



# Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – September 03, 2019

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

Member	Present	Regrets
Dave Euler, President	Y	
vacant, Vice President		
Angela Henley, Treasurer		N
Jerry Kroetsch, Secretary	Y	
Chuck Miller, Trails and Programs	Y	
Ron Prickett, Past President, Wiki Editor	Y	
Carter Dorscht, Social Media	Y	
Carrie Ginou, Ontario Nature		N
Mark Harvey, LCC		N
Bill Meades, Environmental Action	Y	
Jeff Robinson, Archives	Y	
Barb Scott, Membership	Y	
Val Walker, Outings	Y	

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

- Ron, Waiver discussion added to New Business

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

**MOTION:** To accept June 04, 2019 Minutes. Proposed by Chuck and seconded by Bill  
**Motion carried.**

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## 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

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## 5. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

- a) Treasurer's Report (Angela)
  - No report.
- b) Outings- (Val, Barb and Renee)
  - List went out with the Fall 2019 Outings.
  - Good variety of outings,

- Good variety of leaders; shared work load.
- Good work by committee

**MOTION:** That the Executive formally thank the Outings Committee for work well done.  
Proposed by Ron and seconded by Jeff **Motion carried.**

c) Programs (Chuck) –

- Next Tuesday September 10 will be a presentation by Dave, Carter and Mark Olivier “Enjoying Nature on the Net” 7pm start at Forestry Canada.
- Val to extend an invite to High school teachers to attend the Sept 10 presentation.
- Chuck has a draft list of speaks up to June 2020.
- Needs a speaker for AGM.
- Has booked rooms at Bayliss and Forestry Canada; they are available.
- It was proposed that, as per last year.
  - Program meetings be held the second Tuesday of each Month excluding July and August.
  - the September, October and November meetings be at Forestry Canada
  - December and January at Bayliss Library
  - Feb. AGM at Sault College
  - March and April at Bayliss Library
  - May and June at Forestry Canada
  - That the December meeting at Bayliss starts a half hour early at 6:30 PM.

**MOTION:** That the Executive approve the dates and locations of the program meetings as outlined above. Proposed Chuck and seconded Ron **Motion carried.**

- Consider whether in the future another month may be better for the AGM.

d) Membership Report (Barb)

- No formal report.
- Discussion on the loss of one member’s payment. This issue is now resolved.
- Need to continue to be thorough before removing people from membership List.

e) Environmental Action Committee (Bill)

- Bill away most of summer.
- Blanding’s turtle potential loss of habitat due to approval of trap rock extraction was addressed by Dave in a Memo to the Algoma/Manitoulin MPP Michael Mantha.
- Reviewing the published Algoma Forest Management Plan is next event.
- The plan will be available at an open house.

f) Ontario Nature (Carrie away)

- Ron indicated that the deadline for Youth Summit application was extended...
- But no candidate

- g) Local Citizen's Committee (Mark)
    - ..
  - h) S.S.M. Trails Advocacy Committee (Chuck)
    - Next meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> week of September
    - No other news to report.
  - i) Social Media (Carter)
    - Carter Input all outings for Fall into Facebook.
    - Getting lots of hits on Bat Cave event. 12,000 observations
    - 69 people indicate they would possibly attend.
    - Getting lots of questions.
  - j) Secretary (Jerry)
    - No update
  - k) Publicity ()
    - No activity.
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## 6. ONGOING BUSINESS

- a) Monarch / Milkweed Projects
  - Ron shared survey results from the road side areas protected from mowing by emails dated July 8, 2019 (70 larvae counted on highway 548 section and 146 larvae counted on Richmond Bay road section).
  - Dave laid out plots on Wallwork Nature Reserve.
  - Dave received good feedback on Pupatorium construction.
  - Jerry to follow up with those doing the Monarch quick survey
- b) Tree Planting Project
  - Utility locates are completed.
  - Looking for current contact at Conservation Authority
  - Elisa's Sault College class to plan and design planting in vicinity of West end waste water treatment plant.
  - In December Club will be asked to review Student Proposals for spring planting.
  - Planting on hill side site; also asking for College's help.
- c) St Mary's River
  - Over the summer Ron shared information about public comment opportunity.
- d) Corporate Profile Report
  - All duplicate names removed.
- e) Website (Ron Carter Jerry)
  - Need to price out how hard it is to redesign and rebuild.

- Need to research cost and effort by next meeting.
- Clean up is ongoing

f) Wildlife Viewing Platforms.

