



Shuswap Naturalists General Meeting

Tuesday, October 4, 2016

Ed McDonald welcomed everyone at 7:00 pm including a few new faces.

Minutes:

The September 2016 minutes were accepted as circulated; moved by Janet Pattinson, 2nd Clive Bryson.

Treasurer's report:

Ted Hillary presented the following for September 2016:

Bank balance on September 6, 2016 \$4,830.52

Revenue:

Dues	\$20.00
Interest	\$0.20
Total:	\$20.20

Disbursements:

Room rental	\$182.70
Photocopying & postage	\$66.60
Total:	\$249.30

Bank balance on October 4, 2016 \$4,601.42

Patronage \$0.62

(for Nature Park: \$286.06; Fall AGM \$3652.16)

Ted Hillary moved acceptance of the report, 2nd Di Wittner.

Announcements:

1. Two successful outings in September: Reinecker Creek and Smith Retreat (near Deep Creek). Upcoming outings include Vernon and the local foreshore.
2. Janet Pattinson: Grand opening & dedication of North Fork Wild on October 15th.
3. Christmas Bird Count: will be the Sunday before Christmas. (Sun Dec 18).

Business:

1. Messenger: documentary on the collapse of songbird populations. Janet Aitken heads the committee to bring it to the Shuswap on Thurs. Nov. 3: 7:30 pm, and Sun. Nov 13, 2:00 pm at the Salmar. Will cost \$150 for the matinee and \$250 for the evening show.

We need about \$850 for the showing along with the advertising. Could get a grant possibly from the Salmar Community Association. Chris Letham, John Henderson, Ann Coghlan – possible names for contacting re grant. The committee will also publicize ongoing ways for residents to make life better for songbirds here.

37% of all birds are in critical danger in North America.

2. Woody Nightshade weed pull along the foreshore: Wed. Oct. 5 at 8:45 a.m. Will need a stepladder to get down off the boardwalk over by the beaver lodge. Also need pickup trucks to fill. Please bring clippers, gloves, and wear old clothes.

3. Fall AGM:
 Janet: Pattinson attended the Fall General Meeting in Prince George. Directors have the option to get a partial refund of their expenses. Alternatively, one can donate the cost of their fees and get a tax receipt.
 Issues discussed: The surplus that BC Nature receives as a result of these meetings is not enough to cover the expenses claimed for the directors. As a result, they have proposed to discontinue the fall AGMs and just keep the one in the spring.
 As well: Financial challenges are growing. BC Nature has asked the executive to consider raising the fees charged to the local clubs as they have not been raised in some time. If this goes through, our membership fees may be raised.
 Good news: The Daphne Solecki award was given to the North Shuswap Naturalists because they've been helping a North Shuswap school with a program called Bugs R Us.

4. Show and Tell: Ruffed Grouse. Found in many areas, and is the state bird of Pennsylvania. They have a ruff, and fringed toes for walking in snow.

Reports:

SABNES: Janet Aitken covered it in the business section of the meeting.

Environmental Advisory Committee: Janet P reported that the committee is interested in inviting high school students to participate in the committee discussions.

Sightings:

- Di Wittner: bobcat
- Marlene McDonald: bull moose
- Greg Wiebe: eagle chasing an osprey
- Mike Saul: Great Grey Owl, also a Rough-Legged Hawk in June.
- Janet Aitken: 6 dead voles along the foreshore trail near Raven.
- Ted Kay reported that a few chinook and sockeye have showed up at Roderick Haig Brown Park.

The club broke for coffee at 7:55 p.m., moved to adjourn by Mike Saul.

After the break, Mandy Kellner gave a presentation on bats.