

NATURALIST SOCIETY – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - MINUTES

Sunday, February 23rd, 2025, 4:30pm, The Lillooet Brewing Co.

4:00pm Presentation on **Mule Deer Recovery** after the McKay Fire, by Dr. Sue Senger.

Call to order at 4:45pm

Present: Geoff Playfair – Chair, Christine Galliazzo – Vice Chair, Vivian Birch-Jones – minutes, Christina Timms – finance and membership, Simon Warhurst – director, Colin Vidian-Jones – director, Ian Routley, Kim North, Jacquie Rasmussen, Eleanor Wright, Phora Horton, Karen Playfair, Greg P. Smith, Lori Smith, Kevin Aitken, Paul Galliazzo, Stephanie Waring, Max Galliazzo, Sue Senger (guest), Val Valteau, Glenn Valteau, Kathryn Mazur

Regrets: Jonah Timms – director, Cate Gentle, Rivershed Society of BC

Welcome and introductions, land acknowledgement – Chair Geoff

Adoption of agenda (IR, CVJ) adopted.

Adoption of minutes from 2024 AGM (JR, CG) adopted.

Business arising from the minutes – bring forward items identified already added to AGM agenda.

New Business – Reports:

- **Annual report** to members – Geoff and directors. Report circulated, reviewed and approved (VBJ, IR)
- **Financial report** – Christina Timms, treasurer. Report circulated, reviewed and approved (JR, IR)
- **LRISS update** – Jacquie R. provided summary annual report with highlights

Election of Directors – Nominations called for – no nominations from the float. Current directors are willing to continue, Geoff Playfair, Chris Galliazzo, Christina Timms, Jonah Timms, Vivian Birch-Jones, Simon Warhurst, Colin Vidian-Jones. Slate of current directors elected for 2025. All in favour. VBJ to submit annual Society report to BC Registry.

2025 Budget expenses recommended for approval, by the Directors – approved as follows:

- Bluebird trail project – approve up to \$700
- Rivershed Society SLLP program (rafting Fraser River) – approve up to \$500
- LRISS – approve \$1,500
- Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation membership up to \$80
- Other items that come up during the year, as approved by directors – up to \$1,000.

Kim North mentioned working with Christina Timms on **Young Naturalist** activities and Jacquie R. offered some of the LRISS resources. Great! Kim mentioned outreach trailer needs work – can apply with quote to directors for approval anytime during the year.

Plans and priorities for 2025

- Move forward with partnerships to provide improvements and expansions to the Lion's Trail
 - Continue work with LRISS on invasive removal and native species planting
 - Support for outdoor educational programs (such as school programs)
 - Update for our website MJ does great job keeping up but we need to provide bulletins and news to her. The site also needs a refresh, with links repaired.
 - Ongoing trail maintenance, advocacy and partnerships
 - Hiking Schedule – 3 group hikes through the year
 - Presentations – Grizzly Bear recovery work in St'at'imc territory, Mammal Migration Mapping, and look for presenters on reptiles, badgers, wildflowers-plants. Repeat of geology with Pierre Friele, mushroom walk/talk, slide show evening by members for members. Invite Jeremy Venditti re. slides Fraser River.
- Osprey webcam in the Spring – Scott Hudson lead
- Bluebird Box outings – Christine G. continues to lead
- Support for Gwenis survey – Fall/ winter – Geoff in touch with Tsal'alh researcher
- Events, in need of champions – Pitch in Day and Day hikes
- Other? Invite Jeremy Venditti to present. Has just completed three years work on landslide risks in the Fraser River.

NEXT EVENTS

Seedy Sunday, March 9th at REC Centre

Grizzly bear presentation Cheryl Blair, Splitrock SGS – late March?

April 26 - Pitch in Day – Organizer/Champion?

Geoff leading next group hike May 3rd , West Fraser Historical Trail. Volunteer leaders for group hikes welcome 😊

BC Nature AGM at Merritt May 22-25

Shoreline Clean Up World Rivers' Day September 28th, Vivian, Colin and Kathryn to lead

Adjourn: 5:38pm