

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Kingston Field Naturalists held February 17, 2016, Queen's University, 7:30 p.m.

1. Opening Remarks

Kurt welcomed everybody to the February meeting. He hoped that we have all survived the freezing temperatures and heavy snow experienced over the past week.

2. Acceptance of Minutes of General Meeting for January 21, 2016

The minutes are posted on the KFN website. Kurt asked for any corrections or additions. There were none.

Motion

Moved by Anne Robertson, seconded by Peter Good that the minutes be accepted.

Carried

3. Update on Local Environmental Review Tribunals (ERT's)

Chris Hargreaves listed 3 ERT's currently underway in the Kingston Area i.e. White Pines, Ostrander Point and Amherst Island. Last month both White Pines and Ostrander Point hearings adjourned awaiting the tribunal's decisions. Amherst Island has bogged down with approximately 30 witnesses yet to be heard. Chris will give a further update at the March general meeting.

4. Re-printing of *Birds of the Kingston Region*

Birds of the Kingston Region by Ron Weir, was first published by KFN in 1989. It was updated in a second edition published in 2008. Erwin Batalla explained that copies have almost run out. The Ontario Field Ornithologists (OFO) will be meeting in Kingston in September and it is expected that they will buy several copies of the book. Erwin proposed that 200 additional copies be printed at a cost of less than \$4,000.

Motion

Moved by Erwin Batalla, seconded by Larry McCurdy, that 200 copies of the 2nd edition of "Birds of the Kingston Region" by Ron Weir, be re-printed at a cost of no more than \$4,000.

Carried

5. Nominating Committee

Past President, Gaye Beckwith reminded members that a Nominating Committee consisting of himself as Chair with Polly Aitkin and Peter Good as members is currently seeking nominations for the KFN executive. Positions on the executive are listed on the inside cover of the Blue Bill. Anybody interested in serving or wishing

to nominate a person should bring it to the attention of a Nominating Committee member.

6. Upcoming Field Trips and Rambles

Kurt listed Field Trips and Rambles planned over the next month and encouraged members to attend. Numbers of members attending Field Trips has been dropping over the past 3 years. Gaye Beckwith chairs a participation committee and would like to hear your ideas for improving these events.

7. Members Observations

- Steve Manders had a robin singing near his home at Strathcona Park yesterday
- Erwin Batalla reported that the Peregrine Falcons have returned to their roost on the antennae at Princess Towers and are regularly seen.
- A long term member has had a Flicker visiting her suet feeder all winter.
- Lynn Bell reported seeing Horned Larks on Wolfe Island
- Shirley Baird reported observing a Merlin eating a Starling.
- Kevin Bleeks saw a Red Bellied Woodpecker near the Ravensview Treatment Plant.

8. Featured Speaker

Alexandra Simmons introduced guest speaker, Sharon David, who gave an interesting and extensive talk on *Catering to Birds in All Seasons*. She was thanked by Erwin Batalla.

The meeting ended at 9:10 pm. Approximately 52 members attended.