

Sault Naturalists Executive Minutes

September 8, 2011

Sault Ste. Marie Civic Centre, Biggings Room 7:06 p.m.

Participants: David Euler, Don Hall, Tony Walker, Gail Andrew, Carl Linhart, Donna Ryckman-Rooney

Membership Report: Membership is now 123 in total. We should begin to think about year end membership drive to help sustain the club. **ACTION:** Gail and Karl to scout out ideas for a membership drive prize.

Financial Report: Gail Andrew submitted the financial report as follows: The Canadian account has \$1,959.32 and the US account has \$823.59. There are two GICs \$2,485.85 (for renewal June 15, 2012) and \$4078.30 (for renewal Nov. 22, 2011). There were limited expenses for the Pumpkin Point Platform maintenance. Some invoices are still coming in. **ACTION:** all persons who helped with the maintenance to submit invoices to Gail for reimbursement.

Outing Report: Val Walker reports that all outings are on track and proceeding well. Geo-caching event is new as is the trip down the Mississagi River. **ACTION:** Val to try and process the outings into the Three Day planner by using email perhaps someone else from the club might be interested.

Program Committee: John Lehman has pre-planned program until March 2012. Maria Marquis will be travelling and will not be able to continue in program chair. After some discussion a brain storming approach was considered. Carey Ginou and Ron Prickett are on the committee. Dave will ask Carey if she will coordinate programs if we all pool ideas. Some ideas were the Voyageur Trail., LSSU, Algoma U and Sault College, Bob Cureel from Woodlot owners, Marjorie Hall. **ACTION:** The executive are to consider recognition as part of the Annual Dinner for service to the club.

Bird Checklist

200 checklists were reprinted. Some 15 have been sold. They may also be of interest for the Sault Canal giftshop and LSSU ornithology class.

Fall Newsletter is being worked on by Dave.

Hub Trail update. Don and Christophor prepared a cormorant sign. **ACTION:** Dave to call Donna Hillsinger regarding the sign strategy for the Hub Trail.

A wiki instruction session was held on June 21. This was a great way to find out how the wiki site works for the club. **ACTION:** Dave to thank John Lehman for giving the session.

Robert Cohen proposed a Member at Large position might be added to the executive. The member at large would hold no office but be able to contribute ideas and tell the executive how they are doing and give feedback etc. **ACTION:** Dave to bring it forward at a Fall meetings to give the membership time to think about this idea.

The club is looking for a person to promote our outings and programs. The executive have noticed that we could be doing better on the Canadian side. Leslie Askwith handles the advertising on the American side very well. **ACTION:** Dave will canvass the membership for a volunteer Tuesday.

New Business:

Donna will ask the membership at September's meeting if anyone else would like to sit on the Local Citizens Committee for the Algoma Forest Management Process. She will explain the time commitment and the club's expectations.

September 23-25 the Ontario Nature meeting will be held on the French River. Tony Walker will attend on the club's behalf. **ACTION:** Dave asked if Tony would ask the following:

Does Ontario Nature have a policy paper on Forestry?

Does Ontario Nature have a representative who can participate in forest management planning and who can assist members of Local Citizen's Committees in participating in forest management planning?

Has Ontario Nature's campaign for Boreal Birds been abandoned now that Jen Baker has left Ontario Nature.

A motion to pay for Tony Walker's expenses to attend the Ontario Nature meeting was put forth by Gail and seconded by Donna. Motion passed.

Don Hall shared some bird observations. He paddled around the island near Pumpkin Point and saw 26 Sandhill cranes, 12 Bonaparts gulls 2 Caspian terns some semi-palmated plovers 12 greater yellow legs. Don was notified of some disturbance with Sandhill cranes. (Don I missed a few here I think)***

Meeting concluded at 8:05 p.m.

Please send corrections to gerard.rooney@shaw.ca