

SOCIETY OF GRASSLANDS NATURALISTS BOARD MEETING – April 5th,2016

Host- Hugh Armstrong

Present: Hugh Armstrong (Chair), Ian and Angela Turner , Anne Bernhardt (acting Sec), Gary Martin, Eileen Cowtan(Treas)

Absent: Dave MacKenzie, Betty Rainville

1. Call to Order: 6:35 pm.
2. Review and Adoption of GN Board Minutes from March 1st, 2016. Motion. Carried.
3. Additions to Agenda:
 - a. Police Point park Clean-up
 - b. AGLC Updated List Executive and Board
 - c. Ideas for Communication – Angela Turner
 - d. Nature Alberta Report: Gary Mart
4. Action Items:
 - a. **Appointment of Directors-at-Large:** Motion: Moved,seconded and carried to appoint Gary Martin, Ian and Angela Turner.
 - b. **Appontment of a Vice-President:** (Temporary) Motion: Moved, seconded and carried that Anne Bernhardt be appointed. (A big thank you to Anne for stepping forward!)
 - c. **Bird Tales update:** The project is on hold for a month to allow for time for Dee and Paul to deal with personal items and for some birds to show up at the new facility.
 - d. **Changes to Signing Officers for GN Servus Account:** Motion:Moved by Eileen Cowtan, seconded by Ian Turner; that Past President, Dave MacKenzie be removed as a signing officer on the GN Account, and that newly elected President, Hugh Armstrong, be added. Existing signing officers, Anne Bernhardt, Vice-Pres., Eileen Cowtan, Treasurer and Betty Rainville, Secretary, be retained. All cheques written on this account will be signed by any two (2) of the above signing officers. Carried.
 - e. **FCSS Community Development Grant:** Hugh A. And Corlaine G. (ExDir of IP) put together a grant application for \$10000.00 . Deadline was April 5th. The GN share of money towards this project will be presented to the Budget Committee for guidance and then presented to the Membership. Volunteer hours from GN members and IP projects can be used towards this grant.
 - f. **Ranchlands Baby's Breath and Leafy Spurge Project:** John is proposing to get outside volunteer help.
5. Reports:
 - a. **Treasurer's Report:** Eileen reported that the March 31st,2016 -first quarter- balance is \$1054.23. Motion: Moved, seconded and carried, that the remainder of

the \$6000.00 from the City of Medicine Hat Grant for IP staff benefits be transferred from the GN bank account to the IP bank account.

b. **New Signing Officers for MHIP TD Account:** Motion: Moved by Eileen Cowtan and seconded by Gary Martin that Hugh Armstrong and John Slater be appointed as new signing officers for the Society of Grasslands Naturalists at TD Canada Trust, 601-3rd St. SE., Medicine Hat Branch, and that anne Bernhardt and Corlaine Gardiner be retained as signing officers. Phil Horch and Val Felsky will be removed as signing officers from said account. All cheques written for the MHIP operations account will be signed by any two of the four signing officers. Carried

c. **Membership Report:** Eileen reported the numbers are down from this time last year.

d. **Correspondence:** none.

e. **Fund Raising Committee update:** Gary reported that we are in the Feb 2017 draw for our next Casino which means sometime in July – Sept, 2017. Hugh reported that we have had no word from Co-op yet in regards to our grant request.

f. **Field Trip update:** Gary is finalizing future dates for the city transect walks.

g. **Indoor Program Speakers:** Dave MacKenzie has Ted Pike for April 26,2016 Insects in Amber.

h. **Issues Committee:** none

i. **MHIP Operations:** Next meeting to be April 25th,2016

6. **New Business:**

a. **Appointment of Standing Committee Chairs:**

Communications: Angela Turner

IP Operations: John Slater

Issues: John Slater

Budget: Paul Thibault

Governance: Paul Thibault

Fundraising and Casino: Hugh Armstrong /Gary Martin

Field Trip: Gary Martin

Indoor Speakers Program: Dave MacKenzie

b. **Appointment of Projects Chairs:**

Birding Trails: Phil Horch

Bird Tales: Dee Armstrong

Carol Porter Bluebird Trail: Milt Spitzer

Butterflies: Dave MacKenzie

Wildflowers: Martha Munz-Gue

7. **Other Business:**

- a. **Police Point Park Cleanup:** Hugh will check with Corlaine re April 16/16 date
- b. **Casino:** The newly appointed Members-at-large were added to the AGLC Board form and will be submitted by Hugh
- c. **Communications Committee:** Angela will get price quotes on free standing information boards and look into booking dates for the Farmers Market Community tables.
- d. **Nature Alberta Report::** Gary attended the April2nd meeting in Edmonton and will write up a report for the Chronicle.
- e. **“Where are we going as an organization?”** Hugh will ask the membership at the April 26/16 Meeting for suggestions and ideas.

8. **Next GN Board Meeting:** Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at Anne Bernhardt's home

9. **Meeting Adjourned:** 9:00 pm. Refreshments followed.