

Minutes
Kimberley Nature Park Society Board Meeting
October 27, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by President Naomi Humenny

Present: Naomi Humenny, Mitch Tom, Sheila Hendricks, Kevin O'Neill, Sandra Roberts, Cliff Erven, Laura Duncan, John Young, Ryan McKenzie, Susanne Baldwin, Peter McConnachie, Rand Davis, Jean Terlesky

Regrets: Frank O'Grady, Liz Royer, Ingrid Musser Okholm, John Henly, Dave Hale, Gary Hicks

1. Introductions and confirm agenda

Motion to approve: carried

2. Minutes of last meeting

Action item: Heather update Sept. minutes to note tonight's meeting as the next one, not November

Motion to approve: carried

3. Delegations: none

4. Correspondence/Communications

- Letter of support requested for Round the Mountain Race, June 25th, 2023
 - change in course up the new trail Hertz So Good instead of Higgins Hill
 - Motion to write letter of support: carried
- Letter of support requested by Wildsight, which will be submitting a grant application to CBT to support the ongoing wildfire risk reduction work being completed around town. The 5-hectare area planned to be hand-treated by the Youth Climate Corps in 2023 is in the WISA WHA. Planning should be finalized over the winter and more details will be shared with KNPS once they're set.
 - Motion to write letter of support: carried
 - Action item: Naomi write and send

5. Financial report: Naomi reported based on Ingrid's statement as Ingrid was unable to attend. We had \$1.04 in interest income and no expenditures, leaving us with \$28,567 in the bank.

- Dave had a few nonurgent questions about moving amounts from previous projects to a new proposed project, but since he and Ingrid couldn't attend, we'll discuss at the next meeting.

6. Unfinished Business

- Update on AGM planning: Planning committee suggested Trickle Creek Lodge and requested \$535 for facility rental and snacks. They also proposed that Lyle Gridale do a slideshow on Birds of the East Kootenays and that we build a graphic timeline of KNPS history, achievements, and milestones. Naomi was also approached by a volunteer interested in telling a story about birds in the Nature Park.
 - Motion to hold AGM on Nov. 23 (a Wednesday instead of a Thursday) to match TCL availability: carried
 - Motion to allocate \$535 for AGM: carried
- Discussion regarding RideTheory application: Laura contacted representatives of Lands BC and Sites and Trails BC to determine how KNPS and the City of Kimberley failed to be notified of the application. She confirmed that more than one LOO can be issued on the same area of land, and discussion ensued on issues with the process and potential improvements. Laura is trying to connect with a contact with Lands to find out whether they have KNPS on their contact list or whether they will only contact the City regarding applications to use the Nature Park.
 - Action item: Laura will write up a summary of KNPS concerns with the process and missed notifications to send to Lands BC
 - Motion to write and send: carried

7. New Business

- New board members: if everyone who has expressed interest joins the board, we'll have ~22 members, which may be too large to efficiently conduct business. Instead, Naomi suggests that some of those

people instead join committees, where they will still attend regular meetings and contribute to valuable work and progress.

- Naomi will remain through January to help mentor a new President
- Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President are all staying on
 - Action item: Naomi will clarify with interested parties whether they're keen to be directors for sure or just on committees

8. Committee Reports

Trails and Structures:

- Trail maps: Susanne Baldwin will pass on remaining maps to Home Hardware. We will need to apply for a grant over the winter to print new maps by spring 2023.
- Trails: Ryan McKenzie offered a number of updates:
 - Winter grooming route: Will keep similar scope as previous years with small modifications, which Ryan is seeking feedback on (he'll take it back to the grooming committee). Some changes are based on the grooming team's experience and safety concerns.
 - New route will use new Levirs trail and won't include Trickle-down because of its steepness
 - Edge: in past years, the team has only groomed to the top of Edge hill, but this year they're considering grooming all of Edge
 - Pat Morrow: In past years this trail has had minimal winter usage, so KTS is considering grooming for winter use
 - Naomi asked about steepness, which is a concern on parts of Edge and Pat Morrow, but going down should be easy with the snowdog
 - Eimer's Ridge: also new to winter loop, some concern about it being packed down and then having downhill traffic move faster
 - Overall comments: board members thought the proposed route looked good. Groomers will aim to get out earlier to groom after snowfalls.
 - Grooming committee will finalize route and present once it's done
 - KTS has applied for another maintenance grant for Trail Crew and are open to ideas for projects in May/June
 - Mechanical treatment: Dave and Ryan have been speaking about invasive weeds that are popping up where mechanized treatments happened (e.g., Front Blvd). Ryan has removed a lot of thistles and mullin, but there are tons. Treatment team was supposed to seed grass but it's not competing well. Ryan suggests that invasive species prevention be part of all future conversations about fuel treatments.
 - Higgins entrance: Ryan updated the Board that the best option is likely a removable bollard post locked into the ground, like the ones in the Platzl.

Communication, Park Promotion and Events:

- The communication committee is planning the AGM (see above)
- Events update:
 - Annual Larch Hike had 34 participants
 - Struan was joined by two individuals and counted 28 pika stashes in the HBV, indicating there are still pika in the Tora Bora rockslides (see blog for photos)

Conservation and Education:

- September outing was held October 1: a walk on Sunflower Hill with Birgitta Jansen, with 13 in attendance, focussed on a number of features that Birgitta has noticed over the last 6 months of regular walks on Sunflower Hill. Her observations are documented in the 11 Sunflower Hill Chronicles blogs on the KNP website.
- Annual Golden Larch Hike, Oct 15: 34 people joined Struan Robertson and Kent Goodwin coming from the east and west to meet at Dipper Lake to enjoy the fall colours provided by larch, dogwood, aspen and poplar trees.

- Landscape Documentation Photo Project: Fall Equinox photos have been received from 10 sites, photos taken around the solstices and equinoxes (March, June, September, December) to document changes. Photos are being held on Trailforks through a system set up by Ryan McKenzie
- Wildlife Cameras: the cameras have captured images of white-tail deer, mule deer, moose, elk, skunk, squirrel, fox, bear, and pileated woodpecker. The cameras are being moved to new locations to see if other species can be seen
- October Outing: to be held October 30, 9:00 am, starting from the Swan Sub entrance, over Ponderosa to Eimer's Ridge, to Eimer's Lake and back through 3 Corners

Administration: no update

Horse Barn Valley: no update

Interface Fire Mitigation:

- The unavailability of regional resources and the closing of the ideal weather window has again postponed the planned prescribed burn

9. Interesting Sightings: Several members noticed a seasonal stream running through Shapeshifter, which Kent had suggested may come from an aquifer.

10. Next Meeting: AGM, 7pm, November 23rd at Trickle Creek Lodge (Note: This is a Wednesday, not a Thursday like most meetings)

Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm