

THE OTTAWA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BoD)
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 15, 2018

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

Chair: Diane Lepage

Directors and Ex Officio Members Present: Annie Bélair, Gordon Robertson, Bob Cermak, Ted Farnworth, Lynn Ovenden, Jakob Mueller, Ann MacKenzie, Diane Kitching, Anouk Hoedeman, Fenja Brodo, Eleanor Zurbrigg, Jeff Saarela, Ken Young, Catherine Hessian

Directors Absent: Owen Clarkin, Henry Steger

1. Minutes of the December 2017 Meeting

Moved by Lynn Ovenden/ Ann MacKenzie that the December 2017 minutes be accepted.

CARRIED

2. Business arising from minutes

a) Committee chairs.

Moved by Fenja Brodo/ Gord Robertson that the slate of nominees for chairs of committees and editors, proposed by the Nominations Committee, be approved.

CARRIED

Moved by Ann MacKenzie/ Lynn Ovenden that Catherine Hessian be accepted as Investment Manager for OFNC.

CARRIED

b) Chairs will send Lynn names of committee members, by February 1st if possible, for approval at the February board meeting and publication in T&L and the website.

c) Some committees need more members: FWG, Birds, E&P, and Events. We also need someone to represent OFNC at the next regional meeting of Ontario Nature in April.

3. Treasurer's Report

The T4A slips for donations have been sent out and the charity return will be sent to CRA shortly.

4. Issues for Discussion / Decision

a) Proposal from Suman Gupta to help introduce new Canadians to nature and wildlife. Directors are

supportive and would like to learn more about the idea. Diane, Gord, Ted, Bob, Owen and Jakob will meet with Suman Gupta and invite her to attend a board meeting.

5. Committee Updates

- a) **Awards.** The committee is preparing the awardees' citations which will be sent to directors for approval.
- b) **Birds.** The rare birds subcommittee is working well. Bob wants to roll the bird feeders subcommittee (if it exists) into the Birds Committee.
- b) **Conservation.** Owen reported to Diane that he attended the neighbourhood stewardship workshop organized by the Stewardship Council. He will attend a meeting about Ottawa's bird strategy on January 16.
- c) **Education and Publicity.** Gord gave a nature talk organized by CPAWS. He will put up the winter storyboards in FWG soon.
- d) **Events.** Several directors support the idea of requiring participants to pre-register for walks.
- e) **FWG.** Organizers will try to improve traffic control and parking at the native plant sale.
- f) **Macoun Club.** Due to frozen pipes at FWG, they met instead for a walk to the Sarsaparilla Trail area which, they were sorry to see, is over run with buckthorn and dog-strangling vine.
- g) **Publications.** The first James Fletcher Award for best CFN paper of the year will go to the authors of the paper describing a new species of pond lily which is endemic to the boreal forest. The award will be published in the CFN and on ofnc.ca. The boxes of old CFN issues will be moved from the red barn to a private home. The Research Grant Subcommittee received several applications. Jeff offered directors copies of two recent CFN issues.
- g) **Safe Wings.** The annual bird display will be presented at City Hall on February 26. Anouk, Councillor Catherine McKenna and a working group are developing bird-friendly guidelines for the city. Anouk is working with OCTranspo to make bus shelters and stations bird-friendly. She is working with Ottawa Bylaw staff to establish protocols for them to use in responding to citizens' calls about wildlife emergencies. The committee encourages residents to get involved with nearby development applications. A graduate communications class at the UOttawa wants to work with SafeWings on these initiatives.

6. New Business

- a) **Social media.** Bob and Gord reported a recent dispute between a member of the OFNC Facebook group and the administrators. The member had his 2018 membership returned at his request.

Directors agree with the resolution and expressed their support and appreciation to the administrators. The Facebook group now exceeds 2100 people.

b) Website. The new website was launched on January 9. Members were notified by email. The team is fixing broken links and other problems as they are noticed. They will meet on January 25 to discuss how to manage it.

c) Poetry book. Directors discussed a member's request to offer copies of a book of his poems on the sales table at monthly meetings.

7. **Motion** to adjourn, by Ann MacKenzie. **CARRIED**

Recording Secretary: Lynn Ovenden

Upcoming Meeting Dates

February 12, 2018

March 19, 2018

April 16, 2018

May 14, 2018

June 18, 2018

Diane Lepage
President
Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

Date

Lynn Ovenden
Recording Secretary
Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

Date