- General “Need to get a committee together to think about what the club wants to do long term about the bird viewing platforms” - see Attachment “A” Inventory.
- Met with Laird Twp. Council on August 2nd
- Need building permit if major rebuild (charge to be waived)
- Echo Bay wet access
- Echo Bay long boardwalk is closed
- Marina platform is in good shape; but sign needs upgrading.
- Parks Canada is proposing to remove our platform at the locks
- Could use platform at Mashkinonge Bay.
- Need committee to propose a future plan....

**MOTION:** That a wildlife viewing platform committee is formed to make recommendations to the Executive on how to proceed with maintaining, removing or reconstructing wildlife viewing platforms.

Proposed Chuck and seconded Carter      **Motion carried.**

- Committee be open to local birders
- Dave requested Chuck to chair.

## 7. UPDATES AND REMINDERS

- a) None.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Gift for Outings Leaders
- It is proposed that an annual club membership be gifted to outing leaders who are not current members; as a way to thank the leader, to market our club and to encourage them to join.
  - This would be consistent with Program speakers.

**MOTION:** That an annual club membership be gifted to outing leaders who are not current members; as a way to thank the leader, to market our club and to encourage them to join.

Proposed by Barb and seconded Val      **Motion carried.**

b) “Backyard Birds and Beyond”

- Letter from Librarian of Bayliss asking if we would be willing to cosponsor the author when he comes to Sault Ste. Marie. Speaker’s fee is \$500
- There was no support to share in this sponsorship.
- Agreed to help promote the event.

- Chuck to reply to librarian
- c) Pam Dalseg donation of Auction Items
- During the summer Pam Dalseg donated 6 banker boxes of items, mostly books, to the Sault Naturalists AGM silent auction in February.
  - Possibility of donating a further framed print for raffle
  - The items were donated in memory of Pam's father, Paul Dalseg. He was a well-known philanthropist who passed away last year.

**MOTION:** That the club thanks Pam for her gifted and generosity.

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

- d) VTA outing Sept 14 to planned harvest area near Trout Lake
- Area likely approved in previous planning cycle.
  - The club prefers to input early in the planning process.
  - Bill may attend

- e) Ontario Nature Regional Meeting May 8, 9, 10
- The Sault to host.
  - Rob Rutledge asked to coordinate on behalf of club.
  - He is talking to FON rep.

- f) Waivers Ron
- Review. Concerns re word Waiver.
  - Caution statements are helpful.
  - If not a waiver then a risk responsibility form or a shared risk assumption statement.
  - Current statement is on Membership form at bottom.
  - Do we need non-members to sign statement on outings?
  - Is signing unnecessary legalize?
  - Club started waivers when it had a standalone US policy.
  - Now the one policy covers both sides of the border

**MOTION:** That the club continue with the practice of obtaining “waivers” from members and outings participants.

Proposed by Ron and seconded by Jeff      **Motion OPEN.**

**MOTION:** That the “waiver” Motion be tabled to next meeting.

Proposed by Jeff and seconded by Barb      **Motion Carried.**

- Action Item: Exec to Review Need for Assumption of Risk

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## 9. NATURE OBSERVATIONS

- Flock of Piping Plovers Chris Point MI ; or semi-pileated plover
- Red bellied snake in SSM
- Red Headed Wood pecker
- Monarch butterflies are migrating

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

Next Meeting is Tuesday October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 for the Executive

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Jerry Kroetsch*

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## ATTACHMENT “A” Photo Inventory Algoma Bird Observation Platforms



Photo Inventory Bird  
Observation Platforms

**Photo Inventory – Algoma Bird Observation Platforms – August 12, 2019**

**Updated August 29, 2019 by Chuck Miller**

- 1. Pumpkin Point Centennial Park – removed**
- 2. Pumpkin Point Centennial Road – stable – but will need short term repairs soon – Met with Laird Council Aug 22 / 19 – In support of major repair / replacement – need a building permit for major rebuild or replacement – will offer Building Inspector time free for advice and waive building permit fee**



3. Echo Bay – stable - but access flooded – needs some boardwalk to reach the stairs – otherwise need your rubber boots



4. Echo Bay – Loonie – partially removed / flooded picnic shelter – boardwalk closed – Sault Naturalists former commitment was just some funding







5. Pine Street Marina – stable – sign fading – could be refurbish – logo colour update?



6. St Mary's Island – stable - Parks Canada is apparently thinking of a capital project for removal



7. ~~Mashkinonge~~ Mashkinonge Bay – Carter had suggested this would be possible new additional location

