



Delta Naturalists Society

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MINUTES – General Meeting – January 4, 2022

Via ZOOM

DRAFT

1. **Welcome and call to order** – Syd opened the meeting at 7:30pm.
2. **Welcome new members** – Syd welcomed our new members – Rosemary Beckman and Lee Wright Finch. Syd extended an invitation to family and friends of our members to join us for our monthly general meetings.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – Approval of the Agenda was given by the membership.
4. **Approval of December 7th general meeting minutes** – Motion moved by David Hoar and seconded by Paul Rennie. Adopted.
5. **Financial/Membership Report** - Jim informed us that our bank balance is \$19,885.58. This amount includes the \$10,000. received from the dissolution of the Boundary Bay Parks Assoc. and \$4,000. allocated for the brochures. This leaves approximately \$4,000. for our operating capital this year.

To date, we have 64 individual memberships and 36 family memberships for a total of 100 memberships.

Peter Ward thanked Jim for his work as Treasurer and the members heartily agreed!

6. **Report on December 17th executive meeting** - Lorraine summarized the December executive meeting and emphasized four items – 1. The executive decided to concentrate our charitable donations this year and give the local OWL organization \$500. 2. Joanne and Syd reported they have started looking at a range of South Delta facilities for the day we will be able to return to in-person gatherings. 3. Elizabeth reported that the Editor of the Delta Optimist advised her and Syd that the Optimist would like to continue our Nature Notes column on a

monthly basis for the time being. 4. The executive discussed the opportunity for a DNS partnership with Metro Vancouver Parks. We are happy to report that our member Chris McVittie has agreed to spearhead these discussions. A full summary of the executive meeting can be found in our January newsletter.

The members gave Terry Carr a great thanks and a round of applause for his work in organizing the Casual Birders weekly outings.

7. **Roberts Bank Terminal expansion proposal status report - Roger Emsley –**

Roger gave an update on the RBT2 expansion proposal. We are at the point where a decision by the Federal Government will be made shortly. The public can still make their voice count by posting comments opposing the RBT2. For information, visit <https://www.againstportexpansion.org/home> There is an excellent video on this site as well as a link to sign the petition.

8. **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned by Syd at 8:00pm.

9. **Presentation by Sarah Schreier on the Fraser River White Sturgeon -**

“Keeping the Legend Alive: Fraser River White Sturgeon”

Sarah is Executive Director of the Fraser River Sturgeon Conservation Society (FRSCS), a research-based non-profit organization dedicated to the recovery of the Fraser River White Sturgeon population. Our Fraser River sturgeon are the last true wild population and unless the survival rate is increased by 1 – 1.6x, the population will decline in 30 years.

The sturgeon -

- are one of the oldest species in the Fraser River
- have outlived two ice ages
- can live up to 200 years old and can grow to 6 meters in length
- use both fresh and salt water habitat
- are slow growing; reproductive maturity at 27 years old for females, 12 years old for males
- only spawn every 6 – 10 years in the wild

This was a fascinating presentation which evoked a number of questions from our membership. For more information, visit www.frasersturgeon.com On their informative web-site you can find out how you can **“Give the Gift that Keeps On Swimmin’! Adopt a Sturgeon...!”**

10. **February’s presentation** – Our next general meeting will be held on Zoom on February 1st, 2022 at 7:30pm. James Casey, Birds Canada, will speak on Climate Adaptation and Shorebirds.