

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Kingston Field Naturalists held September 21, 2017, Queen's University, 7:30 p.m.

1. Opening Remarks:

President Alexandra Simmons introduced herself and welcomed everyone to the September meeting. She thanked Gaye Beckwith for his technical expertise and for the slide show. Everybody was encouraged to send slides to Gaye for future presentations

2. Acceptance of Minutes of General Meeting for April 20, 2017

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

Motion

Moved by Janet Elliott, seconded by John Critchley that the minutes be accepted.

Carried

3. Member's Observations

-Rose-Marie Burke continues to have 3 Whip-poor-wills calling at her home in Perth Road Village.

-Larry McCurdy reported "zillions" of Painted Lady Butterflies, which have appeared suddenly over the past few days. A discussion followed about the migration of these butterflies.

-Mike Evans has observed 6 Bald Eagles at his cottage on Otter Lake; 2 adults and 4 juveniles.

-Alex English reported that Ebony Jewel Wing Dragonflies, which were common at his property last year, were not seen this year. He asked if this was a result of last year's drought.

-Barry Robertson has observed many Ebony Jewel Wing Dragonflies at his property north of Otter Lake.

-Carolyn Bonta has monitored the Little Cat Creek property for several years. This spring, unlike previous years, she heard no frogs singing.

-Peter Good reported an owl chorus (calling back and forth) at his Camden Lake property consisting of 2 Screech Owls and a Great Horned Owl.

-Janet Elliott has been raising Monarch Butterflies to maturity at home. Many members have seen Monarchs this summer.

-Gaye Beckwith says that 2017 has been a low year for ticks. Members agreed.

-Maureen Addis has noticed that chipmunk numbers are very low on her property. Other members agreed and have noticed that mouse and vole populations appear to have crashed after the 2016 drought.

-Janis Grant has observed a Great Blue Heron eating chipmunks in her yard.

1. Upcoming Events

Members are asked to consult their Newsletter for details of the following events:

- a) KFN support for expansion of NCC (Nature Conservancy of Canada)'s Napanee Plain Alvar Nature Reserve. A Notice of Motion is published in the Newsletter. The vote will take place at the October General Meeting.
- b) Rambles held the first and third Tuesday of each month.
- c) Field Trips and other excursions.
- d) New format for the Fall Round-up.
- e) Volunteers are invited to a clean-up and planting at NCC's Lost Bay Nature Reserve September 27, 10am to 3pm.

Other Events

- a) Carol and Murray Seymour have published a booklet on *Dragonflies of the Kingston Region*. It is available from Gaye Beckwith for \$8.00.
- b) Ducks Unlimited is looking for volunteers to report on invasive European Water Chestnut as part of marsh monitoring.

4. Featured Speaker

Kurt Hennige introduced speaker Tom Mason who gave an interesting talk on

Spiders of Ontario.

He was thanked by Vice President Anthony Kaduck ,who presented him with a copy of *Birds of the Kingston Region*.

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Mason led a one hour field trip at Marshlands Conservation Area to observe local spiders. Fifteen KFN members attended.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30. There were 60 members in attendance.

Minutes prepared by Janis Grant
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