



Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – December 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	Y	
Jerry Kroetsch, Secretary	Y	
Chuck Miller, Trails and Programs	Y	
Ron Prickett, Past President, Wiki Editor	Y	
Pam Dalseg,		N
Carter Dorscht, Social Media	Y	
Carrie Ginou, Ontario Nature	Y	
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 6.59 pm.

1. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OR NEW MEMBERS

- a) none

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- b) Bio blitz Carter

3. REVISION/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

MOTION: To accept November, 2019 Minutes. Proposed by Val and seconded by Angela **Motion carried.**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) Insurance Waiver

- ..
- .

MOTION: The insurance waiver proposed by Carrie Ginou, as amended by discussion at the November 5, 1990 Executive Meeting and further amended this evening be accepted and a new membership form be prepared that includes the new waiver. (See Appendix 1 for waiver).

Proposed by Jeff and seconded by Chuck **Motion carried**

b) Website (Carter),

- Purchased Website for \$52 for this year (includes application, hosting and domain name).
- Started to populate website; saultnaturalist.org
-

c) Wildlife Viewing Platforms (Carter / Chuck)

- Met with Echo Bay council. They supported our proposals.
- Return to council when we have concrete plans
- Subcommittee meeting this coming week to set platform priorities
- Lake St high water prohibiting access to platform. Ad gravel to existing road right of way was viewed positively by council. Subcommittee to talk more with MNRF biologist.

d) Annual General Meeting (Chuck)

- Food
 - Options put forth for meal
 - Chuck accept choices and will proceed to order
 - Spinach Apple Salad, Roasted Beet Salad, Steak, SW squash with roasted root veggies and garlic mashed potatoes. There will also be vegetarian and gluten free options.
- Logistics
 - Confirmed who was helping with what
 - Obtained donor(s) for speaker's gift
 - Dave volunteered to compile the 2019 annual report
 - Chuck will redo the event budget.

e) AGM change in time (Chuck),

- Discussion deferred.

f) Bioblitz

- The Kensington Conservancy wants to do more Bioblitzes to get public involvement, Plan for doing on a regular schedule and in neighbouring jurisdictions also. Data kept by owner or via iNaturalist.
- Sault Naturalists would to be a partner

MOTION: That Sault Naturalists commit to be a partner in recurring bio blitzes planned by The Kensington Conservancy.

Proposed by Carter and seconded by Val

Motion carried

g) River benthic sampling

- Lots of training to be further discussed
- Still playing telephone tag with coordinator.

h) FMZ 10 Advisory Council

- Lake Trout populations improving since 2008 changes
- No additional changes, Further monitor
- Brook Trout , much discussion, no option concurred, ongoing
- Bait Fishing, no input to changes, want to limit live bait in natural BT lakes
- See full details on attachment “B”.
- Chuck suggested Parks Management Plans be enforced wrt bait fishing.

5. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

1. Treasurer's Report (Angela)
 - A few new memberships coming in.
 - Platform expenses of \$200.00 were paid out leaving \$760.00 in funds dedicated to platform maintenance.
 - FON fees paid.
 - .
 - Funds available \$ 8,000.00 + \$200.0 /yr from life memberships.
 - .
 - Angela to draft a 2020 budget.
2. Outings- (Val, Barb and Renee)
 - Drafting winter outings.
 - Good work and thanks to leaders for stepping up.
3. Programs (Chuck) –
 - December 10th meeting will be at Bayliss Library.
 - Early start at 6:30 PM.
 - Will publish 2020 Program once January speaker is confirmed.
 - Elliot Nelson is slated for January. Carter to Facebook him. If e-mail does not go through; Barb offered to contact him.

4. Membership Report (Barb)

	Total # Memberships
Individual	63
Family	51
Life	25
Complimentary - Seniors	4
Complimentary - Speakers	2
Student	2
Organizations	1
Total Members	148

5. Environmental Action Committee (Bill)
 - Four members on committee, looking for more
 - Bill 132
 - Omnibus bill

- Drafted reply.
 - Some concerns included
 1. Fee schedule for spills being changed to an event fine versus the former daily fines
 2. Aggregates are being moved out of Municipal planning control
 3. Forest Management Plans; Minister can override the need for consultation
- ..
- Turtle Habitat/Trap Rock Quarry.
 - Lake Lauzon area
 - ANSWER's go fund me campaign is approaching 50% of their goal
 - Trap Rock Quarry Zoning issue is going to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal.
 - Canada's Ecojustice advocacy group is participating in the hearing.
 - Bill provided ANSWER mailing address to Dave and it was forwarded to membership.
4. Ontario Nature (Carrie)
 - October Northern Con Call
 - FMP's Junction Creek Monitoring rivers
 - Sault meeting to include Outings
 - May 8 to 10
 - Rob Rutledge organizing...
 5. Local Citizen's Committee (Mark)
 - No meeting, no quorum.
 6. S.S.M. Trails Advocacy Committee (Chuck)
 - Dec 2019 – STAC for November
 - Gil Penalosa - follow up – reminder - 8 – 80 cities - believe that if everything we do in our cities is great for an 8-year-old and an 80-year-old, then it will be great for all people. <https://www.880cities.org/> - what about a pilot project in SSM?
 - Sign Strategy – STAC wants to work with city to get a bicycle trail / bus route sign strategy – would like to see a budget line item in the budget – currently covered partly in other budget items - Hub Trail Map – DRAFT ready for reprint – added new bike lanes, Jamestown area
 - Cycle – ON – money from Winn government – has not been utilized – line painting budget will cover bike lane painting – looking at gaps in the west end as priorities – looking at access to Cooper Street with new arena design
 - Info sessions coming for 5 new bike lanes – Bay Street – Brock to Pim planned for next summer
 - Jamestown Cycling Trails – comprehensive strategy -city working with business and bicycle club to link cycling to Jamestown
 - Northern Avenue – Request for Proposal - must have active transportation specialist as part of the design team
 - City and Bicycle Club working on legal agreement to get Finn Hill trail started, working on public engagement and fundraising

