

**Shuswap Naturalists General Meeting
Peter Jannink Park
Tuesday, June 2, 2015**

Ed McDonald welcomed the 16 hardy members present as we gathered under the covered shelter in the rain.

Minutes:

The minutes of the May meeting were accepted as circulated
Moved by Janet Pattinson, 2nd June Bryson.

Treasurer's Report:

Ed read the Financial Statement for June 2, 2015 in Ted Hillary's absence.

Bank Balance May 5		\$4,825.20
Receipts:		
Dues	50.00	
Coffee	17.00	
Interest	.21	\$142.06
Disbursements:	.00	
Balance for June 2, 2015		\$4,968.26
Patronage SASCU		.41

(Nature Park - \$286.06)

(Fall General Meeting - \$3652.16)

Ed moved acceptance of the report, 2nd Mike Saul.

Announcements:

- 1) Weed pull on May 27 –

This was a big success. Eleven members pulled and bagged 25 large garbage bags of bittersweet nightshade from along the trail of the nature reserve, enough to fill three pick-up trucks. There is still much to be done, but it was a very good first step.

- 2) Visiting groups –

Two groups are spending several days in our area as a result of our FGM. The one is a hiking group from North Vancouver, and the other, a group from the Kelowna Naturalist Club. Along with their other hikes and activities, they will be doing a guided tour of our foreshore June 9th and June 19th respectively.

- 3) Outings –
The June 4th outing is to Peter and Judy Stockdale's farm for a woodland walk, followed by a sheep dog demonstration.
On June 18 the outing will be up the Fly Hills to Wallenstein Lake.

Business:

- 1) Dogs in the nature reserve –
The problem with dogs being brought into the nature reserve continues. The conservation officer would personally have to come across the dogs and he is located in Vernon and thus not really of help. The end of the trail at the Raven end, that beyond the boardwalk, is city property even though it is maintained by SABNES. Options were discussed, ie. trying to educate the public and the possibility of moving the *no dogs* sign to the border of the Nature Trust land and asking the city to put up a sign for that end piece or leasing it to SABNES. But in reality, the problem with dogs on the whole trail continues.
- 2) BC Nature - Janet Pattinson will be sharing items from BC Nature's Strategic Plan. The first topic is membership. Their goal is to increase it by 20%.

Reports:

- 1) SABNES –
The AGM held on May 22 was a success. Speaker Frank Ritcey was informative and most entertaining.
Mike Saul, who after years of valuable and dedicated service, is retiring from the board, leaving a vacancy. Mayor Nancy Cooper has acknowledged Mike's contribution to SABNES.
Staffing plans for the Brighthouse Nature Centre are in place, and with a staff of two, all the days of the week will be covered.
Work will be continuing on the viewing tower near the island.

Show and Tell:

Sharon Lawless found a caterpillar on her lawn and brought it to show to the group. Identification was not clear.

Sightings:

Peter Lawless – Barn Owl in a Wood Duck nesting box at the foot of Peter Jannink Park.
Mike Saul – Forster's Tern at the wharf.
Pam Saul – swallows and a House Sparrow fighting over a nesting box.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Saul.

Potluck supper and pleasant company were thoroughly enjoyed by all.