

Minutes
Kimberley Nature Park Society Board Meeting
January 26, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm by President John Henly

Present: John Henly, Laura Duncan, Frank O'Grady, Graeme Donaldson, Jean Terlesky, Gary Hicks, Ingrid Musser Okholm, Jen McConnachie, Laura McKenzie, Kevin O'Neill, Heather van der Hoop, Cliff Erven, Rand Davis, Susanne Baldwin, Dave Hale, Mitch Tom, Naomi Humenny, Valerie Carey, Frank O'Grady, Clare Moxley, and Ryan McKenzie

Regrets: none

1. Adopt the minutes of the last meeting

Motion to approve: carried

2. Accept the agenda as presented

Motion to approve: carried

3. Delegations: none

4. Correspondence and communications

a. Email to the Mayor re: appointment of the City rep/Spring delegation: John explained that the Mayor will be appointing a liaison at the next meeting.

b. Shred Sisters' letter of support for 2023 season: John explained that they have sent the same letter as in previous years, and there was discussion about the programs. Jen shared her experience as a past participant that instruction is in small groups (max 6), and Naomi assured the group that it's the same usage patterns as in years past, which has been well received. John will send the letter and will inquire about whether the courses mention trail etiquette.

5. Financial report: Ingrid reported \$251 in income, \$416 in expenditures, and total balance of \$30,668.

Motion to approve: carried

a. Ingrid needs to order more cheques and asked for approval to do so as there's a charge
Motion to approve: carried

b. Ingrid introduced an opportunity to purchase a term deposit with a higher interest rate than our bank account. Discussion is tabled for the next meeting.

6. Unfinished business

a. Trail Guide update project: Cliff Erven is leading this project, but requested support from a committee to execute it. Graeme and Kevin volunteered. Mitch will also support as head of the Trails & Structures committee. Susanne will help connect them with a potential designer.

b. RideTheory update: Jean reported that RideTheory's programs are small groups with kids, and wonders if we can approve those to occur in the park this year. Naomi explained that in previous years, RideTheory asked for a Letter of Support for these programs, which we granted, but that the provincial processes have changed and resulted in this confusion. Jean has received some conflicting info from Chelsea Hollister with Lands BC, and will set up a meeting to clarify. Jen will also attend. John pointed out that we'll need to also consider Rec Sites and Trails because we administer HBV. This situation continues to evolve.

7. New business

a. General approach of the new President: John clarified his goal to stick to KNPS's principles, and encouraged everyone to read the [Management Plan](#) (scroll down) to ensure we're familiar with and following it. This is especially important with shared and overlapping activities with other organizations.

b. New Committees:

i. Review of roles of Officers and Directors-at-Large: John

Motion to accept: carried

ii. Arrangements of new committees

iii. Committee operational structure (meet / report / discuss / action items at least once a month)

iv. Appeal for volunteers to support committees

(John is Chairing Horse Barn Valley, and helping with Planning & Grants, and others as needed)

(Laura Duncan is chair of Natural History)

(Heather is managing the website and blog)

(Gary is sub-committee chair of Membership – is looking to transition out)

(Dave is chairing Interface Fire committee)

(Mitch is chairing Trails & Structures)

(Jen is interested in Planning & Grants, and Events, and supporting NH)

(Graeme is interested in Community Engagement)

(Laura Mckenzie is interested in Trails & Structures, and the Facebook page)

(Jean is interested in Community Engagement and...)

(Kevin is interested in helping in NH and Trails & Structures)

(Cliff is heading trail guide upgrade project)

c. Setting goals for 2023: John recommends that committees meet once before the February meeting and bring goals to the next meeting.

d. Kimberley Trails Society grant proposal for Army Road Project: Ryan reported on optimistic signals from Trans Canada Trail (TCT) that they may be ready to fund projects for summer 2023 (wayfinding/interpretive signage and/or trail improvement). Ryan proposed a new map kiosk at the Army Road/Thunder Turkey/Front Blvd junction, and interpretive signage that could describe wildfire risk reduction work or natural history information. Trail improvements could address drainage issues at an ongoing wet spot near Creek Trail, extending about halfway to Jimmy Russell Road. Any work would need to include environmental considerations, especially preventing the introduction/spread of invasive species. TCT could potentially support with up to \$14,000. Discussion about process ensued.

