

Minutes
Kimberley Nature Park Society Annual General Meeting
January 25th, 2024
7pm, Elks Hall

President's Welcome: John Henly, KNPS President, welcomed everyone and briefly explained the night's program, AGM agenda and election procedures.

1. Call to Order

President John Henly called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm

2. Confirm a Quorum

A quorum (3 members) has been achieved for the meeting.

Minutes taken by: Jean Terlesky

3. Confirm the Agenda

Laura Duncan, KNPS Vice President, confirmed the Agenda.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: *"That the agenda for the 2023 Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented"*

Moved: Laura Duncan Second: Jean Terlesky Motion carried

5. Approval of the Minutes of the November, 23rd, 2022 AGM

Motion: *"That the meeting minutes from the 2022 AGM be adopted as presented."*

Moved: Struan Robertson Second: Kent Goodwin Motion carried

6. Approval of the 2023 Financial Statements

John Henly introduced Ingrid Musser-Okholm, KNPS Treasurer, to present the Financial Report.

The statement for the Year End (Oct 31st, 2023) was presented on the screen for the membership's perusal.

Total income from donations, grants, membership and map sales: \$12,787.66

Total expenditures: \$7,476.32

Balance Sheet: Opening Balance \$30,807.37, Closing Balance \$36,143.71

Motion: *"That the Financial Statement for 2023 be adopted as presented"*

Moved: Andree Powers Second: Peter McConnachie Motion carried

7. Election of Officer and Directors

John Henly explained only members in good standing are allowed to vote.

Executive standing for re-election:

John Henly - President

Laura Duncan - Vice President

Heather van der Hoop - Secretary

Current Board Directors standing for re-election:

Ingrid Musser-Okholm (resigned as Treasurer, standing for election to the board)

Dave Hale

Gary Hicks

Jean Terlesky

Jen McConnachie

Graeme Donaldson

Laura McKenzie

Nominations:

Emma Lucas, for Treasurer

Darryl Oakley, for board director

Andree Powers, for board director

Motion: *"To accept the current slate of executives and directors as presented."*

Moved: Dave Hale Seconded: Kent Goodwin Motion carried

Nominations

Motion: *"I nominate Emma Lucas for the role of Treasurer."*

Moved: Ingrid Musser-Okholm: Seconded: Dina Hansen

Emma spoke briefly.

Motion carried

Motion: *"I'd like to nominate Darryl Oakley for the position of director"*

Moved: Laura Duncan Second: Ingrid Musser-Okholm Motion carried

Motion: *"I would like to nominate Andree Powers for the position of director."*

Moved: John Henly Seconded: Dave Hale

Andree said a few words.

Motion carried

8. Acknowledgment of Retiring Board Members:

Frank O'Grady

Mitch Tom

Kevin O'Neill

John acknowledged their dedication and efforts on behalf of the Nature Park, especially Frank, a long-term director, committed to the work of the society who did what was needed with goodwill and was effective at being the “devil’s advocate.”

9. Executive Report 2022-2023

John Henly highlighted key accomplishments of the past year, including:

- a) KNPS delegation to the City of Kimberley strengthen and clarify relationships. John introduced Sue Cairns, the City’s new liaison to the board. He briefly spoke of the park’s agreements with the City and Province.
- b) Involvement and partnership with Will Booth of the Kimberley Fire Department, in the work related to wildfire reduction and fuel treatment within the park. The fire interface committee members are Kent Goodwin, Dave Hale, Laura Duncan, John Henly and Jean Terlesky.
- c) Establishing a relationship with Chelsea Hollister from Lands BC. John explained the ‘new to the board’ understanding of provincial land tenures especially Recreational Tourism Tenures. Jean Terlesky did research. John explained the Horse Barn Valley Interpretative Forest designation and the role of Lisa Cox and Recreation Sites and Trails BC.
- d) New Nature Park Trail Guide: appreciation to Ryan McKenzie and the Kimberley Trails Society; Lori Craig, President of the Nordic Club; the City of Kimberley, Trans Canada Trails, Friends of Lois Creek and special thanks to professionals Jim Webster and Janice Strong for volunteering hundreds of hours to produce the Trail Guide.
- e) The Nature Park updated the logo and now has a family of logos that will be used on all Society publications. Maurice Frits was introduced and thanked for his professional eye and special society discount fee.
- f) Letters of support for commercial bike operations (Shred Sisters, RideTheory), Black Spur race, and ongoing support for Freewheelers. John introduced Christine Ma from RideTheory and acknowledged her as a patient participant in our learning process of tenure applications.
- g) Ongoing interactions with groups such as Friends of Lois Creek, Kimberley Nordic Club and Ryan McKenzie (KTS) for collaborative work on park trails.

- h) Working with East Kootenay Invasive Species Council to deal with invasive weeds in the park, and Dave Hale's contribution of a boot brush.
- i) The work that continues with Wildsight Education and programs, The Nature Conservancy, The East Kootenay Climbing Association. There is an MOU with KNPS and the Climbing Association outlining a sensitive area in Horse Barn Valley where the red-listed *Umbilicaria hirsuta*, or Hairy Navel Lichen, exists.
- j) John also recognized Kimberley Nature Park funders:
 - o Columbia Basin Trust Non-Profit Advisor program: supporting the board with ways to enhance strategic planning, governance and marketing. Ingrid Liepa was introduced as the CBT consultant to work with the board.
 - o Teck provided a grant for the purchase of wildlife cameras. Thanks to Laura Duncan for project lead and Lyle Grisedale for all his work.
 - o City of Kimberley Community Grants: \$3,813 to purchase trail counters and additional wildlife cameras, and a previous grant for the Trail Guide.
- k) Other KNP activities: Pride Day, Annual Girl Guide Night Trek, Flannel Fest bike race, Black Spur Ultra, Round the Mountain, the Firewood Salvage Program run by Andy Miller, Kayla Wilson and 44 volunteers.
- l) Horse Barn Valley bridge construction, thanks to Struan Robertson and family with a grant from Rec Sites BC.
- m) Landscape Photo Documentation project, Calypso orchid count, the placement of a Memorial bench
- n) Goals for the Society in 2024 include:
 - o CBT Non-Profit Advisors Program: complete tasks and incorporate recommendations
 - o Continue work to revise the KNP Management Plan
 - o Pika research: partner with the BRAES Institute (The UBC Okanagan Institute for Biodiversity, Resilience, and Ecosystem Services) to study the park's pika population
 - o Promote the conservation aspect of Park and research programs
 - o Continue with grant applications, thanks to Jen McConnachie, Kent Goodwin and Gary Hicks.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Motion: *"That the AGM meeting be adjourned"*

Moved: Ingrid Musser-Okholm Second: Gary Hicks Motion Carried

AGM planned events:

Door Prizes: 16 generous Kimberley merchants provided 28 door prizes for the event that were drawn for throughout the night.

Intermission

Snacks provided from Burrito Grill; John introduced Chantel Hack and thanked her for the society discount.

Guest Speaker: Ian Adams, BC Key Biodiversity Area Coordinator, Wildlife Conservation Society, Canada. Presentation on Biodiversity: the significance, assessment, and climate change.

The Skookumchuck Prairie is designated a KBD (Key Biodiversity Area) because of the presence of the Lewis Woodpecker.

Ian is very interested in aspects of the Nature Park.

Last of the door prize draws and volunteer committee signup closed off the evening.

Note: Membership renewal and sales, Trail Guides were on sale at the door prior to the meeting. 21 maps were sold.