

Grasslands Naturalists Society
General Meeting
Tuesday, September 26, 2023

- 1. Call to order – Phil Horch 7pm**
- 2. Approval of minutes from May 23/23 – Phil Horch** adopted as is, all in favour, carried.
- 3. Land Acknowledgment – Phil Horch**
- 4. Indigenous Action – Phil Horch** - Works of Indigenous arts at TRES Sept. 9 - Nov. 4. Miywasin Story tour Oct. 14 by Tourism MH. Oct. 24 GN meeting Shirley Boomer to present. Details in Chronicle. Sat. Sept. 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, day is being recognized at MH College.
- 5. President's Report – Phil Horch** Board is contemplating a members survey. Watch for information. Scenic Views project is near completion. Signs in place, script written. Thanks to those working on it including Len Moser, Gerry Elhert, Paul Thibault, David Gue, John Slater. Also thanks to Bruce McLeod for organising the casino and to all the volunteers. Committee reports will be available online and highlighted by the President in order to streamline meetings. Invasive Species committee working on Russian olives and a task force has been formed with the City. Since we have an influential MLA including the Premier her constituents can send her messages. Working with the City on a Planned Environmental Framework. Gerry Elhert, Marty Drut and Phil have been consulting on this. Goal is

to be ready to present to the City Council by the end of year. Mention of Past President Veronica Swan's passing. She dealt with dicey environmental matters in her time including dirt bikes in the river valley. She and her husband are missed. Committee Chairs are asked to submit written reports 1 week before the Board meeting so they can be bundled and passed that way as needed. City is open to Bird Friendly City after Environmental status is established.

- 6. MHIP report - Mhairi Donnelly** reports a busy summer at the Nature Centre. Several summer camps. Change of staff as Ian is teaching now. Grace is back in college, as is Bethany. Hannah and Isaiah have stayed on but reduced hours. Taken on 2 new members Genevieve Mathieu and Rhys Mah Poy. Plan for school programs and Haunted Forest. Current display is Earth's climate. New display is 'Swift Current', the story of Police Point park.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Treasurer's report - Angela Turner** GN Chequing \$9,134.08 , GN Savings \$6,865.31 , GN 15 month GIC maturing in May, 2024 for \$10,000.00 and another GN 1 year GIC maturing in May, 2024 for \$5,000.00. Casino account is \$5,856.93 . 2 Grants Donna Mclean and Canadian Fertilizer donations. Motion to adopt, all in favour. Carried.
- 2. Other Announcements** - John says Wednesday nature walk at Saratoga. Saturday bird field trip led by Milt to

meet at Medalta and head out. Camping at Writing-on-Stone, call John by Tuesday. Look in the Chronicle for more walks. Irrigation- Seven Persons Creek of concern.

GUEST SPEAKER

Midnight Sun Safari - Corlaine and Rob Gardner

Conclusion and Guest speaker appreciation – Linda Fisher

Part 2 of Business Meeting 8:48 pm

1. Exciting Sightings - Note: please identify yourself by name before speaking! Monarch butterflies. Milkweed seeds available. Linda saw a Snowy Owl in mid September south of Oyen. Wilson's warblers at the Gardners. Bobcat spotted on Rice Drive. Phil saw a Great Egret in Prince Albert National Park. Also swans, possible Trumpeter's. Multiple red foxes, very tame and begging for food. A mink with something in its mouth. Ian saw a Red-tailed hawk with a snake in its beak! Probably a garter.

2. Participation of members in discussions -Postponed to another meeting due to time.

Next meeting October 24/23

Adjourn 8:59 pm