

**Sault Naturalists Executive Meeting**  
**May 7, 2015**  
**7:00 pm**



The meeting was held at the Civic Centre, Sault Ste. Marie Ontario.

Attendance: Ron Prickett, Dave Euler, Tony Walker, Gail Jones, Chuck Miller, Mark Harvey, Carl Linhart, Bill Meades, Jeff Robinson, Robert D. Cohen, Valerie Walker

1. Call to order at 7:02
2. Additions to the agenda: Hub Trail Festival
3. Motion: Accept the minutes as printed - moved by Tony, seconded by Robert. Motion carried.
4. Business arising from the minutes from last meeting:
  - a) Review of proposed 2015 Budget (attached)

The 2015 revenue is calculated as if all members on May 07 have paid in full. Expenses associated with the recent platform repair are approximately \$1000 (not the estimated \$300 in the proposed budget). A discussion ensued that the platform expenses were in fact previously budgeted for with monies remaining from the original platform grant. As a result, these repair expenses have no impact on the 2015 projected operating budget.

**ACTION:** Ron to report to the membership explaining the use of monies from the original provincial grant that have been set aside for platform repairs.

**Motion:** The Executive to follow due process and ask for membership approval for platform repair expenditure – moved by Tony, no seconder. Motion lost.

**ACTION:** Ron to revise proposed budget including actual cost of platform repairs.
  - b) Constitution posted to the wiki  
**ACTION:** Ron to check with Donna
  - c) BioBlitz  
Dave reports that he has good support from members and local agencies. CTV will be covering this event
  - d) Platform inspection and repair  
Ron thanked Dave, Don and Tony for organization and direction, Viv and Val for their support.

Dave mentioned the work on the Pumpkin Point platform repairs are not yet finished. Work party planning is in the works to complete repairs (deck and kick boards mostly) in June for half a day.

**Motion:** Charges for food supplied to the platform work party be taken from the Club's general coffers – moved by Robert, seconded by Jeff.  
Motion carried.

**Motion:** Start a special fund intended to replace old platforms - moved by Dave, seconded by Mark.  
Motion carried.

**Motion:** Add a box to membership form called 'Contribution to Special Projects' to where members can donate funds – moved by Jeff, seconded by Robert.  
Motion carried.

**ACTION:** Chuck to investigate grant options for platform replacement and report at the next meeting.

**ACTION:** Ron to contact the City of SSM Parks & Recreation Department to determine if we can play a role in their Master Plan revision.

e) Swift monitoring days

May 20, 24, 28 and June 01 are National Roosting Monitoring Blitz. The Club is planning a Swift Night Festival one of these 4 days to increase awareness of Chimney Swifts in the city and their plight as a threatened species. Ron encouraged the Executive to support this event.

**Motion:** Sunday May 24 to be the date of our Swift Night Festival at the Cenotaph on Queen St – moved by Jeff, seconded by Robert.  
Motion carried.

f) Sault Ste. Marie Science Festival report

Ron and Val reported that the Club participated on May 02 in this inaugural event at The Machine Shop at Millsquare with display boards and a cone identification challenge. John Ralston's swift video of the birds entering the Courthouse chimney played, Chimney Swift fact sheets and Sault Naturalists brochures were available.

Dave reported that he had the Sault Naturalists display board set up during an Earth Day celebration at Mill Market on April 22.

g) Creek revitalization with Lake Superior Watershed Conservancy (LSWC)  
Chuck and Ron travelled to Petoskey for a meeting with the Tip of Mitt Watershed Conservancy (TMWC) to discuss what was required and the

nature of their support regarding local creek revitalization. Ruth O’Gawa (LSWC) and Mike Ripley (BPAC member) were present.

At a Creek Revitalization Project sub-committee meeting (Ron, Don, Chuck, Val) on May 05, an ACTION Plan was determined:

- forego stream monitoring offered by TMWC
- conduct more field investigation of SSM urban streams, Bennett Creek in particular
- access data collected by Corina Barrett (Algoma University) on city creeks
- involve the Conservation Authority Sault College, Essar and the City of Sault Ste. Marie regarding support for creek revitalization
- as a minimum, organize an outing to clean up Bennett Creek (remove tires, bikes, shopping carts)
- consider what we can do realistically, moving forward at a methodical pace

h) Renaming St. Joe’s property

Dave is planning a ceremony for the renaming of the Ontario Nature preserve on the island. Ontario Nature head office and Township representatives, Gladys and her family, and the membership are invited. As yet, the name of the preserve is undecided. The original name The Gladys and Cliff Wallwork Nature Preserve, is deemed by ON to be too long. Dave is wrestling with what the name will be.

A sign bearing the name of the preserve will be erected at the site prior to the formal ceremony. Donna will contribute 2 cedar posts and Dave will organizing the work party to auger the post holes and erect the sign. The ceremony will be simple, located at the preserve followed by a walk to the showy lady slipper location.

