

EAST AFRICA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY (NATURE KENYA)

MINUTES OF THE 109th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held in the Louis Leakey Hall, Nairobi National Museum, Nairobi, on 8th May 2019 at 13:15 hours

Present: Ian Gordon, Chairman; Fleur Ng'weno, Hon. Secretary; Paul Matiku, Executive Director; and 130 members

Apologies: 127 members sent apologies

1. Confirmation of minutes

The Minutes of the Society's 108th AGM were accepted by the meeting *nem con*.
(Proposer Rupert Watson, Seconder Heather Elkins)

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising were raised

3. Chairman's report

The Chairman, Dr Ian Gordon, began by noting the serious challenges to conservation during 2018-2019: Infrastructure encroaching on natural habitats – roads, railway, pipelines, energy development and transmission, irrigation; threats to species including habitat loss, pollution, poisoning of wildlife and climate change; and cross-cutting challenges such as weakened safeguard policies and limited knowledge, capacity, funding and public support. The chairman then highlighted ongoing conservation actions, including monitoring Important Bird Areas and wetlands; training Site Support Groups and Community Forest Association members; completing and launching a Wildlife Poisoning Response Protocol; carrying out an Ecosystem Services Assessment of Mount Kenya forest; engaging with Kipeto Wind Farm, which will threaten vultures nesting nearby, to put in place measures to conserve vultures; taking part in a countrywide Strategic Environmental Assessment on Wind Farm placement; submitting comments on numerous EIAs, SEAs, Bills and Regulations; and representing Kenya in international fora such as the Convention on Biological Diversity.

[A summary of the Chairman's Report was published in the July issue of Nature Net]

The Chairman's Report was accepted by the meeting, *nem con*.
(Proposer Alan King, Seconder Alan Dixon)

4. Honorary Treasurer's report

Upin Visani presented the Honorary Treasurer's Report on behalf of Jim Birnie. The summary of the East Africa Natural History Society (Nature Kenya) audited accounts for 2018 reported a healthy financial position, well-controlled and IAS compliant, but still donor dependent. There are currently some 30 donor-funded projects, each with its own accounting requirements. More effort and new strategies were required to grow and sustain membership income streams.

The Hon. Treasurer's Report was accepted by the meeting, *nem con*.
(Proposer Mike Davidson, Seconder Alex Duncanson)

5. Appointment of Auditor

The Chairman proposed that Carr Stanyer Gitau & Co. be re-appointed Auditors for 2019-2020.

The auditors were approved *nem con*.

(Proposer Brian Williams, Seconder Patricia Jentz)

6. Committees and Projects presentation

Kashim Oginga from Samaki Working Group presented highlights from the activities of Committees, Projects and Partners of the East Africa Natural History Society (Nature Kenya).

[A summary of this presentation was published in the September issue of Nature Net]

Professor Ratemo Michieka inquired whether Nature Kenya has plans for extension of projects to other regions other than Mt. Kenya and the coast of Kenya. In response the Executive Director, Dr. Matiku, noted that Nature Kenya wishes to work at all 67 KBAs that are spread across the country. However, due to limited capacity and funding, it is not feasible. Currently Nature Kenya has a good spread of conservation activities at 25 sites across the country: Yala Swamp, Dunga Swamp, Ruma and Kakamega in Western Kenya, North and South Nandi, Cherangani, Baringo, Elmentaita and Naivasha in Rift Valley, Kinangop, Mukurweini and Mt Kenya in Central Kenya and Arabuko Sokoke, Dakatcha Woodland, Taita Hills and Tana Delta at the coast. Support is welcome to assist expansion to other areas of the country.

The Honorary Secretary, Fleur Ng'weno, added that members are always welcome to raise alerts where there are problems; Nature Kenya will be able to address some issues, but probably not all.

7. Election of office bearers, Members of the Executive Committee and Trustees

The Honorary Secretary presented the names of the members standing for election as office bearers and committee members:

Vice Chair and Trustee:	Dr. Helida Oyieke	for three years
Hon Treasurer:	Mr. Upin Visani	for three years
Member and Trustee:	Ms. Irene Karani Njumbi	for three years
Member:	Mr. Kuria Waithaka	for three years
Member:	Mr. Ben Allen	for three years
Member:	Mr. Rupert Watson	for one year
Member:	Mr. James Kashangaki	for one year

The slate of office bearers and committee members was accepted *nem con*.

(Proposer Prof Ratemo Michieka, Seconder Patricia Jentz)

8. Any Other Business

There being no other official business, the meeting was closed at 1430 hrs.

A film “Kenya’s Birds of Prey” by Richard Brok was screened after the meeting.