

Orillia Naturalists' Club Minutes
November 6, 2019, 7:30 – 9:30 pm,
3rd floor OMAH.

1. Welcome. Denis Paccagnella welcomed the members and visitors, of whom there were 15.
2. Sightings. These included Snow buntings, Sandhill cranes, Fox sparrow, Tree sparrows, Juncos, Winter wren, Bald eagle, Cattle egret, Loons, Pacific loon, Tundra swans, deer, bull moose, otters, and shiners.
3. Approval of Minutes. Denis moved the approval of the minutes of Oct. 2, 2019, seconded by Marilyn Clark, carried.
4. Reports.
 - a. Treasurer – Donald Macdonald reported that the club continues to be solvent and he does not anticipate any cash shortage. Members may speak with him at the meeting for details.
 - b. Programs – Marilyn reminded the group of the upcoming Christmas Bird Count, the January meeting on Bats, and mentioned that the February and March meetings have been switched. The quiz is now scheduled for March.
 - c. Membership – Heather Ewing is away – there was no report.
 - d. Ontario Nature – the group was reminded that there is a Regional Meeting this Saturday in Collingwood.
 - e. Conservation – a letter was sent to Premier Ford re proposed changes to aggregate regulations.
 - f. Archives – Kevin Binsted reminds the members to send in photos.
 - g. Publicity/Communication – members are reminded of the upcoming Passport to Nature Program in Carden next Wednesday.
 - h. Social – Warren Ryckman has arranged for decaf coffee from The Nature House and “goodies” for the break.
5. Christmas Bird Count. Fern Splichal passed around the sign-up sheet for the Dec. 14 Christmas bird count. The event will include the count itself, followed by the Christmas Potluck supper (2nd floor OMAH), then “choir” (report by the teams) (3rd floor).
6. Report on Ontario Nature Youth Summit (2019). Emerson Garces and Abby Bozek, the two Patrick Fogarty Highschool students whom the Orillia Naturalists sponsored to the Ontario Nature Youth Summit this year, reported on the event. They mentioned that the summit focused on plastics avoidance, climate change, careers in conservation, and what we as individuals can do to protect the environment. They also recognized the important role that their teacher, Jeff Cole, plays in fostering ongoing interest in environmental concerns.
7. The meeting adjourned for social time and snacks at 8 pm.
8. The meeting reconvened at 8:15 to hear the speaker, Mark Peck, whose topic was “loons”.
9. The meeting adjourned following the speaker and questions, at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Carol Strickland, Secretary, using notes provided by Fern Splichal.