

**Chilliwack Field Naturalists**  
**Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting**  
Rendezvous Restaurant, Chilliwack, B.C.  
March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017

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**Present:** 14 members + guest speaker

**Guest Speaker:** Eddie Gardner, Wild Salmon Champion

Note: The itinerary was modified to let the speaker start by 6:00 p.m. so he could get to another commitment after his talk.

1. **Presentation:** At 5:50 p.m. Fernando introduced Eddie Gardner who talked about the Wild Salmon Caravan and Wild Salmon Defenders Alliance. Eddie brought a 15 min. video on the importance of the Salmon to the First Nations and indeed everyone. Eddie followed up with a talk and discussion with club members. The “honorable harvest” and respect for the land and nature are concepts deeply held by aboriginals and this was described by Eddie. Specifically, Eddie talked about the problems with open-net fish farms, such as a proliferation of viruses and parasites (sea lice). Eddie ended by sharing a traditional First Nations song.
2. **Dinner:** After the presentation, delicious selections were prepared and served by Rendezvous Restaurant staff.
3. **Welcome to Members:**  
President Helen Turner welcomed club members to the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Chilliwack Field Naturalists and called the meeting to order.

### **Annual General Meeting**

4. **Call to Order:** Business meeting called to order at 7:45 p.m.

5. **Minutes:**

2016 AGM minutes are available to membership on the CFN website and Scott distributed hard copies at the meeting. A motion was made by Scott Denkers for the adoption of the minutes as recorded; seconded by Janet Pollock and carried unanimously by the attending members.

6. **President’s Report:** Available on the website and attached separately. Helen Turner provided a synopsis of the content of the president’s report.

7. **Annual Financial Statement:**

As reported by Treasurer Janet Pollock and attached separately. A motion was made by Janet to accept the annual financial report; seconded by Paulina Selles and carried unanimously by members present. Following is a synopsis of the financial statement (as of Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017):

General Account	\$ 2,592.93
Val Whetter Trust Fund	\$10,113.80
Camp River Account	\$ 5.59
FWCU Membership Shares	\$ 31.43
Swallow Project	\$ 523.75

Janet thought that we should think of ways to use the Val Whettier Fund that would enhance the club's activities. Lee Larkin suggested that we hire renowned experts to lead some of our field trips during the year. These trips could be publicized in the press and social media, hopefully bringing in more participants and growing the membership. Members were in favour of this expanded use of the Val Whetter Fund. It was suggested that Sonny McHalsie, Sto:lo Nation, be approached as a speaker for one of our future field trips.

#### 8. Business Arising:

- a. None.

#### 9. New Business:

- a. Large trees have been cut at Camp River without consultation with the club. The Ministry of Environment contracted with an arborist to cut the trees. The club is writing a letter of concern to the ministry.
- b. Helen Turner made a motion to start regular club meetings 30 minutes earlier in September when a new contract would be signed with the school; Annabelle seconded and it was unanimously approved by attending members. It was noted that set up and social time would begin at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting would officially start at 7:00 p.m. Janet Pollock noted that she would keep the 10 o'clock ending time for the contract in case the extra half hour is needed.
- c. The suggestion was made to put effort towards advertising ahead of our meetings to let the public know what's coming. Corrugated plastic board was suggested as backing material for posters.

#### 10. Club Officer Nominations:

As reported by Fernando Selles:

President – **Helen Turner** accepted nomination. Other nominations called—no other candidates. Helen elected for a one-year term by unanimous acclamation.

Vice-president – **Janne Perrin** accepted nomination (in abstentia). Other nominations called—no other candidates. Janne elected for a one-year term by unanimous acclamation.

Treasurer - **Janet Pollock** accepted nomination. Other nominations called—no other candidates. Janet re-elected for a one-year term by unanimous acclamation.

Secretary - **Scott Denkers** accepted nomination. Other nominations called—no other candidates. Scott re-elected for a one-year term by unanimous acclamation.

**11. Comments from Helen:** Thanked everyone for all the hard work they have put into the club over the year.

**12. Adjournment:**

The 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Chilliwack Field Naturalists was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Scott Denkers, Secretary

March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017