



Shuswap Naturalists General Meeting

Tuesday, February 3, 2015

Ed McDonald welcomed everyone at 7:00 pm.

Minutes:

There was an error in the January minutes – they should have stated that the meeting was adjourned by Susan MacMillan. Other than this, the January 2015 minutes were accepted as circulated; moved by Janet Pattinson, 2nd Alandra Nayre.

Treasurer's report:

Ted Hillary presented the following for January 2015:

Bank balance on January 1, 2015 \$5,517.49

Revenue:

Coffee	\$23.40
Dues	\$520.00
Interest	\$0.25
Total:	\$543.65

Disbursements:

Federation of BC Nat. dues	\$1082.05
Total:	\$1,082.05

Bank balance on February 3, 2015 \$4,979.09

Ted Hillary moved acceptance of the report, 2nd Isobel Anderson.

Announcements:

1. The outings committee will have a meeting on Feb 9. They are looking for suggestions for outing locations.
2. In January Ed McDonald missed mentioning that one of the former directors has stepped down – Clare Meunier. She was a director for 11 years.
3. At the fall general meeting, Dorothy Parks connected with a hiker woman from the coast. She plans to bring her group to the Shuswap to hike, and would like to do something with the naturalists and also with the Lady Striders.
4. Michelle Weisinger asked if anyone was interested in submitting a column for Nature's Corner in the Lakeshore News, as it's been awhile since the last column.

Business:

1. Spring project:

Ed McDonald also thought that something could go into the newspaper about the invasive species project being undertaken by the club sometime in April.

Robyn Hooper wrote a letter back to the club, and it can be read in the latest newsletter. She has offered the club various resources such as gloves, tent, brochures, etc. Ten or more people are needed for the weed pulling event.

2. Show and tell:

Jim Hoskins brought a deer skull, found in the hills near Hat Creek. As well, he gave a presentation on scene composition in photography.

Reports

1. SABNES:

Pat Mearns was not present.

2. Good news (Hanne MacKay):

a. The Nature Conservancy of Canada has secured 1961 acres in BC in 2014. Since the 1970's the organization has secured over 1 million acres across Canada.

b. A new cave south of Tucson, AZ has just opened.

c. The Nature Conservancy and Bat Conservation International (BCI) secured 1,521 acres adjacent to BCI's Bracken Bat Cave, home to the largest colony of Mexican free-tailed bats in the world. The property, known as Crescent Hills, just outside of San Antonio, TX, was purchased for \$20.5 million and was previously slated to become a 3,500-home subdivision.

d. A Florida sheriff's office turned a \$500 mistake into a \$9,650 windfall for charity. A rug had been ordered for the office with a typo – „In Dog We Trust“. The rug was auctioned off and the proceeds were donated to a dog rescue centre.

3. Young Naturalists Club:

Geoff Styles was not present..

Sightings:

• Julia Marmont: Northern Hawk Owl in Paxton Valley. (Clive Bryson brought photos.)

• Sid and Alandra Nayre also saw a Northern Hawk Owl, as well as about 15 eagles flying high overhead.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm, moved by Clive Bryson.

After the break, Trish Wallenstein gave a presentation on the Carlin Young Naturalists as well as the White Lake turtle project.