

Minutes
Kimberley Nature Park Society Board Meeting
April 29, 2021

Zoom meeting called to order at 7:40pm by President Naomi Humenny.

Present: Naomi Humenny, Sandra Roberts, Laura Duncan, Ryan McKenzie, Mitch Tom, John Henly, Gary Hicks, Heather van der Hoop, Ingrid Musser, Rand Davis, Frank O'Grady, Dave Hale, Susanne Baldwin, Matt Thompson, Cliff Erven, Liz Royer, Lou Bedard

Regrets: none

1. Introductions and confirm agenda

Motion to approve: carried

2. Minutes of last meeting

Motion to approve: carried

3. Delegations: none

4. Correspondence/Communications: none

5. Financial report: Ingrid Musser reported on the financials.

- Finished fiscal year in March 2021 with \$2,803 in income, \$2,720 in expenditures, and \$25,873 in net assets.

6. Unfinished Business

- Nature hikes for summer/fall 2021: We will hold off on planning anything until we know more about COVID restrictions.
- Communications: The committee is developing a plan for channels and frequency
 - Channels: social media, blog, newsletter, community bulletin boards, news releases/Kimberley Bulletin, KNPS kiosks
 - Draft plan: 3 social media posts/month, 8 blog posts/year, 8 email newsletters to subscribers per year, 1 poster update per season
 - Next steps: identify potential content and make a plan to create it. Committee will share more at the next Board meeting.

7. Committee Reports

Trail Guide: no update.

Membership: Gary reported that we have 276 members, 228 of whom are life members.

Trails: Ryan and John reported on a number of trail-related situations.

1. Logging cleanup: KTS has requested a meeting with Canfor to discuss the expectations and set a high precedent for cleanup. Ryan explained that this needs to be done properly to prevent potential safety hazards and create a natural appearance by dispersing debris at least 1.5m off the trails and making sure the trail doesn't look like a hallway through piles of debris. The KTS volunteer trail crew can do the final polish, but Ryan will confirm that Canfor will handle most of this work.
2. Higgins/Richardson's reroute: This route is mostly flagged, and Ryan will ask KNPS Board

- members to do a walk-through once flagging is finished.
3. Thunder Turkey/Shapeshifter: The trail section connecting these two is closed after the logging, and KTS is trying to figure out how to reconnect those trails. John explained that that area is still quite rough-looking after the logging; he and Kent walked and GPS tracked a potential trail route. John is in touch with Lisa Cox because it's on Crown land, so it's in discussion (there will be more to report at the next meeting).
 4. Adding new trails: The question was raised about whether the KNPS had a policy of "no new trails." The Trails committee can have a meeting to discuss it. John will review old minutes to see whether it was suggested not to create any new trails, and if so, why.
 5. Skid Road boardwalk update: John reported no response on the grant funding yet, but lumber prices may be completely different than original estimates. John will ask Kent when we can expect to hear back about this funding. Construction is planned for June 2 and 9 with KTS.
 - a. Action item: John will check with Kent and confirm with Ryan whether we'll have funding to begin construction by June 2 or whether it will need to be pushed back.
 6. Trail crew update: 3 people took the chainsaw course in mid-April (2 KNPS, 1 KTS), and 6 more will attend in early May, so 9 new chainsaw operators will be ready for tree clearing and new builds this season.

Blog: no new blog posts

Natural History: No large events, but lots of spring sounds and sights in the park. Lots of birds spotted and heard (residents and migrants). The Williamson's Sapsucker (WISA) was spotted again for the first time in ~10 years! A Wildlife Habitat Area for the WISA was designated in 2008 in KNP because it was the only known nesting pair in the Kootenays, and this sighting is encouraging.

- Plants and flowers are starting to pop up
- Glacier lilies are out in full force on Elbow Road
- On April 9, Eimer's Creek was reported dry for ~40m, potentially due to lower-than-usual groundwater, but flow returned on April 22. Naomi noted that she photographed that it was dry on March 31.

Horse Barn Valley: no update on planned logging; we should have more info next week (John will report at next meeting)

Events: no updates

Grant Writing: submitted a Letter of Support for Wildsight Youth Climate Corps, which is applying for funding to collect data on fuel treatment and wildfire prevention decision-making.

Interface Fire/Pine Beetle/Restoration: nothing new to report; Kent will report in May

8. New Business: none

9. Interesting Sightings: Glacier lilies; whiskeyjacks attacked Ingrid's daughter near Myrtle Mountain

10. Next Meeting: 7pm, May 27, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.