



Delta Naturalists Society

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MINUTES – General Meeting – June 1, 2021

Via ZOOM

1. **Welcome and call to order** – Audrey opened the meeting at 7:32pm and gave a special welcome to our guests.
2. **Adoption of Agenda** – Approved without modification.
3. **Current Business:**
 - a. **Adoption of minutes of May 4th** – Motion moved by Annie Kaps. Approved without modification.
 - b. **Report on May 21st Executive Meeting** – Joanne gave the report and elaborated on a couple of items including the appeal to our members to send in their membership fees by the end of August, 2021 – our year end. She brought to our attention the two volunteer positions available – Membership Coordinator and Social Coordinator. The AGM of BC Nature held on Zoom in May was well attended and their next AGM will be held in Kelowna in May, 2022.
 - c. **Financial/Membership Report** – Jim reported our bank balance as \$10,374.50. We currently have 31 Family memberships and 61 Individual memberships. Carol Pan moved the adoption of the financial report. Approved.
We welcome a new family membership for Patricia and Ken Sykes of Ladner.
 - d. **Birds and Biodiversity Report** – Terry Carr reported that the Bugs, Animals and Inter-Tidal brochures were sent to the printers today. He will advise the membership when these brochures are available at Delta libraries and facilities. The Flowering Plants brochure was sent to the designer with the Butterflies and Moths as well as the Dragonflies brochure to be sent in a few weeks. There will be a production run of 5,000 copies each.

Val Fuller moved the adoption of the Birds and Biodiversity report. Approved.

- e. **Environment** – Anita advised us that blasting has begun again at the Quadling Quarry in the Abbotsford area thereby threatening the peregrine nesting. Although the permit had been withdrawn, apparently the owners of the quarry have started up again. It was brought to our attention that the Conservation Committee of BC Nature is responding to this situation. Valerie Whitlam moved the adoption of the Environment report. Approved.

- f. **Cascade Bird Box Team** - Jim K. reported that they checked the local Barn owl nest boxes for activity – 1 out of 3 were active at Boundary Bay, 1 out of 3 were active at the North 40 site, one new active nest box at Iona, no activity at Tsawwassen Springs and there didn't appear to be any nesting activity at any of the three Kings Links boxes after one of the pair was found dead near the nesting box site this spring. They have seven boxes in stock; two are funded and planned for the Delta Heritage Air Park area. Jim announced that the Cascade Bird Box Team has donated \$600.00 to the Tom Bearss Bursary Fund. Paul Rennie moved the adoption of the Cascade Bird Box Team report. Approved.

- g. **Bearss Bursary** – Syd announced that he and Audrey had heard from Val Titford of UBC that the Bursary had eclipsed \$30,000 with donations still coming in. We will be receiving monthly updates from Val. Anita den Dikken moved the adoption of the Bearss Bursary Report. Approved.

- 4. **New Business:** Casual Birding Start Up – A member asked for information on the way to access the casual birding trips. Terry Carr suggested members make up small groups among themselves. He will send out a sign-up sheet for the upcoming trips.
- 5. **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm. Moved by Elizabeth Perrin. Approved.
- 6. **Presentation – On Safari in East Africa** – We were entertained by our guest speaker Dale Hjertaas who in 2018 visited wildlife reserves in Kenya and Tanzania. He mentioned that the highlight of his trip was time spent with the Hazda, a hunting and gathering culture. They trade for some of their necessities but are primarily self-sufficient. His photographs illustrated the diversity of the

areas and included rhinos, elephants, gazelles, impalas, crocodiles, zebra and wildebeests.

Elizabeth thanked Dale for his interesting and thoughtful presentation.

7. **September's presentation** – Our next general meeting will be held on September 7th at 7:30pm. Our presenter will be Dr. David Bird and he will be speaking on The Canada Jay as Canada's National Bird.