

## Shuswap Naturalist Club Minutes - Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Tonight's host, Program Director Anne Caughlan, welcomed 29 members to Room 140 at Okanagan College at 7 pm, including new members Barbara and Ken Raynor, Bonnie Fryer and Jack Watts.

This being the annual 'Members' Presentation' meeting, we did not follow the usual format, but Ted Hillary's Financial Statement is included at the end of the Minutes.

### Announcements:

1) **Christmas Bird Count:** a reminder that the CBC will be held Sunday, December 19. If anyone would like to participate in any of the Salmon Arm quadrants, please contact Ted Hillary. Anyone with backyard feeder sightings (species, numbers, location and how long the observations were) can report them by email to Ted.....[tedhillary@shaw.ca](mailto:tedhillary@shaw.ca)

2) **NOTE CHANGE OF MEETING DAY:** Due to the Okanagan College venue being unavailable for our next 5 meetings on Tuesdays, members voted to hold these meetings on the **first Wednesday** of each month at 7 pm. For 2022, the dates are: January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4. Exact room location will be announced before the meetings. Required COVID protocols will be in place.

### The Program:

1) John Woods showed incredible bat photos taken with super high-speed motion cameras by his colleague Dr. Brock Fenton. John pointed out some of the bats' special adaptations, like a thumb hook used for hanging while at rest, and shared anecdotes of his time spent doing bat research. He also introduced us to the free Cornell Lab birding app, Merlin, with its recent addition of bird song identification. Easy to use, and a fun way to learn species identification by ear.

2) Our dedicated Outings Committee—Dawn McDonald, Pat Danforth and Hanne Mackay—reviewed the objectives and merits of getting out in nature on our hikes at various sites near Salmon Arm, and explained some of the criteria they use to choose destinations for the lists of spring and fall outings. We are all asked to consider our preferences for days and times, locations, expectations, and to think about the role we might play as future outing leaders. The committee is always eager to hear your suggestions; contact any member of the group.

3) Hanne Mackay has been digging into the news for items with a positive tone. This time, for Good News, she found regeneration of coral reefs, pigs being trained to patrol airports to help control bird strikes, and new research in mapping the fungal networks of tree roots.

After Pat Turner's coffee break temptations, Mike Saul made a special presentation to Ed (with Marlene in her indispensable role as companion-president) on the occasion of his 'retirement' after 21 years as SNC President. Mike reminded us of Ed's many animated Show & Tell offerings, and his dedication and skill as a teacher, always eager to share his discoveries about all things nature. The Club's 'Thank You' to both Ed and Marlene was a painting by Janet Aitken of Bastion Mountain seen from across Tappen Bay. Ed and Marlene will continue to create monthly eNewsletters as a place for members to share stories and photos. And Ed has promised future Show & Tell surprises.

Mike Saul adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm.

## Treasurer's Report

Financial Statement December 1, 2021

Bank Balance November 1, 2021 \$3,246.19

### Receipts

Dues 290.00

Interest 0.14

Disbursements NIL

Bank Balance December 1, 2021 \$3,436.33

Patronage .89

Ted Hillary moved acceptance of this report: 2<sup>nd</sup> Marlene McDonald