

ORILLIA NATURALISTS' CLUB AGM 2017 MINUTES

May 3, 2017, OMAH

1. The President Denis Paccagnella called the meeting to order after the potluck supper at 19:17.
There was one visitor.
2. Sightings: hummingbirds, purple martins, bald eagles (near Severn Falls), merlins, redbreasted grosbeaks, ring neck duck, Baltimore oriole.
3. Approval of Minutes – Denis Paccagnella moved acceptance of the minutes of the 2016 AGM as well as the April 5, 2017 meetings; Fern Splichal seconded, all in favour.
4. Business arising – none.
5. Nominations for Executive – the incumbents agreed to stand again this year, and there were no further nominations; Heather Ewing agreed to take over the post of membership coordinator, which she has been doing in the absence of the ill incumbent.
6. Committee Reports –
Treasurer's Report – Donald Macdonald provided a summary of revenues and expenses for the fiscal year end of Mar. 31, 2017. Hehn-Trickey will prepare the tax returns and statements at a later time when they are not occupied with personal tax return business, and will do so at no charge to the Club. The Club's returns do not have to be filed until September.
Ontario Nature – Sue Deadman provided her remarks . It was noted that Bird Studies Canada is about to band their 1 millionth bird at the Long Point Bird Observatory. "Pat Woodford banded the first bird in the LPBO database, a Song Sparrow, at the Tip of the Point on April 2, 1960"
Program – Arni Stinnissen reported that the planning for next year will take place very soon, and he will issue an invitation for members to join the planning committee, the meeting to take place between May 29 and Jun 2. For the rest of this year, Leonore Wiancko will lead the May 23 Chimney Swift watch at the Orillia Public Library; On May 28 Arni will lead a birding trip along the Uthoff Trail at Foxmead Road, meet at 7 am at Zehr's; On May 29 he will lead a stewardship and birding walk to Carthew Bay, meet at Carthew Bay at 9:00 am; The Passport to Nature brochures are here – register soon; The G.B. Islands trips are full, but people can still put their names on a waiting list in case of cancellations – try to arrange carpool with other attendees for your date as parking is scarce – you will need lunch, bug spray, good footwear, sun screen, water.
Archives – Kevin Binsted was not present but reminds people to please send in photos of interest – original to him, not relying on him picking it up off the website, as sometimes the file size is reduced.
Conservation - Pat Woodford was not present.
Social – Warren Ryckman reported that the coffee fund has been robust, and allowed for the purchase of some mugs etc.
Publicity and Web – Denis Paccagnella reported on the potential migration from the current Couchiching Conservancy-hosted website to our own website supported by Helix IT. Barb Ryckman and Nancy Ironside will be meeting with Helix in the near future to

discuss details. We may be able to conclude the migration by August. We will maintain a link with the Couchiching Conservancy who have graciously hosted our website to date. Membership – Heather Ewing provided her report . There are 38 Family Memberships, 25 Individual memberships, 5 life members, and 6 under 30 members. She requested that members renew using a form that can be printed off the webpage under Membership. Note the request to send her any updated contact information to orillianaturalists@gmail.com.

Denis Paccagnella thanked the committee heads for their hard work. We continue to see many visitors to our club, which is a tribute to the work of the committees.

7. Correspondence – there was no new correspondence.
8. New Business – there was no new business.
9. Slide Show – members were treated to a slideshow of a few members' best photos for the year taken in Florida, New Zealand, Rondeau, etc.

The meeting adjourned just before 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Strickland, Secretary.