

NATURE BAY SOCIETY

(Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society)

Board Meeting Minutes

Location: Interpretive Centre

Date: Wednesday, May 14, 2008, 7:30 pm

1. Present: Joyce Henderson, Gary Carder, Gary Lomax, Ed Dahl, John MacVicar, Tom Brighthouse and Ron Wedman (chair)

Minutes of April 23 2008 were adopted as circulated by e-mail..

2. Communications:

The **sabnes website domain** name has been extended and the board were grateful that D'Arcy McLeod agreed to be the new contact person.

Tom reported that **Dick Canning** has agreed to be **the AGM speaker** on Friday November 28 2008. The Art Gallery has been booked..

The CSRD has courteously let us know that some of the **trees near the CSRD** building will be preserved.

The City staff has contacted SABNES with regard to the bird blind which is SABNES property inside the City's Peter Jannink Park. The structure has been twice burnt down completely and many times damaged by fire. The local residents are scared to go into the park because of improper uses. No decisions were reached on how best to **dismantle the blind**. The fire department has been approached but are not allowed to burn buildings for practice within the city. Replacement by a Bird Watching Tower was discussed.

Two **cards of appreciation** have been sent to the City and to Maple Reinders for help with replacing the old gate with a new one.

Two **visits of students** are planned: Rancho will bring 25 grade 3/4 students on Friday May 23 at 10:30 to 11:30 (in two half hour units)

Carlin School will bring 120 grade 5/6 students from 8:45 to 11:15 am to visit in three groups of 40 on Wednesday May 21. The activity will be to take a guided walk lasting about fifty minutes.

Three guides should be willing to take three groups for fifty minute walks each during that time period. Timing is critical.

3. **Treasurers Report** . Tom will deliver a cheque for \$52.50 which is the cost of extending **domain name** on the sabnes website.

The **donation box** at the Raven end of the trail should be emptied. Ron will try to solve the problem of penetrating the security system. Joyce and John Henderson offered to provide a surplus donation box from the Nordic Ski Club.

Joyce offered to look into applying for a Lottery grant.

4. **Staffing**. John MacVicar has opened the Centre for two weekends already. Tom pointed out the need for one person, not necessarily a board member, to act as supervisor to staff.

5. John gave his report on **jobs needing attention**: dangerous trees on the trail, rotten planks on the boardwalks, marker signs for indicating trail maintenance sections, finish the lights in the Centre, repaint the rail at the bird tower, attend to rotten seat, replace the small ramps leading to the wooden bridge over the marsh.

In spite of a phone call to Ottawa and an e-mail to the contact person for Service Canada there was still no news of a grant decision for a **summer student**.

The decision of a staff uniform will await the hiring of a student.

John will contact Tom for a cheque as soon as he knows the exact amount for the **telephone**.

6. **Membership**. The imminent news letter will contain a request to rejoin,

7. **Web Cam and advertising sales**. The camera is not at the moment fully operational. Tim is working with the technicians to solve the problem.

8. **Bird blinds**. The structure which has been frequently vandalized and twice burnt down will be dismantled,. The method will be decided later.

10 **New Gate** . Ron had led a work party and the handsome gate is now in place. Welding and painting have still to be completed. Saturday May 24 will be the next work party..

12. **Visibility**. Ron reported on the banner which will be hung at the work party mentioned above.

13 **Opening Celebrations.** Joyce enquired about a budget for the refreshments for Saturday, May 31, 2008. Officials will speak and open the Centre at 12 noon.

14. **Newsletter.** Ron showed a draft to be checked for accuracy. Some board members will be available for envelope stuffing.

15 **Buoys.** Maple Reinders, the firm which helped with the gate installation, also donated ten anchors for the light seasonal buoys to be placed between the more expensive buoys bearing signs. A work party will be arranged when the water is high enough to allow correct placement.

16 **Fireworks.** The Naturalist Club has sent a letter listing the reasons why the fireworks and particularly the attendant explosions are not in "Harmony With Nature" (City Motto).

The letter suggested different dates at a less sensitive time of the year or a location near Sandy Point away from the flooded vegetation where nesting of many species occurs.

17, **Post cards.** So far Joyce has not been able to locate a satisfactory photo of the dancing grebes for use on a post card. 250 copies of the two post cards of Osprey will be printed.

!8 **Gulls.** In about a week's time Doug Ibbitson and Tom will count the nests on the island while John and Joyce Henderson will count the ones on the breakwater.

19. Tom and Joyce reported on a meeting with Gail Stalker, employed by the CSRD to promote tourism. Her top priority is to produce a **bird watcher's guide to the CSRD area.** Obviously the Salmon Arm Bay will be the prime spot. Her urgent need is good quality photos especially of birds which she must access from the camera or camera chip to ensure top quality. The Board were asked to suggest names of photographers who might help.

Next Meeting: Wednesday **June 11, 2008** at 7:30 in the Interpretive Centre.