

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Kingston Field Naturalists held October 16, 2014, Queen's University, 7:30 p.m.

Opening Remarks:

Alexandra Simmons introduced herself as Vice-President of KFN, replacing Kurt Hennige who is on a birding trip in South America. The agenda was reviewed.

Acceptance of Minutes of General Meeting for September 18, 2014

Recording Secretary, Janis Grant, referred members to the minutes of the September meeting which are posted on the KFN website. There were no corrections

Motion

Moved by Bud Rowe, seconded by Mark Read that the minutes be accepted.

Carried

Refreshments

Alexandra thanked Rosemary Bradley for the excellent refreshments she provided prior to the meeting. A volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated for refreshment provision for the remainder of the year.

Pamphlets

Alexandra referred members to 2 pamphlets of interest to members

- The Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary, located on the St. Lawrence River east of Cornwall, is requesting financial support to build a new board walk in their sanctuary.
- Nature Canada 's Purple Martin population Project asks members who have or know of active Purple Martin colonies to contact them.

Rambles and Field Trips Reminder

Please refer to the Web Site or your Newsletter for upcoming Rambles and Field Trips. There will be a Field Trip to Helen Quilliam Sanctuary commencing at 8 am, Sunday, October 19 to hike the property and introduce it to new members.

A Ramble will take place at Lost Lake Tuesday, October 21 commencing at 9 am.

Members Observations

Erwin Batalla announced that Peregrine Falcons are back on Princess Towers,

Princess Street. The pair consists of an adult and a juvenile.

John Cartwright has a Carolina Wren singing at Cartwright Point.

John also described a recent news article about a warning letter from Revenue Canada received by the Kitchener-Waterloo Field Naturalists. They have apparently criticized some proposed legislation. The letter warned them they may lose their charitable status if they continue their partisan activities.

Anne Robertson saw 5 Tundra Swans on North Otter Lake – 2 adults and 3 juveniles.

Mark Read saw a Snowy Owl on the Martin Edward Reserve. He believes it has stayed on the property over the summer.

Presentation

Erwin Batalla introduced speaker Scott Taylor from the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology who gave an interesting talk on “Ecological and Evolutionary Lessons from (sometimes) Common Backyard Birds”.

Mr Taylor was thanked by Gaye Beckwith.

The meeting ended at 8:40 pm. There were 35 members in attendance