

SOCIETY OF GRASSLANDS NATURALISTS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Medicine Hat Public Library Theatre
Tuesday, March 26 2019

1. Call to Order: 6:30 pm-Hugh Armstrong (Chair); Betty Rainville (Secretary) Attendance 33.
2. Review of the March 27, 2018 AGM Minutes. **Moved that Minutes be Adopted. CARRIED.**
3. **Committee Reports**: Hardcopy of all 2018 Reports to be available at the AGM and posted on GN website www.natureline.info.gn. Due to time constraints, only the Treasurer gave a verbal report.
 - a. **President's Report**: Hugh Armstrong
 - b. **Treasurer's Report**: Eileen Cowtan gave a shortened verbal report of the GN 'Club' Account, the MH Interpretive Program Account, and the Casino Account. Thanks to Angela Turner and Ian Wallis for reviewing and auditing the 2018 financial records of the Society.
 - c. **Communications Committee**: Angela Turner
 - d. **MHIP Operations Committee**: John Slater
 - e. **Issues Committee**: John Slater and Martha Munz Gue (Interim Chair)
 - f. **Budget Committee**: Paul Thibault
 - g. **Governance Committee**: Paul Thibault
 - h. **Fund Raising Committee**: Hugh Armstrong
 - i. **Field Trips Committee**: John Slater
 - j. **Indoor Program Committee**: Linda Fisher
 - k. **Birding Trails Project**: Phil Horch
 - l. **Bird Tales Project**: Paul Thibault and Dee Armstrong
 - m. **Nature Alberta**: Ian & Angela Turner**Moved that all previous Reports be ADOPTED. CARRIED.**
4. **Elections**:

Executive Officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
Led by Paul Thibault. Paul called for Nominations from the floor, and the following members were elected by acclamation.
Secretary: Betty Rainville
Treasurer: Eileen Cowtan
Vice President: Phil Horch
President: Hugh Armstrong
Thank you to Anne Bernhardt for so conscientiously fulfilling the duties of Vice President up to this time.
5. **Other Business**:
 - a. Directors Appointments: The Board confirms these appointments directly after the AGM. **See Addendum** following conclusion of these AGM Minutes.
Past President – Dave McKenzie (appointment not needed). Dave remains Past President.
Directors at Large – Ian and Angela Turner, Linda Fisher
 - b. Committees Volunteers Selection (to be confirmed at next Board Meeting April 2, 2019).
Committees to meet in April 2019 to select Chairperson and confirm Budget
 1. Communications Committee
 2. Budget Committee
 3. Governance Committee
 4. Issues Committee
 5. MHIP Operations Committee
 6. Field Trips assisted by Issues Committee
 7. Indoor Program Committee
 8. Fund Raising
 - c. Projects: (contacts)
Carol Porter Bluebird Trail – Milt Spitzer

Birding Trails - Phil Horch, Milt Spitzer, Bob Frew, Rob Gardner

Bird Tales – Dee Armstrong & Paul Thibault

Butterflies, Dragonflies & more - Dave McKenzie

GN/City Parks Departments Projects – Hugh, John

- d. External Organization Reps (Volunteers confirmed at next Board meeting).
 1. Nature Alberta – Ian and Angela Turner
 2. SEAWA – currently no rep.
 3. Palliser Air Shed – David Gue

6. Announcements

- a. The Manyberries Birding trip led by Ben Verner leaves Saturday, March 30 at 6:00 am from the Tim Hortons along Dunmore Road across from MH Mall. See more Field Trip updates in the Sagebrush Chronicle.
- b. A party for GN volunteers is tentatively booked for April 4 at the Nature Centre. Please phone Corlaine if you will attend.
- c. SEAWA's Spring Educational Forum on Water Management will take place April 5, 2019, 8 am to 2:30 pm at the MH Cultural Centre. There will be copies of the SEAWA agenda available tonight at the Library Theatre from Brooklyn.
- d. The Annual Easter Celebration will run over Easter weekend from Friday April 19 to Monday April 22 at the Nature Centre. Volunteers are needed. Please phone (403) 529-6225 to volunteer.
- e. The GN Spring Litter Clean-up will be held Saturday, April 13 in the green space areas of Ranchlands. Time and Meeting place will be announced in the April Chronicle. Angela will contact Milt with this information.
Dee and Hugh will also be leading the annual dog waste pickup along the PP Off Leash Dog Walking trail at the same time as the GN Litter Clean-up.
- f. Gerry Ehler reported on the Invasive Species Workshop which will be held at the Nature Centre on May 4 Time TBA. Gerry said he met with presenters today and is also continuing to canvass. He noted that Workshop attendees should register through eventbrite.ca by May 1 for this free event.
- g. Dave McKenzie, Casino Manager, reported on the Casino Fund Raiser to be held June 6 and 7, 2019. He said he will contact former volunteers who helped at the last Casino Fund Raiser.
- h. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday April 2 at 6:30 pm at Hugh and Dee's house.
- i. Next General Meeting: April 23, 2019 at the Nature Centre at 7:00 pm. Socializing at 7:45 pm with Guest Speakers Ian Wallis & Wendy Blackwell at 8:00 pm on "The Wild and Not So Wild Life of Rajasthan, India."

7. Meeting Adjourned at 6:42 pm

Addendum to Annual General Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2019

Hugh Armstrong, President, called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm

Members present:

Hugh Armstrong-President

Eileen Cowtan-Treasurer

Betty Rainville-Secretary

Dave McKenzie- Past President

Ian & Angela Turner

Linda Fisher

Moved that (Dave McKenzie be appointed as Past President) Ian and Angela Turner, and Linda Fisher be appointed as Members at Large. CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Indoor Program: Start 7:00 pm. Speaker Rick Andrews on "Sea Wolves of British Columbia"