Action items: Jen and Kevin will talk to professional contacts who may be able to offer services for environmental assessments. Ryan will attempt to learn more about the TCT funding opportunity.

8. Committee reports

a. Events: Laura reported that two sets of events were occurring in the park (Natural History and general events) and a group met to discuss coordinating one set of park events. They created a calendar of spring hikes and are actively looking for more committee members.

b. Community Engagement: TBD

i. Membership: Gary reported 294 members, which is 10 more than we had at the AGM. There may be a slight drop in Feb/March as memberships that lapsed at the end of 2022 drop off the books. Jean has also agreed to take on this role from Gary.

- ii. Trail Guide and Map sales: Susanne reported dropping off 16 maps at Tourism Kimberley. She now only has one map in reserve, which will be used for the update project.
- iii. Website: Heather reported two blog posts published in January, each of which has had ~50 views
- iv. Facebook: We need someone to take over management of our Facebook page
- c. Planning & Grants: John
- d. Trails & Structures: Mitch reported on plans to install winter signs explaining where to ski and walk/run/bike, similar to those used in Lois Creek. Mitch is also looking for members for this committee, and will touch base with Ryan to align priorities and plans for 2023.
- e. Natural History: Laura reported on many items:
 - December's walk was re-scheduled for January due to poor weather, and 17 people joined Sherrin Perrouault to investigate Bugs and Bark. February's walk will be with Lyle Grisedale investigating Tracks in the Park.
 - Wildlife cameras: four cameras have been set up in the Park to capture a combination of still and video images. So far, the cameras have captured white-tail deer, mule deer, elk, moose, squirrel, pileated woodpecker, raven, skunk, black bear, red fox and coyote. In general, the crews were expecting to a greater number of individuals and were hoping to see a larger diversity of species. The cameras have recently been moved to new, promising locations in hopes of seeing more species and numbers. One of the cameras has developed technical problems which have yet to be resolved.
 - Landscape Photo Documentation Project (photopoint monitoring) is going well with 11 sites being monitored. Photos are taken on or near the solstices and equinoxes. Dina and Daryl Hanson are coordinating this project with photos being stored on Shutterfly where they can be kept linked to their site along with GPS coordinates. Unfortunately, Shutterfly is discontinuing this option so Daryl is searching for an alternative. Any suggestions would be welcome.
 - Recent sightings in the Park include marten fox and tracks of deer, elk, moose, marten, fox, coyote, rabbits, squirrel, voles and either bobcat or lynx
 - The KNP-NH Committee currently numbers 52. The NH committee communicates within its members through Google Groups (GG). Recently, technical problems have arisen with GG that is not allowing recent members to be included in the Group. So far, the problem has not been resolved.
- f. Interface Fire: Dave noted that Canfor's large logging block will continue towards Tora Bora Ridge (as planned and discussed in the past, and finally getting underway). In addition, 50 hectares in the WISA habitat are planned to be hand treated; Dave is waiting for plans and maps of this planned treatment. Bob Gray is the lead on this project.
- g. Horse Barn Valley: John is working with Aaron Canuel (replacement for Lisa Cox) to get funding to build a boardwalk over a wet section of Talus Trail.

Kimberley Trails Society Report: Ryan reported that winter grooming is going well; volunteers are doing a great job and have created a way to fill potholes efficiently. Winter trail is in great shape.

9. City Liaison reflections: Postponed since we don't have a liaison yet.

10. Interesting Sightings: none to report.

11. Next Meeting: Feb. 23, 2023, at 7pm. Laura will host it at the Kimberley Community Church.

Motion to adjourn: Jen motioned, Gary seconded. Motion carried, and meeting adjourned at 8 pm.