

# **Minutes of the General Meeting of the Kingston Field Naturalists held October 20, 2016, Queen's University, 7:30 p.m.**

## **1. Opening Remarks**

Alexandra welcomed everyone to the October meeting. She reviewed the posted agenda and asked for any additional items. There were none.

## **2. Member's Observations**

- Maureen Sly found a rare Autumn Coral Root while hiking near Little Salmon Lake, Frontenac Provincial Park.
- Jackie Bartnik saw a Turkey Vulture being attacked by Crows at Kingston Shopping Centre.
- Ken Robinson reported that the North Leeds Birders observed 87 Common Loons and 5 Trumpeter Swans (2 adults and 3 juveniles) at the Rideau Canal Narrows Lock Station during their field trip on October 19.
- Erwin Batalla observed 50 Ruddy Ducks at Bell Island.
- Mark Read reported that Tundra Swans have returned to Button Bay and Reid's Bay on Wolfe Island and to Elevator Bay in Kingston.
- Anne Robertson thanked Janet Elliott for finding 6 Red Backed Salamanders at Sharbot Lake Provincial Park during Tuesday's Ramble.
- a woman reported a Bald Eagle at Jim Snow Drive.
- Maureen ??? saw 16 Map Turtles on one log at White Fish Lake.

## **3. Acceptance of Minutes of General Meeting for April 21, 2016**

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

### ***Motion***

*Moved by Erwin Batalla, seconded by John Critchley that the minutes be accepted.*

### ***Carried***

## **4. Announcements**

Fall Round Up. The Round Up takes place from 3 pm November 5 to 3 pm November 6. Peter Good is in charge. Members wishing to participate should contact Peter.

Access to Amherstview Sewage Lagoons. KFN has not had access to the lagoons for over a year due to construction at the site. They are now accessible to KFN members who are advised to enter by the gate on the south side at the end of Golf Course Rd. Access is a privilege. For information on how to open the gate, please contact Kurt Hennege or KFN president at "Contact Us" on the KFN website. An e-mail record is required of who is given access information. Please observe signs and chains on berms, which indicate no access areas.

The Messenger. Dr. Steve Lougheed of QUBS will be screening this film about disappearing song birds on Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 7 pm at Queen's Dupuis Hall auditorium. Admission is free. A panel discussion will follow.

Understanding the Fisher. L & A Stewardship Council, Ontario Woodlot Association and Friends of the Salmon River are sponsoring this interesting talk on Tuesday, November 15 at 7 pm at Prince Charles School, Napanee. Jeff Bowman, OMNRF & Trent University, will present a talk on the natural history, decline and recovery in Ontario with new results of field-based and genetic studies.

## **5. Nature Conservancy of Canada Land Acquisition**

This item was brought forward from the September General Meeting when Mark Stabb, NCC Program Director for Central Ontario, made a short presentation regarding efforts to raise funds toward the purchase of the 45 acre Powell East Property, which is adjacent to NCC's Scheck Nature Reserve near Newburg. This acquisition will expand to 223 acres conservation land containing rare alvar grassland habitat important to several species at risk, including the Eastern Loggerhead Shrike and Eastern Whip-poor-will. KFN assisted with previous land purchases in the area. After assessing the current level and likely future demands on the Habitat Preservation fund, KFN Treasurer Larry McCurdy made a motion at the September 15 KFN General Meeting to purchase the property. The motion was tabled for the October meeting to allow time for members to be informed.

### ***Motion:***

*Moved by Larry McCurdy, seconded by Erwin Batalla that:  
Kingston Field Naturalists donate \$5,000 from the Habitat Preservation Fund to the NCC to assist with the purchase of the 45 acre Powell Property adjacent to the Scheck Nature Reserve.*

### ***Carried***

NCC needs more help to purchase this property. Project descriptions and donation forms were circulated.

## **6. Featured Speaker**

Kurt Hennige introduced speaker Colin Jones who gave an interesting talk on *Dragonflies and Damselflies of Ontario*.

Dr. Jones was thanked by Alexandra Simmons who presented him with a copy of a revised 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *Birds of the Kingston Region*.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm. There were approximately 70 people in attendance.