates.

- Ask Chris to report at a meeting
 - Environmental Commissioner; ON is opposing decision by Government to cut position.
 - Carrie is likely working Tuesday Nights in the New Year; a brief discussion was held on which night is best for meetings.
- g) Local Citizen's Committee Forest Management (Mark)
- A letter to be sent to Conner Mihell of the LCC; expressing clubs desire to have modelling for species at risk considered in the Algoma FMP.
 - The memo would allow this topic to be discussed by the LCC. Ron to draft memo.
 - Mark will table the memo at next meeting
- h) S.S.M. Trails Advisory Committee (Chuck)
- Chuck previously distributed a "Share the Road" poster.
 - Gill Penalosa made a presentation on walkable cities; well attended.
 - The Downtown Traffic: Project File report is now available; Queen St remains one way and Bay Street will become a two lane streets with a separate Multi Use Path (MUP).
 - Active Transportation is one of the Mayor's priorities for the new term.
- i) Social Media (Carter)
- no report
- j) Publicity ()
- No activity.

6. ONGOING BUSINESS

- a) Milkweed Survey 2019 (St Joe's Island protected areas)
- No discussion.
- b) Stream Assessment project with Sault College
- No firm plans, still potential
- c) Duck Signs; Whitefish Island, Station Mall
- d) Bellevue Valley Hanging Delta
- Soo Nats to monitor cutting, via outing, as requested by Silent Sport Recreation Committee

7. UPDATES AND REMINDERS

- None

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Notice of Petition to keep Ontario's Environmental Commissioner

MOTION: Ron to inform membership of petition (OntarioNature.org) and encourage their support. Proposed by Carrie and seconded by Mark. **Motion carried.**

- b) Alternative Meeting Area at Sault College
- Good option, but no need to change.

- c) Cormorant Hunting Proposal

- Agreed Club Executive do not support hunt.
- Ron to use points provided by Carter and Chuck to reply on EBR/ERO site.
- <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/013-4124#> comments due by January 4 2019.

- d) New Ontario Environment Plan:

- see <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/013-4208>
- Chuck indicated: plan does not address items raised by departing Environmental Commissioner. No detail about cleaning up Great Lakes. Limited action on Climate Change; report claims targets are met. No mention of cycling infrastructure.
- We have until January 29, 2019 to respond.
- Executive to review and provide comments to Ron.

9. NATURE OBSERVATIONS

- None.

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

Next Meeting Wednesday January 9th 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry

ATTACHMENTS

None this month