



Delta Naturalists Society

PO Box No. 18044, 1215C 56th Street, Delta, B.C. V4L 2M4

email: deltanaturalists@gmail.com

Web: <https://dncb.wordpress.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DeltaNats>

Delta Naturalists Society Meeting – Minutes (2nd Draft)

December 4, 2018

Introduction: Vice- President (VP) Elizabeth Perrin opened the meeting at 7:31 PM. She welcomed a near-capacity crowd of approximately 75 people to the event and outlined that it comprises: 1) a short business meeting for the Society; 2) a presentation by David Hoar and Noreen Rudd on their recent trip to Antarctica and nearby regions, and 3) our traditional Christmas social. She introduced the club executive present – herself, Director Syd Barber taking minutes tonight, and Treasurer Jim Kneesch. President Tom Bearss, and Directors Anita Den Dikken and Chris McVittie, are all independently travelling abroad.

Approval of Minutes: Jim Ronback moved that the Society's November 6, 2018 meeting minutes be approved. David Hoar seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Mail: Treasurer Jim K. reported the receipt of only one piece of mail during the last month – a reminder from the federal government about scheduling the filing of a tax return.

Financial and Membership Report: Treasurer Jim K. reported that the Nov. 30 bank balance was \$7,967.85. He commented that some barn owl box expenses have yet to be paid. We carried approximately \$4,000 into the current financial year and will probably carry out about the same amount. Finally, he reported that we have 87 paid-up members, including 43 individual members and 21 family memberships counted as two people/membership. This tally is down from the 100+ paid members we had last winter.

Acknowledgements: VP Elizabeth mentioned that Audrey has recently had the misfortune to break her leg and therefore was not able to prepare a newsletter for this month. This situation will extend to the January newsletter.

The Vice-President thanked Valerie for orchestrating the excellent recent publicity of our monthly meeting in the Delta Optimist. Joanne Williamson, in turn, thanked everybody who brought treats for our social tonight.

Finally, VP Elizabeth thanked Paul for the technical support he continues to provide for our meetings and mentioned that Anita is drafting a letter for BC Nature's consideration regarding the environmental implications of the LNG industry.

Environmental Issues: Jim R. spoke briefly about the several proposed LNG projects for BC that are on hold now, all of which have environmental implications.

Speakers upcoming: The Vice-President noted that our Wednesday, Jan. 2 monthly meeting will feature Paul and Carol Rennie presenting on their travels to the Galapagos Islands and the Peruvian Amazon. In February, we'll be privileged to receive Jocelyn Demers and his video on the Fraser River Watershed.

Recent Activities: VP Elizabeth reported that Society members organized and led weekly (Tuesday morning) informal birding outings through November, as usual. She thanked Roger M. for the great reports he produced and posted on these outings in Tom's absence

The DNS executive met one afternoon during November.

The Boundary Bay Parks Association, which is supported by many DNS members, held their annual Christmas with Santa party for families. Cammidge house was filled with about 60 people, roughly half of which was children.

Jack Macdonald from the Cascade bird box team reported that we've received a grant to build 11 barn owl nesting boxes, mostly to replace aging boxes in the interior of buildings in Delta. They will probably build some more boxes for outdoor installation as well.

Upcoming Events: The quarterly Birds on the Bay event, aimed at the general public, will be held Wed. Dec. 12 with a lunch to follow at Cammidge House.

Jude Grass is coordinating the annual Xmas Bird Count in the Ladner area. It will be held on Saturday, Dec. 22, kicked off by a meeting of participants at 7:30 AM that day@ MacDonald's in Ladner.

(Subsequent Note: The Delta Naturalists Society have taken responsibility for conducting the count on the east side of Tsawwassen and members interested in participating are invited to gather at Petras in Tsawwassen, also at 7:30 AM on Saturday, Dec. 22.)

Notable Bird Sightings: Valerie reported a not unusual Delta sighting of a Great Blue Heron but an unusual location – a clothes line pole. Several members saw a Ruff on Boundary Bay and some noted that this species is the subject of research by a Simon Fraser University biologist.

50:50 Draw: Brian Evans won the relatively large jackpot of \$30.50.

Next meeting: VP Elizabeth reminded everybody of our need in January to deviate from our convention of holding the monthly meeting the first Tuesday of the month. Because the first Tuesday in January is New Years Day, our January meeting will be held the following day, Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2018, but at the usual place and time of day.

Adjournment: VP Elizabeth adjourned the meeting at 7:48 PM.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

