

# DELTA NATURALISTS SOCIETY

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

**Monday, April 8, 2013, 7:30 - 10:00 p.m.**

Cambridge House, Delta, B.C.

President, Tom Bearss, **introduced executive members** present and acknowledged executive members absent (Hans-Ulf Schellhase and Ursula Easterbrook), **showed Geof's poster**, then **welcomed** members and guests (40+ attendees, one from Kitimat).

**Minutes of the last general meeting, March 11, 2013**, as published in the monthly newsletter: moved by Jennifer Melville-Roberts, seconded by Valerie Fuller, and approved

**Executive Committee meeting minutes of March 25, 2013** were tabled.

Hans-Ulf Schellhase absent; therefore, no **mail** report available..

**Treasurer**, Jennifer Melville-Roberts stated that there was \$4,722.96 in the bank.

Mary Ronback's excellent editorship of the **monthly newsletter** was acknowledged. Mary is always seeking articles for the publication.

Valerie Fuller, who looks after **publicity** for the Delta Naturalists, advised that Delta's papers are very supportive and that she is still hopeful for publication in Surrey papers.

**Social** Co-Chairs, Lorraine Mwenifumbo and Marilyn King acknowledged to-night's "goodie" providers: Elizabeth, Val and Eleanor. Meeting goodie provider sign-up sheets were circulated.

**Environmental** issues brought forward were:

- \*Jim Ronback advised that there has been a postponement re **VAPOR**.

- \*Marilyn King (DNS "Pesticide Rep") requested that, at the next Executive Committee Meeting, Delta Naturalists Society executives draft, for presentation to members at the next general meeting (approval and subsequent filing) a proposal for the complete ban of the usage of **cosmetic pesticides** in all of British Columbia. Delta is one of forty communities to have banned their use. Delta Nats supported Delta's ban. Judy Kilcup, Delta Nats member and Committee Chair of the Coalition for the Ban of Cosmetic Pesticides was given for her files a copy of newspaper article regarding doctors lobbying for total B.C. ban of cosmetic pesticides.

- \*Richmond's Snow Goose problem is no longer an issue--until the next migration--as the geese have gone.

**BCN & SPEAKERS:** Ursula Easterbrook is representing Delta Naturalists and several other members are attending the Annual General Meeting May 2-5, 2013 in Abbotsford/Mission.

Arranged by Ursula Easterbrook as **next month's speaker** is Karen Needham who will present on aquatic insects. Karen is also interested in leading a Delta Naturalists walk on the foreshore, enabling hands-on identification.

### Projects/Wish lists

- \*There was a meeting with Marcus on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> regarding location of the **barn owl box** as Metro Vancouver does not want it located too close to Cammidge House. They shall, therefore, provide and install a pole at their selected location. Delta Nats were advised that the box they have acquired has too small a "veranda". Metro Vancouver provided approved plans for future acquisitions. (See report on DNCB blog)

- \***Scope** still an ongoing consideration.

- \*Jim Ronback advised that **new meeting venue** research is still in progress.

- \*Acquisition of **Bat Houses** is still under review.

- \*Metro Vancouver has completed 2012/2013's **Snowy Owl Watch** on the dikes.

### The **DNCB** (Delta Naturalists Casual Birders)

- \*since the March general meeting, and including the quarterly Birds on the Bay outing March 13 (17 participants), four outings: TFN and Reifel, Queen Elizabeth Park, Maplewood Flats.

- \*Next Wednesday's outing is to Iona RP, leaving Petra's at 7:30 a.m. (note time, change in day of week)

- \*Still looking to possible other ventures: Aquarium (Tom has had conversations with them), Richmond Nature Park.

- \*Check out [www.dncb.wordpress.com](http://www.dncb.wordpress.com) for reports and photos.

**Birds Study Canada** participant and Delta Nats member, Anne Murray, is looking for sponsorship for her May 14<sup>th</sup> Fraser Valley involvement.

As Ursula Easterbrook was absent, there was no report filed regarding her **photo workshop** held at Cammidge House on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Tom Bearss reported that on April 2<sup>nd</sup> work was done on **nest box** "baffling" which will hopefully exclude house sparrows.

Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, members attended the **Cammidge House Committee** meeting.

Following are up-coming scheduled events:

- \* Sunday, April 21 Watershed Park fish release w/Nats Display: Terry Carr; Tom Bearss: bird walk

- Monday, April 22 PechaKucha (20 slides, 20 seconds per slide) Earth Day presentation, Delta municipal hall

- Saturday, April 27 Metro Vancouver "Celebrating Partners" Ft. Langley Community Hall

Monday, April 29 Delta Nats Executive meeting

May 2 - 5 B.C. Nature's AGM at Abbotsford/Mission

Friday, May 10 Cammidge House Committee meeting

\* Sunday, May 12 Migratory Bird Day, Mothers' Day Tea and Bird Talk n Walk, Cammidge House,  
1:00-3:30 Presentation by Anne Murray  
Monday, May 13 Delta Naturalists General Meeting, Cammidge House, 7:30  
\* Sunday, May 26 Ladner May Day event

Wednesday, June 5 Birds on the Bay, Cammidge House, 9:00-11:00 a.m.  
Friday, June 7 Cammidge House Committee meeting  
Saturday, June 8 First bi-monthly Car Boot Sale, Centennial Beach  
Monday, June 10 Delta Nats meeting and AGM, Cammidge House, 7:30  
Wednesday, June 12 Metro Vancouver, Boundary Bay Regional Park, 3:00-5:00  
\* Sunday, June 16 Fathers' Day Pancake Breakfast, Centennial Beach

\* Monday, July 1 Canada Day in downtown Ladner

\* VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BOOTH.....TERRY CARR HAS SIGN-UP SHEETS

**Sightings:** Several members mentioned that a dozen or so short-eared owls are in the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Boundary Park area.

**Meeting adjourned** for refreshments, 50/50, camera/scope accessories/publications give-aways (compliments of Kay).

Featured presentation was **"Bird Watching in Zimbabwe"** with Peter Ward, Water Engineer and Birdwatcher.

Recorded by: Annie Kaps

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