

**ECFNC Annual General Meeting
Wed, March 11, 2020
Location: Ojibway Nature Centre
Approx. 36 attending
Recording secretary: JoAnn Grondin**

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm.

Paul Pratt, President, welcomed everyone. Announcements, reports and quiz questions will be given.

There were several sightings indicating that spring is coming.

Leo has more materials for Monarch Butterfly attractions.

Some upcoming events were noted. Visit the Events Calendar on our website for a complete listing. The Egret was sent out by email today.

We will have a booth again this year at GoWild/GrowWild in London on Apr. 18th. This event is a good place to purchase native plants.

The quiz questions will be introduced by Steve Marks in between the various reports.

MOTION: That the minutes of March 12, 2019 be accepted as submitted, with one correction. A typo for Carl's name is to be corrected. (Kory Renaud/Carl Maiolani) CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer, Cathy Lapain, reviewed our accounts and expenses. Questions were answered.

MOTION: That the Treasurer's report be accepted as submitted. (Andy Paul/Aileen Petrozzi) CARRIED.

The current Executive was asked to stand up: Paul Pratt, Steve Marks, Cathy Lapain, Jeremy Bensette, Chris Hart, Kory Renaud, Dave Kraus, Andy Paul, Jessica Middleton, Samantha Dundas, Gina Pannunzio, Jennifer Nantais, Aileen Petrozzi and JoAnn Grondin (recording secretary).

A picture of the 2019-2020 Executive, which was taken in March 2019, was shown. [The picture included Carl Maiolani, who resigned his position in January 2020. Aileen Petrozzi replaced Carl on the Executive.]

Our various Committees and Chairs/Liaisons were noted.

The \$15,000 that was donated to Nature Conservancy towards the purchase of the Marianne Girling Nature Reserve and the establishment of wetlands on Pelee Island was noted.

In conjunction with other organizations, members participated in projects involving a Swift watch and Swallow roosting.

Membership Committee:

Carl Maiolani gave an update on our current membership; 176 members are paid and in good standing. The Membership Committee consists of Jeremy Hatt (Chair), Carl and Aileen Petrozzi. They are looking for at least 1 new member. Ellen van Wageningen has been attending some meetings. This committee tries to let people know what we do. They have also decided to arrange our field trips. Early next year they hope to have their 5th Annual New Membership meeting. They will continue to encourage new members to become active in the Club.

Carl introduced Ellen van Wageningen as our new Membership Secretary. Ellen will collect membership fees and keep a membership list. She will also send out our notices and communications by email to the

membership. She will resend the online survey regarding conservation areas since some members did not receive the survey.

Heritage Committee:

JoAnn gave a brief explanation regarding our 3 current fund raisers:

Bake Sale on Earth Day is coordinated by Cathy Lapain.

The Blue Kestrel Café at the Hawk Festival is coordinated by Aileen Petrozzi.

Our Annual Dinner will be in Nov. A speaker is needed before a date and a location can be selected.

Website Update:

Kory Renaud gave a brief talk regarding our website; the address is essexcountynature.com.

Elections:

Steve Marks is stepping down from the Executive. **Karen Alexander** is willing to fill this opening. A list of the Executive was presented; Jessica Middleton was missing on the list. Duncan Wright was considered but withdrawn.

Nominations were opened. No new nominations were received.

MOTION: That nominations be closed. (Steve Marks/Jeremy Bensette)

The Executive for the 2020-2021 will be (listed alphabetically):

Karen Alexander, Jeremy Bensette, Samantha Dundas, JoAnn Grondin, Chris Hart, Dave Kraus, Cathy Lapain, Jessica Middleton, Jennifer Nantais, Gina Pannunzio, Andy Paul, Aileen Petrozzi, Paul Pratt and Kory Renaud.

The Executive will meet on the last Wed. of this month to select the 4 officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Paul thanked the club for his tender as President.

The quiz answers, which turned out to be from 16 questions, were given. Jennifer Nantais answered all 16 questions correctly. Several people had 15 and 14 correct. Winners selected their prize from an array of door prizes.

The meeting ended at 8:51 pm with time for socializing. Coffee, tea and desserts were provided by members.