

June 7, 2022

Grasslands Naturalists Society Board Meeting MINUTES

1. **Call to order** – by Phil at 4:18 pm
2. **Roll Call** – Members present: Hugh Armstrong, Linda Fisher, Phil Horch, Martha Maudsley . Guests present: Paul Thibault Absent: Martha Gue, Angela Turner, Ian Turner, Corlaine Gardner.

3. **Review and adoption of minutes – adopted as is.**

4. **AGM Agenda & AGM plans** - To start earlier at 4 to accommodate oral reports and speakers. Tuesday June 28. **Hugh to ask David Gue to get the sound systems set up.**

5. **Appoint election facilitator - John Slater appointed.**
6. **Lifetime memberships appointment(s) & certificates** - Martha recused herself as chair. Board accepted recommendations of the committee. **Hugh to get plaques** for benches, winners TBA at AGM.
7. **Field Trip Difficulty ratings** - such as 5 levels of difficulties (1 being easiest, 5 being most difficult) to give people an idea of a general idea of difficulties. Discussion. Ad hoc committee such as John, Milt, Martha, Phil. **Motioned to consider a field trip advisory committee to advise the board. Carried**
8. **Identify GN Lawyer** - Need to identify a lawyer as our GN lawyer. **Phil to contact and also have backup recommendations.**
9. **Praxis Display - June 18** email invite sent out to have a table. **Phil to ask Corlaine as the Communication committee chair to see if she can find volunteers.**
10. **Prairie River Books** - Still have some, **Linda can give to speakers.**
11. **Indigenous acknowledgment - Phil to say at AGM. Paul to add to our homepage. Hugh to pass by Alicia to put on MHIP site as well.** Further discussion about adding an inclusivity footer as well.
12. **Youth Recruitment** - presentation to Science students at Medicine Hat College including issues, website. Need a budget such as \$200 for pizza and pop. Sponsor science fair with a prize? **Motion to allow a budget of up to \$300 to pursue a Youth Recruitment presentation for MHC. Carried.**

13. **TREX closing reception** - as per Martha MG emails, Friday June 10 between 2-5 pm

14. Committee Reports A. Treasurer's Report - emailed by Angela. Casino account the proceeds from the Casino held in February came in at a total of \$12,908.68.

B. Memberships - emailed by Angela

C. Correspondence - n/a

D. Operations - Hugh says things are running smoothly. Alicia has a new contract to the end of the year.

E. Governance - Review/approve new Bylaws and revised Policies and Procedures - Paul brought up electronic voting. We have to decide what is allowed under special circumstances, hybrid. or another way? How to do secret ballots? Discussion. Add standing committees to ad hoc committees required to give reports at AGM. Should abstentions be counted? Does this need to be in the bylaws? We never say what our mandate is in the bylaws. Our objectives are on the website listed as objectives.

An option for secret ballots exists (if 5 or more members request it). We need to have secret ballots on hand.

Can a committee have a budget with no chair? It's implied in policies and procedures that they cannot.

Motion to change 'objectives' to mandate in Chronicle and website. Carried.

Motion that proposed revised bylaws be accepted with following clauses with option of allowing virtual hybrid meetings without any special circumstances that will not include a special procedure for secret ballots. Carried.

AGM reports will be required for both standing and ad hoc committees. Carried.

Motion to select option of virtual or hybrid meetings including a section on abstentions, right to vote, and including secret ballots. Carried.

Motion to accept proposed revision policy and procedures for election of officers adding to clause 3.1 and 3.2.8. Carried.

Motion for general policy and procedures clause 7 3rd sentence Proposed so that the committee can prepare and vote on a budget. Carried.

Motion that field trip committee policy and proposal be accepted as proposed. Carried.

Motion to accept Governance policy and procedure accepted as presented. Carried.

Motion to accept Indoor committee as presented. Carried.

Motion to accept issues committee policy revision as presented. Carried.

Motion to accept Interpretive Program policy and procedure accepted as presented. Carried.

F. Budget Committee - Review/approve updated 2021 and 2022 Budgets -
Given in email. MHIP 2022 budget. **Motion to propose accepting budget as presented including but not limited to - \$700 to Issues committee subject to committee finding a chair and how funds to be spent. - Motion that Scenic views be given \$500 which included \$300 seed money and \$200 donation targeted to that committee, subject to the Scenic views committee meeting and vote on how the funds to be used. Carried. Motion that any grant application needs to be submitted to the Board before submitting. Carried.**

Motion to accept 2021 budget as presented. Carried.

MHIP 2021 to be accepted as presented. Carried.

G. Indoor Program - n/a

H. Field Trips - n/a

I. Nature Alberta - n/a

J. Issues - n/a

K. Fundraising - n/a

15. Other Business - n/a

16. Next Meeting - To be determined by chair as needed, or September.