5. Committee and other reports

a) Treasurer (Gail) - May 05 Financial Statement	
CDN Account (CIBC).....	\$ 3305.02
US Account (Huntington Bank).....	\$ 192.21
GIC #1.....	\$ 3894.62
GIC #2.....	\$ 3750.82

b) Outings (Val) - Nothing to report

c) Programs May 12 to 19 (Dave)

May 19, Robert and Joy Cohen - Costa Rica for the Birds

June 09, Bill and Flo – Hawaii

Bill Meades will arrange for Kim Chapman (GLFRC) to host the program on May 19 as he will be absent. There is some concern that the new presentation system will not be ready by May 19.

**ACTION:** Robert to bring his flash drive containing his presentation to Andy Macuzza (GLFRC) prior to his presentation.

- d) Membership (Don & Viv) - No report
- e) Environmental Action Committee (Bill) - Nothing to report
  
- f) Michigan Audubon (Carl)  
Several birding festivals coming up in Michigan:  
May 14-17, Tawas Point Birding Festival, East Tawas, MI  
June 05-07, Cerulean Warbler Festival, Battle Creek, MI  
Aug 10-11, Crane Fest, Barry County, MI  
Sept 10-13, MidWest Birding Symposium, Bay City
  
- g) Ontario Nature and STAC  
Tony is stepping down as the Club's ON representative but will continue as the Club's STAC representative.  
**ACTION:** Ron to solicit the membership for a new ON representative. He will email the membership as well as address the membership at the May meeting.
  
- 6. Old Business - None
- 7. Updates and reminders - None
  
- 8. New Business
  - a) Hub Trail Festival (July 01)  
The Sault Naturalists will no longer occupy 2 locations on the Hub Trail but instead will combine resources in 1 location. Organizers are looking for donations to serve as prizes. Gail suggested 2-Tshirts and 1-Jacket with the Sault Naturalists logo can be donated to the Festival. The committee agreed.  
**ACTION:** Gail to drop off the items to Dean Greenwood (SSMACA)
  
  - b) Financial books to be audited this year.  
**Motion:** Vivian Hall be appointed auditor for the 2013 and 2014 fiscal years – moved by Dave Euler, seconded by Robert Cohen.  
Motion carried.  
**ACTION:** Ron to contact Vivian Hall regarding auditing the books for the period 2013-2014
  
  - c) Treasurer business  
**ACTION:** Gail to remove Don Hall as signing officer, Chuck Miller to be added as signing officer  
**ACTION:** Gail to change the name on the Club's bank accounts to reflect the names of the Club as in the constitution.

Motion: To adjourn – moved by Gail, seconded by Tony.  
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.

	<b>2014 Actual</b>		<b>2015</b>	
	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit
<b>Expenses</b>				
Can. Insurance			\$ 1,300.00	
USA Insurance			\$ -	
Postage/Envelopes				
PO Box Rental			\$ 185.00	
Bank Fees			\$ 60.00	
Newsletter			\$ 50.00	
Postage/Photocopy Snail Mailers			\$ 50.00	
AGM Report			\$ 50.00	
Misc. Supplies				
Central United				
Ontario Nature Mem			\$ 165.00	
Ont. Nature Conf.			\$ 250.00	
Bird Count Rm Rental			\$ 15.00	
Program			\$ 200.00	
Outings			\$ 50.00	
Membership			\$ 140.00	
Environmental Action			\$ 50.00	
President's			\$ 70.00	
Secretary's			\$ 75.00	
Treasurer's			\$ 42.00	
<b>Donations</b>				
Rotary Club(Sci Fair)			\$ 100.00	
Nature Canada			\$ 75.00	
LSSU Science Award				
Bayliss Library			\$ 100.00	
<b>Other</b>				
Wallwork Sign			\$ 150.00	
BioBiltz			\$ 200.00	
Incorporation			\$ 221.67	
Platform repair			\$ 300.00	
Capital Projects				
Guest Speaker Fees				
Annual Mtg. Costs/Revenue				\$ 496.97
Silent Auction				\$ 248.20
Donations				
Regional Meeting				
<b>Income</b>				
Can. Membership		105		
USA Membership		23		
Individual		\$ 1,200.00		\$ 1,500.00
Family		\$ 1,200.00		\$ 1,410.00
Student		\$ 10.00		\$ 10.00
Life		\$ 191.25		\$ 191.25
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 2,601.25</b>	<b>\$3,898.67</b>	<b>\$ 3,856.42</b>
Surplus(Deficit)		<b>\$ 2,601.25</b>		<b>-\$ 42.25</b>
Paid Membership				
Student		1		1
Individual		60		60
Family		48		47
Life Members		17		17
Total Membership		<b>125</b>		<b>124</b>