

LILLOOET NATURALIST SOCIETY AGM FEBRUARY 14, 2021 VIA ZOOM CALL  
10 AM – 12 NOON - **DRAFT** MINUTES

**Present: Board** – Vivian Birch-Jones (president/chair), Chris Galliazzo, (secretary), Geoff Playfair (vice-president), Colin Vidian-Jones (director), **Membership** –Ian Routley, Kim North, Mary Jane and Ken Oakes, Stefan Zeidler, Greg and Lori Smith, Karen Playfair, Jacque Rasmussen, Christina and Jonah Timms, Eleanor Wright, Paddy Weston, Allan McEwan, Linda Quinn and Bill Hall, Sam Quinlan, Odin Scholz, Christine Galliazzo, Kathryn Young.

**Regrets:** Simon Warhurst and Kevin Aitkin (Directors at large), Kathy Laing (Treasurer) **Minutes:** Chris Galliazzo

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1. Call to order</b>		At 10:03 a.m.
<b>2. Welcome/introductions</b>	Participants welcomed by Vivian and Board. Instructions on Zoom “voting” online provided: “hand up” to oppose, otherwise no action indicates in favour. We have met the requirements of a quorum.	Thank you to Jacque and LRISS for hosting this meeting on Zoom.
<b>3. Adoption of agenda</b>		Motion to adopt moved by Colin Vidian-Jones, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Bill Hall. All in favour, carried
<b>4. Adoption minutes 2020 AGM</b>		Motion to adopt 2020 AGM minutes moved by Geoff Playfair, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Eleanor Wright. All in favour, carried.
<b>5. Business arising from the minutes</b>	Followed up during the year by the board.	
<b>6. New Business – Reports:</b>		
➤ <b>Annual report to members</b> Vivian and directors	Distributed by e-mail with the meeting invitation, one page overview, format by season. Effective way to display the annual events/activities of LNS over the past year. Note: NRVR = Natural Resource Violations Reporting.	Motion by Vivian Birch-Jones to adopt the annual report as presented, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Colin Vidian-Jones. All in favour, carried.
➤ <b>Financial Report</b>	The annual financial statement was circulated with the meeting invitation. Several members have contributed donations that are gratefully acknowledged. Expenses are in keeping with previous years, somewhat lower as less activities and presentations took place (covid). Original 4000 copies of Hiking Guide down to 1300 and located/stored at Greg Smith’s and Vivian’s.	Motion by Karen Playfair to accept Financial Report 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Vivian Birch-Jones. All in favour, carried.

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	<p>Suggestion by Karen Playfair that the Financial Statement be presented in classic format next year, showing previous year. Also, BC Nature membership inclusion of insurance to be a separate line item. Several members contributed donations of \$65/person to LNS in honour of Vivian’s 65th birthday, that Vivian can earmark for a project. The amount of \$750 will be in the 2021 financial report.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> Directors to discuss format of financial report with treasurer Kathy at next directors’ meeting. Karen also offered to help with layout with treasurer – thank Karen!</p>
<p>➤ <b>Membership Report</b> Stefan Zeidler, and Christina Timms</p>	<p>60 members in 2020 (vs 56 in 2019). Introduced Christina Timms who is taking over from Stefan to look after memberships. 39 paid memberships in 2021 so far. <b>Question:</b> how many votes does a family membership get? [The Bylaws do not define family membership votes but do indicate every member in good standing has a vote when present at a meeting (no proxy votes).]</p>	<p>A family membership constitutes one vote, as does an individual membership.  Thanks to Stefan and Christina! Hoping all memberships are paid before the end of March.</p>
<p>➤ <b>LRISS</b> Jacquie Rasmussen</p>	<p>Report provided at meeting / shared on screen online by Jacquie. LNS contributions in 2020 appreciated. It is key to inform the public on Invasive species of concern. Over 1,000 information packages /resources delivered door to door in Lillooet area this year. Social media channels being utilized to educate public on invasive species in the area. Newspaper info adds utilized to educate public. Presented a summary of trails and work accomplished. Lions Trail invasive species removal and inventory completed – special request LNS last year. Annual report being prepared for LRISS AGM in May. .</p>	
<p><b>Bluebird Box project</b> ➤ Chris Galliazzo</p>	<p>Utilized funds from bluebird trail budget to reimbursement partial costs to Bob Deadman for nest box construction in 2020. Proposing new budget of \$750 annually for bluebird trails work/replacement box construction.  154 boxes in total on 5 ranch routes. 212 Mountain Bluebird fledged, and 118 Tree Swallows, and 9 Mountain Chickadees, and 6 House wrens. Showed a graph to show the numbers of fledged young since 2014, trend is downward due to wet, cold weather during early egg hatching stage. Great</p>	<p>Amended budget accepted to allow extra for nest box building costs.  Special thanks to Bob Deadman for building deluxe (featured in Lillooet News) additional nest boxes.</p>

