

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date – Thursday October 3 2013  
Time – 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Location – Thompson Room, Civic Centre



*Present: Ron Prickett, Val Walker, Carl Linhart, Tony Walker, Gail Jones.*  
*Regrets: Donna Ryckman, Harvey Robbins, Dave Euler, Don Hall*

- 1) Called to order – 7:00 pm
  - Gail offered to record the minutes
- 2) Additions to the agenda - *Item for a future agenda – Moving club records from Wallwork house (as requested by Gladys and Cliffe) to another location.*
- 3) Approval of last meeting’s minutes - moved by Tony Walker, seconded by Gail Jones, carried.
- 4) Business arising from the minutes
  - a) Don to call Susan James – *done, update circulated.*
  - b) Bayliss Library – *Carl will fill out the forms*
  - c) Ron to “do what he can” to write a suitable poem for annual meeting. *He is working on it.*
  - d) Gail, Viv and Don to meet with Gladys to search through archives – *done, and ongoing*
  - e) Gail has reserved the Moose Lodge for the annual dinner
  - f) Gail and Viv to present menu options at October executive meeting. – *covered under old business*
  - g) Viv to assemble display for VTA 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Don and Viv to staff the display – *done, successful*
  - h) Val to borrow gear, and run a children’s aquatic invertebrate event for VTA 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary – *done, successful*
  - i) Don to contact Donna – any progress on publicity poster template? – *not done, Donna has been out-of-town. Carry over to next month.*
  - j) Ron will resume sending ads to Sault Star, etc, *Ron is having some difficulty getting items in the Sault Star 3 Day Planner, he will continue work on it.*
  - k) Don to write newsletter articles about the Hub Trail Festival and Desbarats Green Expo – *not yet done. Carry over to next meeting.*
  - l) Don to contact Bill Purnis concerning newsletter deadlines – *not yet done. Action: Ron will contact Don about the newsletter.*
  - m) Dave to write an article about “how to use your computer to go birding. *Dave not in attendance.*
  - n) Val to write a newsletter piece about the Beaver Island trip. *In progress.*
  - o) Gail and Don to send Beaver Island photos to Val. *In progress.*
  - p) Gail to provide projected expenses and income for the next executive meeting – *covered under old business*
  - q) Ron to get prices for solid, non-GPS walkie-talkies. *Between \$50 and \$100 depending on range. Carry over to next meeting.*
- 5) Committee and other reports
  - Treasurer – See old business
  - Outings - Val reports there were 4 people on the Tunnel of Trees outing – not much colour.
  - Programs - Fred Post from Essar Steel to speak at October meeting. David Trowbridge will introduce him.
  - Membership – no report
  - Michigan Audubon - Carl - Cranefest in lower Michigan. Also the Michigan

Sierra Club in Sault Michigan-“Big  
Cats” on Oct 8/13.

- Ontario Nature & STAC - Tony - conference in Elliot Lake. Professor Julie ? spoke about turtles and tortoises, there were 16 attendees from various clubs, 2 new people from Thunder Bay, most clubs have the same problem as the Sault Naturalists i.e. aging membership.
  - Tour of 3 mine sites, report that the uranium mines visited cannot be rehabilitated uranium and radium only contained by rock and water
  - Lecture and slideshow about the TransCanada Pipeline.
  - Franco Mariotti spoke about Bat Whit-nose syndrome (he is now president of the Sudbury Naturalists)
  - Request from Ontario Nature to have the Sault Naturalists host the fall 2014 conference? (Item for discussion next meeting).
  - Ontario Nature has taken the Ontario government to court over the changes to the Species at Risk Act
  - Program suggestions - Prof Julie Litzgus - turtles and tortoises and Trans Canada pipeline.
  - **Action** - Tony will provide a detailed report of the ON conference in Elliot Lake for the next newsletter.
- 6) Old business
- a) Budget for 2014  
**Treasurer's Report**
    - Canadian Account: \$1173.11
    - US Account: \$256.71
    - GIC #1(Nov 22/13) \$4213.99
    - GIC#2(June 17/14) \$3031.86
  - A brief discussion of projected expenses for the next year. **Action** - Gail will provide a projected budget for our next fiscal year for the next meeting for each executive member
  - Discussed donations to: Bayliss Library, LSSU Research Grant, Whitefish Point Bird Observatory and

- Michigan Audubon-(put over to next meeting with proposed budget in mind).
- b) Club T-shirts, hats or vests
    - Some discussion for purchasing hats for leaders with our logo and having some shirts etc. with our logo available for the silent auction at our annual meeting.
    - Moved by Tony and seconded by Carl to spend \$65 to prepare a template for the logo. Approved unanimously.
  - c) Arrangements for Moose Lodge
    - Discussed menu for the next annual dinner-put off to next meeting (family style versus plated meal)
- 7) Updates and reminders
- a) Funding opportunities are available for projects, Val says it's best to partner with other groups ie:Kensington Conservancy(Tara Elliot-manager).Nothing in the pipeline.
  - b) Stay on the lookout for potential speakers..
  - c) **Action** - Tony and Don will talk to Jude Ortiz about the QR codes for the Hub trail.
- 8) New business
- a) Protocol for outstanding memberships – Ron
    - Motion by Carl and seconded by Tony “the grace period will be two years from expiration of last paid membership” Carried unanimously.
    - Recommendation that it is the duty of the Membership Chair to advise members of their membership status.
  - b) Nomination Committee – **Action:** Carl will chair committee to nominate members for 2014 executive.
  - c) Gail received newsletters (from Harvey) from other naturalist clubs  
**Action:** Tony will take them to the next general meeting.

- 9) Nature observations, anything else to cover?
- Tony saw a black bear rolling down a hill toward his car on Stanrock Rd near Elliot Lake. He avoided hitting it. He also saw a great Blue Heron, mallards and Canada Geese on a pond at a mining site at Elliot Lake. He also saw numerous Ruby Crowned Kinglets at Popeye Lake near Elliot Lake.

10) Adjourned – 9:05

*Information to Accompany Agenda, October 3 2013*

### **Update on Bayliss Library**

- The library meeting room is not available on Tuesday December 10; it is available in the new year.
- The library does quite a bit of publicity of events, including lighted signs at the bridge and elsewhere, Chamber of Commerce and Michigan news outlets. It sounds like as long as we get information to them early in the month before the meeting (so for the January meeting we are looking at early December) publicity will be good.
- There will not be a problem accessing the room before the 7:00 o'clock starting time. It's best to list the starting time as 7:00 pm and perhaps note on the forms that we will need access about 40 minutes earlier.
- There is no rush to fill out the necessary forms. Carl has copies.

### **Excerpts from the Constitution**

At the October meeting the president shall appoint a nomination committee to present a slate of officers at the Annual Meeting. Other nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Officers of the club shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Observation Secretary, and Properties Chairperson who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the club.

### **Article 7 – TERM OF OFFICE**

All persons elected or appointed shall commence their duties at the close of the meeting at which they are elected or appointed and shall serve until the end of the next Annual Meeting or until their successors are elected or appointed.

The president shall appoint chairpersons for the Program, Field Trip and Environmental Action Committees.

**Article 16 – BY-LAWS** A Quorum may propose By-laws that are consistent with the provisions of the Articles of this Constitution. The By-laws and any amendments thereto shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority at a general meeting.