

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Kingston Field Naturalists, October 18, 2018, Ongwanada Resource Center, 7:30 p.m.

1. **Opening Remarks.** President Anthony Kaduck apologized for the delay in getting the projector started at the new meeting location. A posted mystery bird photo was identified as a Buff-breasted Sandpiper. Gaye Beckwith still has copies of “A Pictorial Guide to Dragonflies and Damselflies of the Kingston Area” for sale at \$8.00/copy. Anthony thanked Jackie Bartnik for supplying treats for the meeting.
2. **Review of Minutes of the AGM held April 19, 2018 and of the General Meeting held September 20, 2018.**

Erwin asked if there were errors or omissions in the minutes of the AGM meeting held on April 19, 2018. There were none.

Motion:** Moved by Anne Robertson, seconded by Larry McCurdy that the minutes of the 2018 AGM be accepted. **Carried

The minutes of the September General Meeting were partially read. No errors or omissions were reported.

Motion:** Moved by Gaye Beckwith, seconded by David McMurray that the minutes of the September meeting be accepted. **Carried

3. Member's Observations:

- Jackie Bartnik saw two Cormorant flocks going south in vee formation.
- Ken Robinson reported that the North Leeds Birders spotted a Peregrine falcon, a Swainson Thrush, Rusty Blackbirds and two Bald Eagles near Gananoque.
- Lynn Bell saw an Eastern Bluebird.
- Gaye Beckwith reported a Purple Finch at his house in Sydenham.
- Steve Manders spotted 50 Mute Swans in Joyceville.
- A Hermit Thrush was seen in town.

- Shirley French recorded several Porcupines with a trail camera.
- Anthony Kaduck observed a flock of 50 chickadees.
- Richard Brault also saw 20 chickadees at Lilah Burke Park.
- Paul Mackenzie observed the same behavior of chickadees at the Prince Edward Point lighthouse.
- Anne Robertson reported that 50 Brant were seen near Kingston Mills during the ramble.
- Peter Waycik discovered a bird's nest fungus which looks just like a bird's nest.
- Chris Grooms found an Eastern Towhee near Queens university.
- Siskins and porcupines were seen at various locations

4. **New Business.** Amanda Tracey of the Nature Conservancy of Canada made a small presentation about two properties. First, she talked about the Camden East Alvar. She gave highlights of the property's natural features and of the challenges in maintaining it. The acquisition of this property will be completed shortly. Then, she talked about the Hudgins-Rose property. This second property is situated in Prince Edward County along Ostrander Point Road. It consists of an alvar, a woodland and wetlands. The presence of a cabin designated as a heritage building poses some challenge as do the presence of invasive species and a proliferation of Red Cedars. NCC is fund raising to acquire this property.

Motion: Moved by Anthony Kaduck, seconded by Paul Mackenzie that the KFN donate \$5,000 towards the purchase of the Hudgins-Rose property and a further \$2,000 towards the stewardship of the Camden East Alvar property. **Carried**

5. Feature Presentation

Val Deziel of Nature Conservancy of Canada gave a talk entitled *Tallgrass Awakening: Conservation and habitat restoration in the Rice Lake Plains.*

Anthony Kaduck thanked the speaker and gave her a copy of *The Birds of the Kingston Region* by Ron Weir.

The meeting ended at 8:30 pm. There were 64 people in attendance.

Minutes prepared by Erwin Batalla