

99th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Vancouver Natural History Society

Thursday, April 27, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Unitarian Centre, 949 West 49th Avenue, Vancouver

Draft Minutes

The President, Bill Kinkaid, declared the meeting open at 7:39 pm, with quorum.
Nancy Prober, recording secretary

1. Welcome and approval of the agenda

Motion: That the agenda of the 98th Annual General Meeting be approved. Daphne Nagorsen/Nigel Peck. Carried.

2. Appointment of Recording Secretary - Nancy Prober

3. Approval of the minutes of the 98th Annual General Meeting held on April 28, 2016 prepared by Nancy Prober.

Motion: That the minutes of the 98th Annual General Meeting be approved in principle. David Cook/Sheila Byers. Carried.

4. President's report – Bill Kinkaid - Bill presented the highlights of the year for Nature Vancouver. The centennial year for the organization will be in 2018 and there are many plans in the works. In May 2018, Nature Vancouver will host the BC Nature AGM. This is being organized by Bev Ramey. Elena Klein is organizing an exhibit at the Museum of Vancouver. David Cook is stepping down as Botany chair and a committee is taking over leadership of the Botany section. Bill thanked David for his contribution of 10 years of leadership. There are changes in provincial legislation to the Societies Act which require reorganization of the bylaws. This is being led by Jeremy McCall. The website is being redesigned, led by Daphne Nagorsen. Field trips are as popular as ever and the organization is always looking for new trip leaders. There was no summer camp in 2016. In 2017 the camp will return to Smithers. Bill thanked the board of directors for their hard work and stated that Cynthia Crampton and Nancy Prober will be stepping down from the board. Bill encouraged others to volunteer with Nature Vancouver and thanked all volunteers for their service.

5. Treasurer's Report for the year ended December 31, 2016 - Jeremy McCall - Jeremy reviewed his written report that was distributed to AGM attendees. This included a review of the financial statement and Review Engagement Report as completed by Reid, Hurst, Nagy Inc. Jeremy answered questions about the report.

Motion: To accept the draft financial statements reviewed by Reid, Hurst, Nagy Inc. and the Review Engagement report. Stephen Partington/Bev Ramey. Carried.

6. Appointment of Auditors - Jeremy McCall

Motion: That Reid, Hurst, Nagy Inc. be authorized to appoint a professional accountant to conduct a review engagement of the financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2017. Cynthia Crampton/Bengul Kurtar. Carried.

7. Electing the Society's directors for 2017 - 2018 - Daphne Nagorsen, chair of the Nominating Committee

Daphne read out the names of those willing to stand as directors as of the end of the nomination period. This includes all current board members who have agreed to stand again. The Society's directors for the following year are: Helen Aqua, Colin Clasen, David Cook, Harry Crosby, Jude Grass, Bill Kinkaid, Bengul Kurtar, Joan Lopez, Daphne Nagorsen, Jeremy McCall, Nigel Peck, Bev Ramey

Motion: That the slate of Board members for the 2017-2018 year be accepted. Jeremy McCall/ Donald Burton. Carried. 2 abstentions.

Elena Klein suggested that we vote whether we have a slate or appoint board members candidate by candidate. Cynthia Crampton invited the 2 new candidates to say a few words about why they want to be on the board. Point of order by Jeremy McCall - there's no distinction between any of these members because the nominating committee put them forward as a slate. We don't have to elect 12 people. These folks would all be elected by acclamation. There is no minimum number of board members in the bylaws.

8. Report on new BC Societies Act and proposed revisions to by-laws - Jeremy McCall- The bylaws were last updated in 2012 and amended several times since consolidated in 2001. By November 2018 we need to transition to the new BC Societies Act and make sure our bylaws are in compliance with the new Act. At the same time we need to make sure that the policies that tie into the bylaws are consistent. A committee will be working on this. There is a plan to present a motion to change the bylaws at the 2018 AGM.

9. Report on new Nature Vancouver website - Daphne Nagorsen - We are in the process of making big changes to the website. Our website host organization is now North America based with 24/7 customer service. We plan to move to a more user-friendly software as well. There is a plan to change the design of the website. In the interim, a stable website with basic information will bridge the gap until the new design is ready. Will continue to inform the membership of updates on the weekly email update. Daphne requested that people make her aware of any postings to the current website to ensure that the information is not lost during this transition period.

Committee members include Daphne Nagorsen, Bill Kinkaid, Denis Laplante, Helen Aqua.

10. Report from Camp Committee - Nigel Peck - There was no camp in 2016 because of conflicts with commercial operators. In 2017 we are returning to Smithers Driftwood Lodge. We proposed to BC Parks to return to Cinnabar Basin in 2018 but they have refused. We are now applying to go to McGilvrey in 2018. It is becoming challenging to find areas for camps. Nigel asked for any suggestions for future camp locations. One option is to change the camp format in the future. This year there are 7 spaces left in the second week. The first week is already full. All information is available on the website.
11. Report on Pink Mountain - Ron Long - Ron gave an update on the research. This research was compiled into a written report and sent to government and it's getting results. The Peace River District board has asked Ron to do a presentation for them about the findings on Pink Mountain. He received a request to go to Victoria and give a presentation to senior staff as well. Ron thanked all who have supported the Pink Mountain Project.
12. Consideration of such other business as may properly be brought before the Meeting.
13. Motion to adjourn the AGM at 8:38 pm. Gail Kenner/Adrian Grant Duff. Carried.

An award presentation followed the AGM. Citations for the following awards are available on the Nature Vancouver website.

Garibaldi Awards for Service: Colin Classen, Teresa Gagne, Caroline Farrel, Art Winckers

Frank Sandford Award: Ian McAllister

Kay Beamish Award for Nature Education: Deborah Simpson

Davidson Award for Nature Conservation: John Tutchin, Ken Hall, Peter Ward

Scholarship Award: Fiona Beaty

The film, "*The Perfect State*" by Rob Butler and Mike MacKinley, was presented.

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