

## Nature Miramichi January 4/22 meeting via Zoom

Before the meeting we enjoyed a presentation by Dee and Dave Goforth entitled Tracking the Railroad Online. On Site. Elizabeth Bowes also had a hand in the presentation but was not on the call. The focus of the presentation was on the Chatham Branch and Nelson Loops from the Intercolonial Railway. We saw our presenters find what was left of both the railway lines, and the evidence of buildings especially at Chatham Junction (now called Passmore). It was fascinating to see how humans can change the landscape, so that 100 years later traces can still be found. These explorations could become a field trip for the club, especially in winter when it is easier to find the old rail lines.

President Peter Gadd called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

### Agenda

No items were added.

### Minutes

Peter Gadd moved that the December 7/21 be adopted as circulated. Dave Goforth seconded. Carried.

### Business Arising from the minutes

The executive will be meeting the Holly Allison from Miramichi City Recreation regarding collaboration soon.

### Financial Report

Dave Goforth had no report as there has been no changes since December.

### Committee Reports

### Field Trips

Phil Riebel talked to Brian Donovan about visiting trail cameras this winter. It was decided that we would wait until the spring as limited parking on Renous highway in the winter. Brian checks his trail cameras every 2 weeks year-round, so there will be plenty of opportunities.

### Programs

Pam has presenters for February, March, and April meetings. Right now, she does not have a speaker lined up for May.

February 1st: Amy-Lee Kouwenberg, Birds Canada - Presentation on Bicknell's Thrush and the High Elevation Landbird Program.

March 1st: Gregory Stroud, Parks Canada - Presentation on Sable Island National Park Reserve

April 5th: Pam Novak, Atlantic Wildlife Institute - Presentation on the Atlantic Wildlife Institute (wildlife rehab facility in Cookville).

### Projects

Miramichi Marsh – some discussion on how wide the city should mow the trails 6 feet or 3 feet. 6 feet maybe best for people, 3 feet maybe best for the critters.

Kingston Family Nature Preserve – Boundary work will be in mid summer or fall of 2022.

Kennedy Lakes – Adam Cheeseman from Nature NB is including our report to DNR. He will ensure that we receive the reporting form from Nature NB for future use.

Christmas Bird Counts – Pam Watters is compiling final numbers but on the Miramichi count there were 36 species, over 4000 birds! Dave McLeod was not in attendance, so will hear from him at February meeting as regards the Red Bank/Sunny Corner and New Jersey/Neguac CBCs. Those that were in the New Jersey/Neguac count on January 3 said there were not many birds – even starlings were few!

#### Media

Giv'er Magazine – we do not have deadlines yet for the winter and spring issues. But we do need articles. Or if someone has an idea, someone else can write up the article. Deana Gadd suggested an article on trees in winter, but someone would need to write it.

Facebook – We did have some interest in the Christmas bird count – some people submitted observations. Mathieu Carroll said we reached 106 people, 20 people responded, 122 likes. Phil Riebel is going to send Facebook suggestions for club members to help enhance our presence.

Web Site – not much happening. Hazen Sweeney asked what the address is [miramichinaturalistclub.com](http://miramichinaturalistclub.com).

#### New Business

Club is looking forward to hearing more about the City of Miramichi's plans for the Southern Spine nature trail. We received an email about it from Kevin Gallant.

Thanks again to Phil Riebel for the use of his Zoom license.

Next meeting is February 1, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. probably on Zoom!

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

#### Sightings

Peter Gadd saw a fisher on the Bellefond Rd – rare sighting.

Peter Gadd is working on controlling the starlings in his yard, he has the pigeons and squirrels under control.

Pam Watters and Sonya Hinds saw a Peregrine Falcon on January 1 at Morrissey Bridge – they don't often see them here in the winter.