

January 16, 2017

Fletcher Wildlife Garden Interpretation Centre, CEF, Ottawa, 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Diane Lepage

Directors Present: Annie Bélair, Lynn Ovenden, Gordon Robertson, Henry Steger, Eleanor Zurbrigg, Ted Farnworth, Ann MacKenzie, Jakob Mueller, Jeff Saarela, Rémy Poulin, Fenja Brodo

Directors Absent: Diane Kitching, Owen Clarkin

Bird Committee Liaison Absent: Mark Patry

1) Minutes of the December 12, 2016 Meeting

Moved by Lynn Ovenden/Gord Robertson that the December 12 minutes be accepted.

CARRIED

2) Business arising from the December meeting

Nil.

3) Communications

Nil.

4) Business arising from the Annual Business Meeting of January 10, 2017

a) Changes in Responsibility

As OFNC's new Treasurer and President, Ann and Diane went to CIBC to establish their signing authority for the chequing account. Ann will close the savings and US accounts which are not needed. She met the bookkeeper who will set up a QuickBooks (software) process for submitting receipts, sending payment, and keeping records. Ann will send directors an authorization form to start using the system. Directors can also submit expense claims the old way.

The members of the Board of Directors were approved at the ABM. Ann reviewed the nominating committee's suggestions for chairs of committees, as follows:

Awards Committee	Eleanor Zurbrigg
Birds Committee	Chris Traynor (liaison to Board, Mark Patry)
Conservation Committee	Owen Clarkin
Education & Publicity	Gord Robertson
Events	Jakob Mueller
Fletcher Wildlife Garden	vacant/rotating (rep on Board by Ted Farnworth)

Finance Committee	Rémy Poulin
Macoun Club	Rob Lee (rep on Board by Diane Kitching)
Membership Committee	Henry Steger
Publications Committee	Jeff Saarela
Editor, CFN	Dwayne Lepitzki
Editor, T&L	Annie Bélair

Moved by Ann MacKenzie/ Lynn Ovenden that the proposed committee chairs and other ex-officio members of the 2017 Board of Directors be approved.

CARRIED

Moved by Ann MacKenzie / Jakob Mueller that Remy Poulin is named as the Investment Manager for the OFNC, providing direction to BMO Nesbitt Burns regarding the Club's investment account and that Gillian Marston may act on his behalf if he is not available.

CARRIED

Ann MacKenzie and Rémy Poulin will meet with an advisor at BMO Nesbitt Burns to effect this change in responsibility.

Committee chairs are asked to send Lynn the names of people on their committees by Feb.3 so they can be published in the spring T&L.

Diane Lepage asked that Board members email her at home rather than work, unless it is urgent on the day of a Board meeting.

b) Snapping Turtles

Jakob explained the Conservation Committee's concern about Ontario's proposal to reduce the hunting season, rather than end the hunt for this threatened species. The Board encourages members to submit a comment to EBR 012-9170.

c) Partnership with Friends of Gatineau Park to organize a Gatineau Park Bioblitz June 10-11.

5) Committee Reports

a) Awards – Eleanor Zurbrigg

Eleanor distributed the citations for comment and approval by January 20.

b) Birds – no representative

As requested at the ABM, Directors discussed how we might help restore a publicly available weekly birding report, similar to Bruce Dilabio's former column in the Ottawa Citizen. We like how that newspaper column reached a large audience of non-members, stimulated interest in birds, and frequently promoted OFNC events. Gord Robertson (maybe along with Dan Brunton) will ask Bruce for his thoughts on ways of continuing his column.

Rémy noted that SafeWings may have an event at City Hall on Feb 27, the same day as the Board meeting. Also, he heard from Innis Point and Duck Club friends that birders at Shirley's Bay may need to visit the range control office before going on the causeway. He will contact Chris Traynor who signed the MOU on behalf of the Club, to determine if this is the case.

- c) Events – Jakob Mueller
Rob Alvo will speak at the April 11 meeting about his birding trips to Gambia and South Africa.
- d) FWG – Ted Farnworth
Gord is stocking the two feeders. Budd Gardens in Orleans is growing up the native plants to revegetate the slopes around the pond next summer. Diane will request AAFC's help with a watering system, logs and rocks. Gord is designing a bird blind to construct near the pond.
- e) Publications – Jeff Saarela
The committee received 4 applications for Research Grants this year. They are discussing ideas to recognize great Canadian naturalists.
- f) Ontario Nature – Gord Robertson
Gord relayed a request that OFNC support Ontario Nature in responding to an Ontario government discussion paper about how forests, in their ability to sequester and store carbon, should be managed to mitigate climate change. Directors felt the timeframe for response was too short.

6) Motion to adjourn by Ann MacKenzie/ Henry Steger. CARRIED

Recording Secretary: Lynn Ovenden

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Upcoming Meetings:

February 27 (not Family Day)

March 20

April 10 (not Easter Monday)

May 15

June 19

Diane Lepage
President
Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

Date

Lynn Ovenden
Recording Secretary
Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

Date