



Delta Naturalists Society

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MINUTES – General Meeting – September 6, 2022

Via ZOOM

1. **Welcome and call to order** – Syd opened the meeting at 7:30pm.
2. **Welcome all, including new members and guests** – Syd welcomed everyone to our September general meeting. He extended a special greeting to two guests joining us, Art Lodge and Nick Snowden.
3. **Introduction of Executive** – Syd introduced the executive members present. He mentioned that our former Secretary, Joanne van Snellenberg, has relocated to the Okanagan and has resigned her position. He extended a warm welcome to Joanne as she joined our meeting on Zoom.
4. **Approval of Agenda** – Syd added three items to the agenda and approval of the agenda was given by the membership. These items included an environmental report by Anita den Dikken, a seminar on mushrooms and a Question-and-Answer session if time allows.
5. **Approval of the June 7, 2022 general meeting minutes** – Motion moved by Valerie Fuller and seconded by Paul Rennie. Adopted.
6. **Financial/Membership Report** - Jim reported that our bank balance is \$3,257.58. This figure does not include any dues that will be collected for this year.

To date, we have 140 members including 66 individual memberships and 37 family memberships.

Jim reported that over a two-year period \$2500 for the brochure project came from DNS and the remainder from grants. He congratulated the Birds and Biodiversity

Conservation Committee, under the leadership of Anne Murray, for completing this project as budgeted.

Carol Rennie asked if there is going to be an increase in membership fees. Syd said an executive meeting is planned for September 16th. At that time a proposed budget for the 2022-2023 year will be prepared and a discussion of membership fees will be part of that process.

Paul Rennie asked if DNS needs to contribute to the Tom Bearss Bursary on a yearly basis. Syd replied that the bursary has eclipsed the \$50,000 threshold for an endowment. At present there is \$61,344 in the bursary fund. He said individuals still wishing to contribute may certainly do so.

Audrey Coutts thanked all DNS members that gave financial support or encouragement in the creation of this bursary.

7. **Environmental report** – Anita reported the Fortis installation on the Fraser River is under environmental review by the BC government. An expanded jetty is planned that will allow vessels transporting LNG to travel near populated areas. BC Nature has submitted a letter, opposing this project, to the Environmental Review Committee.
8. **Draw for donated Bateman calendar** – Elizabeth organized the draw and the winner was Mike Bayliss. Thanks were expressed to Diane and David Reesor for their kind donation of the calendar.
9. **Wild Mushroom Seminar** - Glen Bodie asked that members be made aware of a seminar to be held by Swallowtail Canada. Syd said he will send an email to all the members with an attachment containing the details.
10. **Announcement of AGM** – Our Annual General Meeting will be held on October 4th. It will feature passage of a 2022-2023 budget and election of an executive. Two weeks formal notice of the meeting will be given and will include the proposed budget and details of membership fees.
11. **Call for volunteers** - Members are needed to stand for Secretary, as well as Social, Communications and Display Coordinators. People are also needed to join the Social Team. Syd explained that Terry Carr has resigned as Display Coordinator and thanks were extended to him for the excellent job, he has done organizing displays in the past. Brief descriptions of these roles are printed in our current newsletter. Syd asked if anyone recalled the maximum number of people in the executive as described in our charter. Jim and Elizabeth thought perhaps 7 or 8

people. Syd said he is pleased to announce the present executive are all willing to stand.

12. **Question and answer session** - Paul Rennie asked if the AGM would be “live” in Ladner. Syd said the technical issues for a hybrid meeting are still being addressed. Jim answered that the bandwidth in the church is too low for a Zoom broadcast. David Hoar mentioned the original plan was for an in-person meeting in October. Elizabeth said she felt an AGM meeting should be accessible to as many members as possible and Zoom might be the best option based on how many people signed up to attend the in-person meeting this month.

Anne Murray said she is speaking on behalf of DNS at the opening of the new Delta Museum on September 24th. Jim mentioned Geoff Hacker’s posters for our DNS meetings over the last seven years will be on display. He will circulate additional information on this event. Anne asked if she is still scheduled to speak on the 27th to the CFUW (Canadian Federation of University Women). Syd said he would let her know.

13. **Adjournment** – Syd adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m.
14. **Introduction of Speaker** – Elizabeth introduced Terry Carr who gave a fascinating presentation on **Butterflies and other Bugs in Delta**.
15. **Meeting Wrap- up** – Elizabeth thanked Terry for his excellent and informative presentation and advised that the speaker for our meeting October 4th would be David Hoar presenting on **Amazon Adventures: Cruising Amongst Tree Tops**. She reminded us this meeting would also be our AGM.