



Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – February 04, 2020

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	
Pam Dalseg,	Y	
Carter Dorscht, Social Media	Y	
Vacant , Ontario Nature		
Mark Harvey, LCC	Y	
Bill Meades, Environmental Action	Y	
Jeff Robinson, Archives	Y	
Barb Scott, Membership	Y	
Will Scott, Publicity	Y	
Val Walker, Outings	Y	

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

1. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OR NEW MEMBERS

- a) Welcome Will Scott to be the club's publicity lead.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a) STAC update

3. REVISION/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

MOTION: To accept January, 2020 Minutes. Proposed by Jeff and seconded by Chuck
Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) Annual General Meeting (Chuck)
 - a. Reviewed plans and checked duties for 2020 AGM
 - i. Advice on tip, maximum \$300 or 15% of pretax value
 - ii. Ron to bring fridge magnets and club brochures.
 - b. Discussion re date for 2021 AGM
 - i. February weather can be an issue

- ii. April Weather can be an issue
- iii. Not summer
- iv. In Constitution, currently set as second Tuesday of February¹

- b) Platform, review of work done since last meeting and motion needed, (Chuck, Carter)
 - a. Sent around report priorities are
 - i. Boardwalk to Lake Street Platform.
 - ii. Then plan for a total rebuild of Pumpkin Pt Road platform.
 - b. Rob Rutledge has secured \$1,200 of \$3,500 estimated total needed for Lake Street access boardwalk. Money to be spent quickly. Possible to buy Lumber now and store until spring.
 - c. Still need Echo Bay Township's approval before construction starts on the Lake Street platform access.

MOTION: "as amended" To commit \$3,000 of the clubs funds to complete the boardwalk to the Lake Street platform. Proposed by Barb and seconded by Chuck
Motion carried.

- d. The Pumpkin Point Road platform could cost \$50,000 to \$70,000 to replace.
- e. Detailed engineering is required.
- f. Need to pursue outside funding sources and partnership

MOTION: To approve the committee to seek funding for the design and rebuild of the Pumpkin Point Road Platform. Proposed by Carter and seconded by Val
Motion carried.

- g. Possible funding sources include; Northern Ontario Heritage Fund, MEC (Mountain Equipment Co-Op) and the Ivy Foundation
- c) River benthic sampling, update and latest information, Val
 - a. Training can be expensive.
 - b. World Wildlife Fund lead is looking for funding to cover training costs
 - c. Lake Superior Watershed Conservancy (LSWC) is also interested in being trained.
- d) Ontario Nature Spring Meeting, review current state of planning, Dave
 - a. May 8 to 10
 - b. "Nature in the City" is one theme that emerged.

¹ After the meeting I checked the Constitution again to refresh my memory. The meeting time as the second Tuesday in February is in Article III of the Bylaws, which is fairly easy to change. Bylaws can be changed at a Regular Monthly Meeting as long as there is a quorum and a 2/3 majority vote for the change. DE

- c. Group will meet again to firm up agenda Conference Phone call February 10, 2020
- e) Bioblitz Committee, Carter
 - a. First meeting of bioblitz committee. Plans to do...
 - i. One serious 24 hour blitz
 - ii. One community based blitz
 - b. LSWC (Lake Superior Watershed Conservancy) proposed blitzing the 80 hectare Dr. Fredrick van Nus Preserve in Prince Township.
- f) Website, latest status, Carter
 - a. A step backwards; his new account bought for the club is restricted to a website editor with limited flexibility.
 - b. Succeeded in getting club's account transferred to the older website editor that he is familiar with; expects SaultNaturalist.org to be back up by end of month.
 - c. still looking for input from Executive on what should be on the Website
 - d. Jerry to provide Carter with list of items on current PBworks site,
- g) Role of Publicity, Dave
 - a. Discussed getting notices into Soo Today, Sault Online, Sault Evening News etc.
 - b. Ron read out the duties as described in our Constitution
 - c. Discussed need to be cautious about over inviting people to our events
- h) Ontario Nature Representative, Dave
 - a. Carrie has resigned as the representative.
 - i. Attend meetings
 - ii. Participate on conference calls
 - iii. Relay issues to Club
 - b. Put word out at AGM for representative.

5. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

1. Treasurer's Report (Angela)
 - deferred
2. Outings- (Val, Barb and Renee)
 - Bass Lake Snowshoe Mark
 - Chuck taking the February 15th outing
 - Barb to send out update to description on February 13th
 - Back Yard Bird count promotion could be new business of the club.
3. Programs (Chuck)
 - Feb 11, 2020 AGM.

- March 10, 2020 Seney Refuge Story by Sara Siekierski, Refuge Manager
4. Membership Report (Barb)
 - About 40% of members have renewed,
 5. Environmental Action Committee (Bill)
 - Not worth commenting on motherhood statement in Ontario Forest Policy
 - Proposal to double the annual cut.
 6. Ontario Nature ()
 - Carrie has resigned as representative and has resigned from the executive.
 7. Local Citizen's Committee (Mark)
 - Algoma Forest Management Plan signed by Regional Director.
 - Can make an appointment to view.
 8. S.S.M. Trails Advocacy Committee (Chuck)

January 2020 meeting

 - Bike Racks on Busses
 - 9 out of 26 have bicycle racks
 - 2 new buses will have bicycle racks
 - Rotaryfest and perhaps Hub Trail Festival – bus available to show people how to use the racks / YouTube video on transit website
 - 2018 – 2019 ridership 1.5 to 1.8 million – international students /DSSAB passes / route optimization – fewer transfers 16k to 5k
 - Bike bus to Grand Gardens North every 1/ 2 hour
 - New para/ community buses approved for purchase
 - Capital approved
 - Black Rd – 2nd Line to McNabb – bike lanes
 - Northern Ave Resurfacing – bike lanes
 - Improve Northern Ave Willow light – can't see it from south bound Hub Trail
 - Look at pedestrian crossing at Sault College
 - Complete Bay Street
 - Information Session this winter on other
 - Road diet Wallace Terrace EA
 - Line Painting Willow / Pine and others if Public Info Centres complete
 - New Trails
 - Mulligans – fat bike trail
 - Algoma U – XC ski and bike 4 km
 - Stakeholder discussions (including bike trail) Jamestown - open house soup kitchen Feb
 9. Social Media (Carter)
 - Nothing
 10. Secretary (Jerry)
 - Nothing
 11. Publicity (vacant)
 - See 4 g) above.

6. ONGOING BUSINESS

- a) Monarch / Milkweed Projects
 - Not discussed
- b) Tree Planting Project
 - Not discussed
- c) Website (Ron, Carter, Jerry)
 - See Section 4 f) (above) Business Arising From the Minutes.
- d) Wildlife Viewing Platforms.
 - See Section 4 b) (above) Business Arising From the Minutes

7. UPDATES AND REMINDERS

- a) None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Participation in Earth Day
 - Peter Greve of LSWC invited us to participate in their event at the BPHC on Earth day April 22
 - Agenda is under development; 6 PM to 8 PM, 3-5 minute presentation on favorite thing about living in SSM ... followed by Networking
 - Generally interested, but no-one stepped forward to lead.

9. NATURE OBSERVATIONS

- Snowy Owls in town
- Gyrfalcon, Boreal Owls, Hawk Owls
- US tourists coming to Ontario because birding is poor this year in the UP
- 8 wolves in a pack at Stokely
- Moose in UP
- Raccoons in town

MOTION: To adjourn. Proposed by Carter and seconded by Mark **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Next Meeting is Tuesday March 03, 2020 for the Executive

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Kroetsch