

# **Minutes of Grasslands Naturalists Strategic Planning Special Board Meeting**

Date: 10 May 2023, 4:00PM

Board Attendees: Hugh Armstrong, Linda Fisher, Phil Horch, Martha Maudsley,  
Sheila McLeod, Paul Thibault (Chair), Angela Turner, and Ian Turner  
Guest: Corlaine Gardner

## **1. Call to order**

## **2. Strategic Planning Process**

An overall planning structure was discussed including:

- Foundational Statements
  - Vision Statement
  - Mission Statement
- Mandate
  - Formal Mandate
  - Informal Mandate
- Strategic Plan
  - Objectives
  - Activities
- Action Plan

The meeting mainly focused on the Vision and Mission Statements and Mandates.

## **3. Vision Statement**

After discussions, the following Vision Statement was developed to be presented to members for discussion.

‘ GN is the go to society (or organization) for nature-lovers and the voice for nature in South-eastern Alberta.’

#### **4. Mission Statement**

It was agreed that the following objectives developed by the founding members and accepted by the Alberta Registrar in 1992, and posted on the website, remain appropriate as a Mission Statement with no modifications required.

- *'To encourage study and protection of the natural world.*
- *To provide educational opportunities such as lectures, field trips and publications.*
- *To encourage the preservation of natural habitat and aesthetic natural features.*
- *To assist in the collection and provision of records of species for statistical and educational purposes.*
- *To act as stewards of the environment.'*

#### **5. Mandate**

##### Formal Mandate:

The discussion mainly focused on the minimum requirements for the President to satisfy internal and external rules and regulations. These are as follows:

- Chair Board and General Meetings (Bylaws)
- Ex-officio member for all committees (Bylaws)
- Present a year-end annual report (Bylaws)
- Signing of contracts (Policy and Procedures for Contracts and Agreements)
- Spokesperson for society (can be delegated for particular issues)

##### Informal Mandate:

Members strongly expect the following activities to continue:

- Indoor Program
- Sagebrush Chronicle
- Field Trips
- Interpretive Program

Addressing environmental issues is also important but the expectations are more long-term

## **6. Discussion of Way-ahead for Strategic Planning**

The next step is to present the Vision and Mission Statements, and Mandates at the next General Meeting for an open discussion with Members.

## **7. Selection of date for next meeting**

The next Strategic Planning Special Board Meeting will be held in July at a date to be determined

## **8. Adjourn**