

4. Elections are in January. The club is looking for a vice president who may eventually become president. Ed McDonald has been president for 14 years.

Business:

1. Christmas Bird Count: this year's date for the Christmas Bird Count will be Sunday, Dec. 20: The community room at Askews has been booked. There are four quadrants, each with leaders. Meeting time is 9 am. Participants will meet at the Uptown Askews community room at 4 pm to do the tabulations.
Geoff Styles: Enderby / Armstrong count will take place this year as well. Date Sunday Jan 3. Email Geoff if you want to join one of the teams.

North Shuswap/White Lake bird count is on Dec 15. Some of our members take part in this, as there are few counters. Let Janet Pattinson, Ed McDonald, or the Dahls know if you'd like to join. Janet will get the phone number of the club president (Claudette).

2. Show and Tell
Ed McDonald had a white winged crossbill – a fairly rare sighting in this area. Crossbills' top bill can cross to the right or left, much like right- and left-handed people.
Ed also had a marmot skull. There are around 14 spp worldwide, and 4-5 spp in BC. Marmot is latin for „mountain mouse.“
3. Dog owner issue
The trail in front of the Prestige Resort is the Naturalists' trail. We should have a sign for this area saying that dogs should be on a leash. Dogs run after shorebirds when their owners throw sticks along the mudflats.
Clive Bryson suggests that we take data on dog sightings and submit them to him. Description of time, place, dog, behaviour, and owner; and a photo if possible.
Tom Brighthouse: city administration suggests that we don't do anything until we have a map of the exact area that is Nature Trust land. Tom also passed around a petition for members to sign.
Geoff Styles: his class and another grade 2 class went to City Hall and met Mayor Cooper, etc, and they talked about the dog issue. They also had an in-class debate.
Clare Meunier: the folks she talks to are uncertain of the ownership of the land. She suggests that we put this information on the sign. (ie owned by Nature Trust, leased to Fisheries & Oceans, and managed by SABNES.)

Reports

1. BC Nature – Janet Pattinson: she needs two goals to report to BC Nature in the spring. She suggests that we look at increasing membership through various means. This feeds enthusiasm. Also, we might share activities with others in the community, thereby raising the profile of the club.

2. Young Naturalists – Geoff Styles:

In December there will be a Christmas bird count for kids. In January, Jeremy Ayotte will share his collection of skulls, and then in February they will join up with a local rock club.

Sightings:

- Geoff Styles: Pine grosbeaks every day at his house, also common redpolls, and pine siskins flocks.
- Also: a student of Ceren Caner hit a Western screech owl (rare for this area) and it survived, so they took it to Kamloops Wildlife Park.
- Ed McDonald: flock of varied thrush.
- Tom Brighthouse: saw a coyote being attacked by a crow along the foreshore
- Ed McDonald reported that Helga Vrabac had a flock of six ringnecked ducks, as well as Bohemian waxwings.
- Blaine Carson saw a snowshoe hare.
- Isobel Anderson saw two red-tailed hawks.
- Ed McDonald reported that the short eared owls have moved in. There are at least four, west of Peter Jannink Park.
- Gillian Richardson: Ruffed Grouse coming to her property.
- Diane Wittner: had three more pictures of the bobcat.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm, moved by Mike Saul.

After the break, members gave presentations.