



Sault Naturalists Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – March 03, 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	Y	
Jerry Kroetsch, Secretary	Y	
Chuck Miller, Trails and Programs	½	
Ron Prickett, Past President, Wiki Editor	Y	
Pam Dalseg,		N
Carter Dorscht, Social Media		N
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		N

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

1. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OR NEW MEMBERS

- a) None

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a) Membership Survey; Barb

3. REVISION/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

MOTION: To accept February, 04, 2020 Minutes. Proposed by Barb and seconded by Mark **Motion carried.**

MOTION: To accept the AGM Minutes for February 11, 2020 Minutes. Proposed by Bill and seconded by Jeff **Motion carried.**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) Annual General Meeting (Chuck)
 - a. Food positive
 - b. Media Room, positive
 - c. Media setup issues, speaker's voice not going into Microphone
 - d. Enthusiastic speaker, but disorganized.

Review AGM, best features, changes needed

- Ticket recap next meeting.
- E transfer logistics

Here are a few to start

- Reallocation / double selling of tickets for those who can't make it
- Refunds on compassionate grounds
- buying tickets by e transfer (was not promoted this year)
- How many actually ate?
- more complete discussion next week.
- including a discussion on the date for 2021 AGM

b) Baillie Fund, Birdathon...

- a. Carter and his Dad raised over \$1,000.00 as part of the Great Canadian Birdathon (a fund raiser for the James L. Baillie Memorial Fund which supports bird research and preservation)
- b. In appreciation of their efforts our Club received \$260 from the Baillie Fund.
- c. It was suggested these funds could go towards bird viewing platform reconstruction.

MOTION: To thank Carter and his father. Proposed Ron and seconded by Angela **Motion carried.**

c) Ontario Nature Spring Meeting

- a. May 8 to 10
- b. "Nature in the City" Theme
- c. Update information to be shared with Executive and Publicity

d) Bioblitz Committee, Carter

- a. No new items

e) Website, latest status, <https://saultnaturalists.org/> Carter

- a. Now ready to review.
- b. See e-mail from Carter March 9th, 2020
- c. Executive should check that their contact information is correct.

f) Ontario Nature Representative

- a. Don Hall has volunteered

g) Platform (Chuck)

- a. Met with Echo Bay's township council.

- b. Presented different options for raised walkway to Lake St Platform (see Chuck's email March 3, 2020) Board Walk.
- c. Township building inspector flagged some items to repair on platform.
- d. Issues of water rising another 11 inches and volunteer hours needed to build platform led to some pre-engineered decks to be considered. These are more costly than approved.
- e. 70 boards bought by Sault College and in storage for the project.
- f. Recommendation on how to proceed at April Meeting

5. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

1. Treasurer's Report (Angela)
 - Deferred,...Just received information account has a balance of \$9,500; annual insurance check not yet cashed.
 - Post Office is closing in Canadian Tire. Mail will be redirected to our box at Main Post Office until a new service provider is arranged. Angela will prepare a complete financial report
2. Membership (Barb)
 - 159 entities
 - 69% renewed
 - 31% not renewed
 - Focus on encouraging people who may have overlooked registering.
 -
 - Next meeting review list of those who have not paid.
3. Environmental Action Committee (Bill)
 - Nothing new to report.
4. Publicity (Will)
 - Has drafted a Press Release for next program, see if it gets picked up.
 - Jerry and Dave to forward background information on Northern Spring Meeting to Will.
5. Outings- (Val, Barb and Renee)
 - no update
6. Programs (Chuck)
 - March 10, 2020 Seney Refuge Story by Sara Siekierski, Refuge Manager
6. Ontario Nature (Don)
 - Don Hall has agreed to take on position as Ontario Nature representative.
7. Local Citizen's Committee (Mark)
 - Wildlands league is responding to Ontario's Forest Policy

- On a club level Mark thought a review of past audits of Algoma Forest would be useful.
 - Past audits were difficult to locate and dated when released.
 - Mark found a number of major concerns.
 - Mark and Bill to draft a memo for Dave's signature outlining the clubs concern with this local issue.
8. S.S.M. Trails Advocacy Committee (Chuck)
- February 2020 City Council meeting
 - No snow mobiles on Hub Trail; proposal was defeated.
 - Painting of bike lanes was approved
9. Social Media (Carter)
- Nothing
10. Secretary (Jerry)
- Nothing

6. ONGOING BUSINESS

- a) Monarch / Milkweed Projects
- Not discussed
- b) Tree Planting Project
- Jeff observed heavy snowmobile traffic on proposed tree planting site. May need snow fence for trees until they are established.
- c) Wildlife Viewing Platforms.
- See Section 4 g) (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.
 - Bring forward

- b) Sault Ste. Marie Science Festival, April 25th at the Northern Community Centre (556 Goulais Avenue) Application deadline is March 13
 - Ron and Bill and someone else from club (Dave to mention at program meeting)
 - Ron also encouraged Executive to drop in and give the key participants a break.
- c) Beth Christiansen, World Water Day, to present concept at March 10th meeting
 - Agreed to let her promote this LSSU event
- d) Ministry is looking for comments re Invasive Species Act.
Seeking information on invasive species and carriers under the Ontario Invasive Species Act, 2015 | Environmental Registry of Ontario
 - Do we respond or not?
 - Chuck to look at it
- e) The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks is consulting on the mandate of conservation authorities (CAs) and has posted a survey on Ontario.ca.
 - ON really worried
 - Bill to review
 - Flood protection was the primary mandate
- f) Membership Survey (Barb)
 - Barb got approval to resurvey membership
 - Jerry to provide last year's questions and review how to distribute the survey.

9. NATURE OBSERVATIONS

- Crows back.
- Cedar Wax Wing
- Wolf tracks near Brimley
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MOTION: To adjourn. Proposed by Jeff and seconded by Mark **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Next Meeting is Tuesday April 07, 2020 for the Executive

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Kroetsch