- Bike Racks - A growing number of our newer buses are equipped with bike racks on the front. With these easy-to-use racks, cyclists have the option to take their bikes to and from work, appointments, essential services, recreational options or anywhere Sault Transit will take them.
- Use of the bike rack is included with your regular fare. Non-motorized, two-wheel bikes can be loaded onto the racks. - <https://saultstemarie.ca/City-Hall/City-Departments/Community-Development-and-Enterprise-Services/Community-Services/Transit/Bike-Racks.aspx>

7. Social Media (Carter)

- Nothing

8. Secretary (Jerry)

- Minutes

9. Publicity ()

- No activity.

6. ONGOING BUSINESS

a) Monarch / Milkweed Projects

- Not discussed

b) Tree Planting Project

- Invitation to Elisa Muto's students' presentations of planting plans.

c) Website (Ron, Carter, Jerry)

- See Section 4 b (above) Business Arising From the Minutes.

d) Wildlife Viewing Platforms.

- See Section 4 (above) Business Arising From the Minutes

7. UPDATES AND REMINDERS

a) None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a) none

9. NATURE OBSERVATIONS

- *Hawk Owls in Iron Bridge and at CASS; lots of interest. No abuse, modest numbers of birders at a time.*

- *Harlequin duck seen near Bushplane Museum*

Next Meeting is Tuesday January 7th, 2020 for the Executive

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Kroetsch

APPENDIX A: Amended Waiver

Sault Naturalists Club Waiver ¹

ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER AGREEMENT FOR PARTICIPANTS

Please read CAREFULLY and SIGN below, for yourself and any minors in your care, to indicate that you have READ and UNDERSTOOD the following:

- I understand that during my participation in SAULT NATURLISTS CLUB ACTIVITIES, I may be exposed to a variety of HAZARDS and RISKS.
- I acknowledge and voluntarily accept that my PARTICIPATION in CLUB ACTIVITIES could result in INJURY or DEATH to myself, or any MINORS in my care, and DAMAGE to my PROPERTY.
- I agree to WAIVE, DISCHARGE CLAIMS, and RELEASE FROM LIABILITY, the SAULT NATURALISTS CLUB, ITS OFFICERS, MEMBERS, AND ACTIVITY LEADERS.
- I understand and intend that this ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER AGREEMENT is binding upon my HEIRS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS AND ASSIGNS, and includes any MINORS accompanying me.
- I confirm that I have READ THIS DOCUMENT in its ENTIRETY and I APPRECIATE, UNDERSTAND, and FREELY ACCEPT all risks on my own behalf, and on behalf of any MINORS participating in club activities with me.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name(s) of minors: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____

Date: _____

¹ Approved on December 3rd 2019

APPENDIX B FMZ 10 Advisory Council Meeting Minutes Summary – November 13, 2019

Proposed Regulation Change: LAKE TROUT

Historical LT angling regulations:

Pre 2008: Limit: 3 fish; Season: Jan1 – Sept 30

2008–Present: Limit: (S)-2 fish any size (C)-1 fish; Size: only 1 fish > 40 cm; Season: Jan 1- Labour Day

Since 2008:

1. Abundance of LT ≥ 350 mm (recruitment size) has increased 17% (not statistically significant)
2. Abundance of LT ≥ 400 mm (mature) has increased 19% (not statistically significant)
3. Number of LT Age Classes has increased by 2 (statistically significant)
4. Mean Average Age of LT ≥ 350 mm (recruitment size) has increased from 11 years to 12.5 years (statistically significant)
5. Pre Recruitment (< 350 mm) Growth Rate has decreased significantly in LT

Option 1: Retain current recreational angling regulation as follows:

Season:

- Open Jan 1- Labour Day

Catch and Possession Limits:

- Sport Fishing Licence – 2;
- Conservation Licence – 1;
- Size Limit - not more than 1 > 40 cm

Counsel Recommendation

Option 1: Maintain Status Quo

Proposed Regulation Change: BROOK TROUT

Much discussion on BT Management Issues:

1. Season – Limit harvest, protect pre-spawn, align with LT season
2. Size Limit – maintain population structure, provide trophy fishery opportunity
3. Bait Restriction – limit the introduction of other species (Rock Bass, YP other sunfish)
4. Access/Operations (Land Use Planning) – reduce angling pressure, reduce occurrence of introductions, reduce habitat pressures

BT – Management Action

1. **Extend LT Benchmark to BT**
2. **Access and Harvest restrictions:**
 - Zone 1 (120m); no harvest, no new roads
 - Zone 2 (280m); no new roads, skid trails only
 - Zone 3 (600m); operational (temporary) roads only

Option 1: Retain current recreational angling regulation as follows:

Season:

- Jan 1 to Sept 30

Catch and Possession Limits:

- Sport Fishing Licence (S) - 5
- Conservation Licence (C) - 2

No vote yet on whether to or how to change regulation for BT...deferred to next meeting Jan 08, 2020