

# MINUTES OF MEETING ORILLIA NATURALISTS' CLUB

Jan. 3, 2018, OMAH, 7:30 – 9:15

1. The President, Denis Paccagnella, welcomed members and asked for visitors. There were no new visitors, but some member of the Barrie naturalist group were in attendance
2. Sightings. There were several, some from other bird counts. Birds mentioned were: snowy owls, Pileated woodpecker, American tree sparrow, junco, redpolls in Collingwood area, Northern flicker and 38 cedar waxwings and 1 Bohemian waxwing in the Thornbury area, Red bellied woodpecker, and Song sparrow in Orillia, and Snow buntings in Oro-Medonte.
3. Denis moved acceptance of the prior circulated minutes of the Nov. 1 2017 meeting. Seconded by Nancy Ironside. Carried.
4. Business arising – none.
5. Ron and Sharon Hancock announced a snowshoe/ski at The Hermitage, on Sunday, Jan. 7, beginning at 11 am. Bring a sandwich, hot cider will be provided.
6. Correspondence – none.
7. Committee Reports
  - a) Treasurers' Report – Donald Macdonald reported that the club has a bank balance of \$3364.46.
  - b) Ontario Nature – There was a very positive letter from a young woman sponsored to the Youth Conference.
  - c) Programme – Nancy Ironside reported - The upcoming meeting Feb. 7 will feature Ryan Post as Guest speaker, whose topic is: Hydrogeology: the underground foundations to ecosystems.
  - d) Archives – please submit pictures directly to Kevin Binsted for the archives.
  - e) Conservation – no report.
  - f) Publicity – The loss of the Packet and Times has been a big blow. Dave Dawson is planning to start on on-line Newsletter. We will submit our reports to this. We will post to our website – which is improving all the time, glitches being worked out. Facebook will also continue to be populated, and serve as a communication portal (now 4 administrators who can post for members – Barb Ryckman, Arni Stinnissen, Heather Ewing, Tanya Clark). To quote Nancy, “electronic communication will have to be embraced.”
  - g) Membership – most members are paid up, a few remain unpaid.
8. New Business – A summary of the Christmas bird count was given. A more complete report is on the website under Activities. Martin Daly will provide our input to Ontario Birds.
9. The Business meeting adjourned at 7:53 for a 15 minutes social break.
10. A one hour talk by 3 speakers followed – “Travels with the nature buffs”. The speakers who presented (Chris Evans, Alex Mills, and Ian Cook) were introduced by Heather Ewing, and thanked by Martin Daly. The two other “nature buffs” who were not present at the meeting were Mike Ferguson and Michael Melius.

The meeting ended at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Strickland, Secretary – notes taken by Fern Splichal.