

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Kingston Field Naturalists

January 21, 2021, 7 pm on Zoom

1. Social Time

A social period of 1/2 hour took place from 7:00 to 7:30 pm. During this time members joined the meeting and were shown many beautiful photos and presentations by club members including Bill Depew, Janet Elliott, Barrie Gilbert, Kathy Webb and others.

Members Observations. Members were encouraged to write their observations using the Zoom CHAT function during the social period. Following is a summary:

- Nick Bartok had 5 Eastern Bluebirds in his yard near Parrott's Bay today.
- Pamela Hodgson asked if anyone has seen Evening Grosbeaks in the area recently. Sharon David reported the last one for Frontenac was recorded January 9.
- Erwin Batalla reported that Pine Grosbeaks have been present in Worthington Park for the past 3 weeks.
- Shirley French saw a male Red-bellied Woodpecker in South Frontenac.
- Ken Edwards has seen Redpolls and a few Crossbills in the area recently.
- Phil Harvey saw 350 Redpolls on the Isle of Man Road January 9.
- Daphne Christie had a flock of about 20 Redpolls at her feeders Jan 19 at Collins Bay/Lawrence Park.
Erwin Batalla reported that a leucistic Red-tailed Hawk (almost totally white) was seen at Hughes Road east of Kingston. Richard and Diane also saw this bird on Isle of Man Rd.
- Daphne Christie saw 25 – 30 Redpolls at Frontenac Park
- Phil Harvey saw 12 Redpolls at Cartwright Point January 20.
- Anthony Kaduck pointed out that Evening Grosbeaks who are experiencing an irruption have moved on to the northern USA where there is more food.
- Rosemarie Burke saw a flock of about 80 Redpolls in fields in the Glenburnie area up to 3 days ago.
- Veronica saw an adult Bald Eagle in Sydenham today.
- Hanstone Montreal saw a Snowy Owl Sunday on the south shore of Amherst Island.
Paul Mackenzie is complaining about white worms, webs and small moths in his bird feed – he guesses it is extra protein.
- Rosemarie believes the Chickadees will enjoy the worms.
- Daphne Christie saw an adult Bald Eagle flying along the breakwater at Elevator Bay.
- Daphne Christie saw a male American Wigeon at Lake Ontario Park mixed with Gadwalls and Mallards.
- Phil Harvey saw one male and one female Snowy Owl on Wolfe Island January 9.
- Phil Harvey saw a female Long-tailed Duck at Breakwater Park on January 18.
- Phil Harvey saw 1800 Crows on January 15 at Sir John A. and Johnson at sunset. There was considerable discussion about the numbers of crows and where they spend the night.
- Mike & Liz Evans saw a barred Owl at Perth Road and Burbrook Road last Friday and this Monday.
- Lesley Rudy recommends a book on fungus called "Entangled Life".
- Liz & Mike Evans saw a Brown Creeper at Elginburg January 18.

-Erwin Batalla noted that some Bohemian Waxwings have reached Florida Road, north west of Kingston.

2. Opening Remarks

President Ken Edwards opened the meeting at 7:30. He thanked the presenters for their photos.

3. Review of Previous Minutes.

Motion

Moved by John Donihee, seconded by Anthony Kaduck that the minutes of the General Meeting held December 17, 2020 be accepted.

Carried

3. Announcements/Upcoming Events

Members were reminded to refer to the Newsletter and Website for information about upcoming events. All planned field trips and Rambles have been cancelled until further notice due to the Covid lock down.

Chris Hargreaves announced that the City of Kingston has been in the process of revising its Parks & Recreation Master Plan for the past 2 years. A draft plan is now available for comment until the end of January. It can be found on the City of Kingston website – Get Involved. Chris added a link to the CHAT comments: <https://getinvolved.cityofkingston.ca/parks-rec-master-plan>

4. Feature Presentation.

John Donihee introduced speaker Dr. Anne Gunn, who has worked and conducted research on caribou and muskox in NWT and Nunavut for over 30 years.

Dr. Gunn gave a very interesting presentation on caribou life cycle, habits and present challenges. Caribou populations are dropping due to climate change, development and predation by humans and wolves. Her talk was illustrated by photos taken by Peter Mather.

A lengthy question period followed in which questions were submitted on CHAT.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43pm. 65 devices were logged on Zoom.