

**Shuswap Naturalists General Meeting
Peter Jannink Park
Tuesday, September 8, 2015**

Ed McDonald welcomed members gathered under the covered shelter of the Sunnybrae Community Centre as the rain temporarily abated.

Minutes:

The minutes of the June meeting will be emailed to members before the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Bank Balance June 2, 2015			\$4,968.26
Receipts:			
Dues	20.00		
Fund Raising	258.00		
Interest	.66		
Assoc. of Writers	79.00		
Voided Cheque	140.00	\$497.76	
Disbursements:			
School District #83	182.70	\$182.70	
Balance for September 8, 2015			\$5283.32
Patronage SASCU		.41	
(Nature Park - \$286.06)			
(Fall General Meeting - \$3652.16)			
Fund Raising: Invasive Species Council	\$200.00		
Vancouver Hiking Group	\$58.00		

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

Announcements:

- 1) Award/Bursary –
Janet Pattinson reported that the amount of our bursary this year will be \$1100. These funds have now been sent on to Thompson Rivers University.

- 2) Bike For Your Life –
Roger Beardmore is asking for volunteers to act as course marshals during the Bike For Your Life relay on September 19. There will be 600 rider and volunteers are needed for about 2 hours. Ed will forward a message out to the club.

- 3) Outings –
Pat Danforth will be sending out the information on the coming outings.
- 4) Writers Group –
Our club along with the Shuswap Association of Writers is sponsoring a reading by nature writer Ann Eriksson on October 18. Also presenting will be photographers Roger Beardmore and Pat Hutchins. Isobel Anderson and Gillian Richardson have been working hard as our clubs representatives in organizing this project. See your newsletter for more information.

Business:

- 1) BC Nature Goals –
- 2) Janet Pattinson is continuing to share items from BC Nature's Strategic Plan. Another goal (#8) is to monitor effectiveness and improve many of the practices for greater efficiency within their office. This would be with regard to club billings, insurance, etc.
- 3) Weed Pull –
The project is off to a good start. We will continue with it, but because it is easier to identify the plants in spring, we may wait until then for another work bee.
- 4) Club Direction – points mentioned were:
 - continuing weed pull
 - co-operation with writers association
 - inspiring knowledge of nature
 - monitoring nature
 - mentoring of young people
 - groups doing nature walks
 - partnering with arts council and trail alliance on art project of nature trails or walks in area
 - working with SABNES. This is working well. Janet Aitken announced a work bee planned for next Tuesday, a work along the trail. Her note will be forwarded on to the members.

Reports:

- 1) SABNES –
Sewer system has to be repaired along the trail. Rather than spreading this over five years, it is being made into a one year project, starting at the Raven end and working west along the trail. Work will begin after freeze-up. Club member Gerry Leering is the biologist who has been hired to oversee this project.
- 2) District Environment Committee –
Looking at the highway widening has brought forward concerns regarding the impact on the floodplain.

Sightings:

Clive Bryson – 11 Nighthawks near the college. Marie Fortin reported same in the Rancho district.

Ken Stengler – Turkey Vultures on foreshore

Mandy McDiarmid – Peregrine Falcon and Sharp-shinned Hawk

Mike Saul – Peregrine has returned to tree and 12-18 Pelicans off Christmas Island

Adjournment: Mike Saul

After the meeting, members participated in and enjoyed a potluck lunch with good food and a lot of good visiting.