



Delta Naturalists Society

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MINUTES – General Meeting – September 7, 2021

Via ZOOM

1. **Welcome and call to order** – Syd opened the meeting at 7:30pm.
2. **Introduction of executive and new members** – Syd introduced the executive and welcomed our new member Manli Shen.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – Agenda was adopted without modification.
4. **Approval of June 1st general meeting minutes** – Motion moved by Paul Rennie. Seconded by David Hoar. Adopted.
5. **Updates from the executive** - Syd acknowledged that a discussion on our in-house meeting situation with a balance of Zoom participation for general meetings would be addressed at the next Executive Meeting scheduled for Sept. 10th. He emphasized the importance of renewing memberships now. Audrey informed us that a mid-Summer newsletter and a September newsletter has been sent out to our membership.

Elizabeth brought us up to date on Nature Notes with the good news that Syd has recruited two new partner organizations – Birds Canada and OWL. There is a summary of the columns completed in our September newsletter. Jim and Joanne are processing 2021-2022 memberships.
6. **Financial/Membership report** – Jim told us that our bank balance is \$8,510.52 and at this time 16 families and 37 individual memberships have been received for a total of 53.
7. **Birds and Biodiversity Committee Report** – Anne Murray informed us that the final layout of the next three brochures are being approved and then will be sent to the printers. These brochures are Butterflies & Moths, Dragonflies &

Damselflies and Flowering Plants. There are two brochures left to publish – Fungi & Woodland Plants. She thanked the core group of the Committee which includes Terry Carr, Chris McVittie, David Hoar, Nicki Brockamp and Pamela Swanigan-Graves. She also gave thanks to the support group of Glen Bodie, Jack MacDonald, Sheila Byers, and Rob Cannings. Many members on our Zoom meeting expressed their appreciation for the brochures.

Glen and Anne have meetings scheduled with the Wildlife Management Area representatives and Anne will meet with the Nature Canada and with Birds Canada Executive Directors over the next few weeks.

The group has been asked to be involved with the City of Delta Bat Week in October, although there is no bat activity in Delta at this time of the year. A walk is planned during this event.

Anne informed us that Marg Cuthbert has put together a Boundary Bay Birding Trail brochure which will be available soon.

8. **Cascade Bird Box Team** – Jim K. reported that due to the extreme heat conditions we have experienced this summer twelve barn owl sites have failed. This could represent the loss of between twenty to thirty owlets. One successful box had four owlets that survived. The Team is looking at replacing the black roofs on the boxes with white painted roofs or white metal roofs.
9. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.
10. **Presentation – Dr. David Bird** - Elizabeth welcomed Dr. Bird who gave a passionate talk on his campaign to promote the Canada Jay as Canada's National Bird. He made the point that the Canada Jay is a unique bird for Canada because it is not found in any other country except the U.S., and is not an official bird for any other geographical entity. He explained that the Canada Jay embodies the Canadian Spirit – smart, friendly, trusting and curious. This bird is extremely hardy and does not migrate south in the fall. It breeds in our harsh Canadian winters and can incubate eggs at 30 degrees below Zero! I believe he had us all convinced and for more information, please access <https://www.canadajay.org/>
11. **October's presentation** – Our next general meeting will be held on Zoom on Tuesday, October 5th at 7:30pm. David and Diane Reesor will speak on Iceland and Newfoundland.