



SHUSWAP NATURALISTS

General Meeting - Tuesday, Nov 6, 2018

Ed welcomed everyone at 7:00 pm.

MINUTES

There was a small misquote in the October 2018 minutes reported by Janet Pattinson: not two spots, but 12.

MOTION: Loretta Prosser moved to amend the minutes to say 12 Nature Spots. 2nd Marlene McDonald.

Otherwise, the minutes were accepted as circulated.

TREASURERS' REPORT

Ted Hillary reported the following:

Bank balance Oct 2, 2018: \$2,927.70

Receipts:

Dues \$215.00

Auction: \$61.00

Interest: \$0.26

Total: \$276.26

Disbursements: Nil

Bank balance Nov 5, 2018: \$3,203.96

Patronage: \$0.89

Ted moved acceptance of the report. 2nd Mike Saul.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Barb Hall passed away Sept. 22. She was one of the founding members of the Shuswap Naturalists, and she was given a lifetime membership in 2006. This certificate was displayed at her funeral.
2. Eric Grayston turned 101 recently. Ed McDonald visited him; he is still living at home and has a nice garden. He also drives!
3. Nest box initiative - Roger Beardmore: There is a nice woodworking space in the new Shuswap Makerspace. Our club might have access to funding via Salmon Arm Economic Development Society and also possibly through Nature BC to buy materials and produce some boxes.

4. Ed McDonald reported that he'd had an email from Gerry Leering. He was up in Salmon Arm recently with Dr. Terry McIntosh, and they discovered two new plants on Christmas Island. Ed would like someone to do a presentation on these two plants in the future.
5. Outdoor school: Geoff Styles reported that the outdoor school is doing well. There are 96 students from kindergarten to grade 6. It's a new culture, with no bells, and the students are happy. Every class is outside over half the time, and the teachers create units as they go along, based on input from the students.

BUSINESS

1. **Weed Pull:** The weed pull took place on Oct 27. (This was also Marlene McDonald's birthday.) 19 attended and 50 bags were collected. Alan Harrison was there, and Ed McDonald talked to him about putting drone signage along the trail. In the following days, 140 more bags were collected.
2. **Christmas Bird Count:** The Shuswap bird count is on Dec 16. The Seniors' Drop in Centre has been rented. The gathering will start at 3:30. Please report numbers to Ted (in writing), and he will present the highlights to the group.
3. **Show and Tell:** Ed McDonald sported his dung beetle medal. Dung beetles number about 5000 species, with each feeding on a different type of dung. All the dung is of vegetarian animals.

REPORTS

1. **BC Nature** - Janet Pattinson: The treasurer and vice president have resigned. BC Nature executive need to determine how the organization will evolve. Also, Janet has had quite a long stretch as a club rep for BC Nature and would like someone to take over. The candidate must keep in touch with BC Nature, and write reports on occasion.
2. **Good News** - Hanne Mackay: Bill Gates is putting a lot of money and initiative into toilets for folks who don't have access to sewage systems.

SIGHTINGS

- Dorothy Parks: saw about 200 snow geese
- Hanne MacKay: Trumpeter Swans outside her house.
- Ed McDonald also saw them
- Roger Beardmore: saw 127 snow geese at the river mouth today. Just under 100 trumpeter swans and also some tundra swans.
- Gillian Richardson: in Sask, saw 150 whooping cranes.

- A shout out was given to Dawn McDonald for her wonderful descriptions of the outings, with great photos provided by Jo-Ann Smith.
- Mike Saul: Ed & Monica Dahl gave the Sauls a bell flower plant and it now has over 80 blooms on it.

Motion to adjourn by Mike at 7:55 pm.

After the break, Geoff Styles gave a presentation on the International Ornithological Congress in Vancouver that he attended in August.