

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Kingston Field Naturalists held January 19, 2017, Queen's University, 7:30 p.m.

1. Opening Remarks

Alexandra welcomed everyone to the January meeting.

2. Acceptance of Minutes of General Meeting for November 17, 2016

The minutes are posted on the KFN website. Erwin read items 5 and 6 of the minutes and asked for any corrections or additions. There were none.

Motion:

Moved by Janet Elliott, seconded by Martin Roncetti that the minutes be accepted.

Carried.

3. Member's Observations

- Kevin Bleeks reported that the North Leeds Birders saw Snowy Owls and Swans on Wolfe Island yesterday
- Margo MacMurray indicated that a Sharp-shinned Hawk was visiting her feeders.
- Rose-Marie Burke has a Merlin at her feeders.
- John Poland has a Cooper's Hawk at his feeders.
- An unusual large number of starlings are being seen at Point Pleasant.
- Gaye Beckwith and John King saw 180 Wild Turkeys and a Northern Shrike and Betsy Beckwith saw a Bluebird. All were seen near Sydenham today.
- Alexandra Simmons reported that a Northern Flicker is wintering near her house.
- Carolyn Bonta noted that a deer carcass at Elbow Lake is attracting 3 Bald Eagles and a Common Raven.

4. Upcoming Events

Carolyn Bonta indicated that the Elbow Lake Environmental Education Centre is offering a series of one-day tutorials on smartphone and tablets with examples drawn from nature. Part 1 is taking place this Sunday and the cost is \$15/person.

Alexandra reminded the members of the upcoming ramble at Mitchell Creek on Tuesday February 7 and of two field trips: at Lemoine Point on Sunday 22 January and to various spots along the Rideau Canal on Sunday 5 March.

John Critchley indicated that there have been problems with sending both the Bluebill and the Newsletter by email. He asked members to get in touch with him if they failed to receive it and he will reply with a copy of the Newsletter.

5. **Speaker**

Anne introduced the speaker, Marjorie Bousfield, who gave a presentation entitled "*Spoonies, Red Knots and White-fronts: a Summer in Southern Chukotka*"

Her presentation highlighted the plight of these Pacific Flyway migrants, some of which are declining by 25%/year. She showed the work that is being done to slow down this alarming trend.

Alexandra thanked the speaker speaker and presented her with a revised 2nd edition of *Birds of the Kingston Region*.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30. There were 63 people in attendance. Pre-meeting refreshments were supplied by Erwin Batalla and Alexandra Simmons.