

Orillia Naturalists' Club MINUTES
April 3, 2019, 7:30 – 9:30
OMAH

1. The President, Denis Paccagnella, read the acknowledgement statement regarding First Nations and the land on which we meet.
2. Denis welcomed the members and guests. There was one visitor.
3. Spring is here – sightings increased. Bald Eagle (at Mara PP), Great Blue Heron (ditch, Muley Pt.), Pileated woodpecker, Redpolls (flocks); Otter, Bald eagle, geese, swans Goldeneyes, Buffleheads, at the Narrows; Turkey vultures; Song sparrows, White-throated sparrow; Evening Grosbeaks; Turkeys (39-45, males displaying).
4. Approval of minutes – Denis moved approval of the Minutes of the regular monthly meeting Mar. 6, 2019, Seconded by Marilyn Clark, carried.
5. Business arising. The Executive have contacted Patrick Fogarty Secondary School re the youth summit opportunity – and it seems that they will take it up.
6. Website/Facebook – members were reminded to keep checking these.
7. Joan Rosebush has offered a free copy of the Breeding Bird Atlas – it was left available on the table at the back.
8. Correspondence – none.
9. Committee Reports:
 - a. Treasurer's Report. Donald Macdonald reported that we are solvent still. Fiscal year end occurred on Mar. 31, 2019, and Donald will have the summaries available for our AGM May 1. He expects that the CRA returns will again be filed by Hehn Trickey LLP, sometime over the summer.
 - b. Ontario Nature – Sue reported that the ON AGM will be held May 31 to Jun 2 in Hamilton. The ON Spring regional meeting will be May 4 at the Haliburton Highlands Museum in Glebe Park, with chance for exploring surrounding trails. She mentioned an ON blog on their website – “Go Green, Step by Step”. It has featured RRR of plastic, how to refuse plastic, the benefits of introducing insects into our diet. ON has backed the Orillia Naturalists' recommendation for protection of a large area of Crown Land including the Swift Rapids.
 - c. Program. The delayed Stayner Lagoon outing on April 6 will go, and will tack on a trip to McKinnon Road of the Minesing Swamp. On April 4, the first of Muriel Sinclair's Sights and Sounds of Spring will go, with the next three being on the following 3 Tuesday evenings. Folks meet behind Zehr's at 6:30 to carpool. The AGM will be held on May 1, and although we have people willing to stand in the positions, there is still time for nominations to come forward, and speak with Barb Ryckman, if interested.
 - d. Archives. Kevin mentioned he had found some Orillia Naturalists Club badges, which he would put out on the desk at the back, for any new members who would like to have. He also encouraged folk to send him photos directly, and add identifying information to the photos.
 - e. Conservation. The Orillia Naturalists' Club has joined the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition.
 - f. Social – Warren reports that his piggy bank is full to overflowing – and the treats are “free”.

- g. Publicity – the Executive have created a new position within the club – “Communications Manager” – Tanya Clarke will fill this position. Nancy will still remain involved with the Website. Facebook has been opened to posts from “the public” – which will still pass through admins for approval.
 - h. Membership – nil to report.
10. New Business – none.
 11. The meeting adjourned for refreshments at 7:55.
 12. At 8:15 the meeting re-convened, with the guest speaker, Jean Iron, being introduced by Donald Macdonald, followed by her excellent presentation on her work with the Shorebirds of James Bay; following this she was thanked by Pat Woodford.
 13. Members were reminded that the next meeting is the AGM, to be held on the 2nd floor of OMAH, and it is a potluck, starting at 6 pm. Members are encouraged to bring a memory stick/flash drive with 10-20 pictures from nature outings, and be prepared to talk about the pictures.
 14. The meeting adjourned finally slightly before 9:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Strickland, Secretary, Orillia Naturalists' Club.