

Minutes
Kimberley Nature Park Society Board Meeting
October 28, 2021

Zoom meeting called to order at 7:03pm by President Naomi Humenny

Present: Naomi Humenny, John Henly, Frank O'Grady, Gary Hicks, Laura Duncan, Andy Miller, Hilary Anderson, Ingrid Musser Okholm, Ryan McKenzie, Mitch Tom, Susanne Baldwin, Cliff Erven, and Heather van der Hoop

Regrets: Liz Royer, Matt Thompson, Sandra Roberts, Dave Hale, Rand Davis

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 reported that we didn't spend any money in September, but took in \$1,164. Board members asked about moving funds between a few categories that were previously voted on (moving Archive Project and Road Improvement funds to unrestricted). First, John will confirm with Kent that those funds aren't from grants and therefore restricted to those projects. If possible, Ingrid will move the funds.

6. Unfinished Business: Laura will follow up with the communications committee about current plans and next steps.

7. Committee Reports:

Trail Guide: Susanne planned to restock Home Hardware, Togs & Toys, Purcell Outdoors, Black Dog Cycle & Ski, and Bootleg Bike Co. this weekend and pick up funds, which she will deliver to Ingrid.

Membership: Gary reported 4 new members, 2 of whom are life members. Currently we have 288 members, 232 of whom are life members. The email list is growing, too.

Natural History: Laura reported that the natural history group walked a loop on Oct. 23 to see fall colours and mushrooms. They have planned monthly outings and will send an invitation to Liz to email members. Lyle Grisdale will lead a walk on various ridges on Nov. 14.

Trails: update from Ryan McKenzie

- The Great Trail is going back to being the Trans Canada Trail, so KTS will update maps in their next rollout once Matthew Creek Connector is complete.
- Snow Dog 2021-2022: scope will be similar to last year, and KTS is open to feedback, route changes/requests, and safety feedback for users and groomers. Naomi suggested not

increasing the amount of grooming; Ryan explained that they're not planning to add loops or extend them, but may adjust based on usage.

- Skid Road Boardwalk: holding up well, and people are sharing great feedback.
- Thunder Turkey/Shapeshifter reroute: The new trail better contours the hillside and is user-friendly, safer, and more sustainable. KTS Trail Crew (funded by a grant) completed that work and closed the original trail (replanted trees, broke up old trail, moved debris) at the end of August. Grass was growing on the sides of the new trail by late October. Good feedback from users, especially about good bidirectional use. The closure of the old trail is solid, and it's looking good.
- EKISC requested to host a workshop on invasive weeds, but we weren't able to coordinate one this fall. Directors are keen to plan events for 2022. Gary will contact EKISC to plan the best timing for a workshop and/or some weed pull events (spring or summer).
- Electrify the Mountains: Ryan met with John several times to mitigate KNPS concerns about the route. Lifetime Outdoors will be the contractor on the project--they are well aware of trail width concerns to maintain singletrack on Higgins toward Richardson's. There's a very small chance of actual building this fall due to the late season, but they may begin layout and corridor clearing.

Update from Trails committee (John Henly)

- John needs to finish up the paperwork for the grant that supported the Skid Road boardwalk construction. He suggested that the communications committee could write a short blog post about it.

Blog: no new posts

Horse Barn Valley: John reported that keen volunteers have been clearing blowdown, especially near Dipper Lake. They have also removed the chain from the cabin/stove for winter use.

Interface Fire/Pine Beetle/Restoration: On Oct. 8, Kent, Dave, and John went out with two Ministry foresters who replaced Graham Brown to meet and walk around HBV. The Ministry is planning hand treatments on Coral Route, upper part of Bullfrog Hill, and Tora Bora. They want to leave a 10m buffer area around trail edges, and Kent/John/Dave agreed. The work had been planned to start before snow flies, and some flagging has been done, but no treatments yet. Hand treatment/burning also happened near Pat Morrow, and workers dug out under piles/duff to prevent any underground spread.

Events: Chasing the Colours led by Suzanne McAllister in honour of Dennis Bathory had good turnout and beautiful colours on the way to Dipper Lake and Bear Lookout.

Grant Writing: nothing to report

Firewood Salvage Program:

- This fall crews have cut, collected, and removed fallen trees from three areas:
 - Army Road between Higgins and Creek trails
 - Army Road between Creek and Bear trails
 - Southern end of the WISA habitat, on Duck Pond close to the Apache Spur
- Wood has been collected/donated by 24 volunteers this season
- To date, a total of 152 volunteer hours have been recorded

- 28 truck loads of wood have been removed from the park and will be used by the community this winter
- Community members who need wood for the winter are invited to sign up and join the Firewood Salvage Program using the contact form on our website (<https://www.kimberleynaturepark.ca/>). The volunteer crews are typically made up of folks with trucks, folks who like to cut wood and folks who enjoy being out in the park early on a Saturday and are happy to stack. We typically plan for 5-6 trucks per crew.

8. New Business: November AGM. Naomi asked if any directors planned to resign, but all will stay on Board. We're open to new directors, especially ones who can bring new skills; please let Naomi know about anyone who's interested. Naomi will remain President for 2022 but hopes to recruit a new President for 2023.

9. Interesting Sightings: A mama moose with two calves has been reported several times, and someone saw a wolf on SW Passage and at Eimer's Lake.

10. Next Meeting: November 25, which will be our AGM. Naomi could look into whether it will be possible to gather in person.