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	volunteer help from LNS members, 2 UBC Okanagan students, and Chris Murrell at Kelly Lake.	
<p>➤ <b>Christmas Bird Counts</b> Ian Routley/ Eleanor Wright</p>	<p>Lillooet CBC – 21st annual CBC for Lillooet. Only local folks participated (covid). Vivian has tally of 53 species but final numbers from Ken Wright not provided.</p> <p>Ian noted that pictures are very helpful if unsure of species and thanked all the participants. Given that we were a smaller number of local people we did well.</p> <p>Yalakom CBC had 34 species and 337 birds counted by 15 volunteers. Noticeable absence of American dippers this year but 76 Canada geese seen on Carpenter Lake – a new sighting for Yalakom CBC.</p>	
<p>➤ <b>LORCA Mountain Biking initiative</b> (Geoff Playfair)</p>	<p>Minimal activity due to Covid. Involved in one project: pump track near new bridge over Seton River with staging on west side of river with small loop trails on Sek’wel’was reserve. Connecting trail system to Seton Lake proposed. LORCA and LNS have a combined interest in trails and the importance of respecting St’at’imc as the land managers, recognizing the historic use, preventing invasive species, and enjoying nature.</p>	
<p>➤ <b>Splitrock</b> Odin</p>	<p>LNS supports many of the Splitrock projects / we continue to have mutual goals, during their grant applications we provide support letters e.g. recreational use trail cam on FSR’s project; spawning channel riparian restoration maintenance; wetlands in Seton Corridor, public education</p>	
<p>➤ <b>Community Volunteer/non-profit initiative</b> (Kim North)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Young Naturalists led by Kim North have formed formal Naturekids group, but no activities due to COVID. Have received resource kits from Naturekids and will use the Outreach trailer to promote when we can.</li> <li>2. OCP – Nature group (LNS/LAFS/LFM) provided input.</li> <li>3. Library evaluation of “Volunteer Connect” for board AGM to decide if continuing with funding. Program increased collaboration and social enterprises to support hiring help.</li> <li>4. Rivershed Society: Kim North the Chair as Fin Donnelly</li> </ol>	<p>Looking for a co-leader from LNS to lead an activity for Young Naturalists. Contact Kim.</p> <p>Kim requested non-profit sector complete surveys</p>

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	stepped down. Hubs for communications in each Region formed. “Walk/Paddle/Swim the length of the Fraser” – promotion, in equivalent distance of 1400 km.	Lillooet Community celebration of the river postponed to 2021.
<p>➤ <b>A.C.T. Group</b> Jonah Timms / Ken Oakes</p>	Acting on Climate Change Together – pause of meetings due to COVID. Submitted OCP input to District for community planning. Requested SLRD declare climate emergency. Will review the OCP draft when released. ACT account – can LNS hold ACT funds instead of ACT members, Betty Weaver and Kim North, personally. Can LNS house \$ from ACT as separate line item?	Action: Next Directors’ meeting to discuss request to hold ACT funds of \$700 in LNS account.
<p>➤ <b>Lillooet Food Matters</b> Eleanor Wright</p>	Seedy Saturday <b>Virtual in 2021</b> beginning Friday, Feb 19 <sup>th</sup> to the 21 <sup>st</sup> . See emails for registration details.	Jacquie speaking at event – see schedule
<b>7. Election of Directors</b>	<p>Recommended slate of Directors with revised duties put forward by current board ahead of meeting. Six of the seven current Directors are willing to stand for another year as below:  <b>Geoff Playfair – President</b>  <b>Kathy Laing – Treasurer</b>  <b>Vivian Birch-Jones – Secretary,</b>  <b>Chris Galliazzo – Vice president</b>  <b>Simon Warhurst, Colin Vidian-Jones– directors at large</b>            (Kevin Aitkin has declined to run this year as director, as he will be recovering from an injury).            Slate moved by Vivian Birch-Jones, seconded by Bill Hall.            Calls for nominations from the floor, none were forthcoming.            All in favour, passed.</p>	Slate of 6/7 Director positions by acclamation.
<b>8. Nominations for 2021</b>	Nominations for one new Director. Call for nominations. Kim North nominated Kathryn Young. Kathryn accepted. None opposed. All in favour.	<b>Kathryn Young new Director at large</b> by acclamation.

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<p><b>9. Approval of 2021 budget items recommended by directors:</b></p>		<p>Motion by Vivian Birch-Jones to approve the expenditures (listed below) seconded by Karen Playfair. Jacquie abstained from voting on LRISS funding due to conflict of interest. All in favour. Carried.</p>
Osprey webcam	Approve up to \$200	Approved
Bluebird nest box trails	Approve up to \$750	Approved.
Rivershed Society	Approve \$500 for 2021.	Approved.
LRISS	Education and outreach invasive species – approve \$1,000	Approved
LORCA	Approve \$500 community project	Approved
Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation	Membership =\$45 US	Approved
Fraser Fest	Budget \$1000 towards event/dinner carried over from 2020.	Approved
Contingency	Other items that come up in 2021 as approved by directors – up to \$1,000	Approved
<b>10. Plans / priorities 2021</b>		
Continue building stronger relationships with First Nations 2021		
Osprey webcam - spring		Scott Hudson will lead again this year (we hope!)
Trail maintenance	LRISS did great invasive work on many trails. Other volunteers also contributed – trails in great shape.	Will call for work parties when weather allows
Fraser River event/dinner	When COVID restrictions are lifted.	
➤ Presentations	Bring forward reptile topic request, mushrooms, repeat geology/ slide show evening by members for members and explore other online presentations and resources	Information will be sent on the email list.
➤ Virtual Events	Dr. Marr alpine plants (Christine G.), R. Naidoo wildlife cameras – bring forward	

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➤ Bluebird Box outings	Usually four outings over the season led by Christine	Christine will circulate invites through email via Geoff to the membership
➤ Other?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Funding for trails/homeowner guide</li> <li>2. Organized hikes</li> <li>3. Signage for trails suggested</li> <li>4. HUB partnership – Kim proposal in the works 2021</li> <li>5. Restoration/clean-up of Town Creek through Lillooet (section past Cayoosh Elementary School).</li> </ol>	
<b>11. Lillooet Brewery update</b> Sam Quinlan	<p>Website being prepared with promotions re:” Lillooet Wild” Website by end of May, for Brewery opening end of June. The website a go-between re: LNS and Brewery to recognize local wildlife, to enhance appreciation of wildlife, and promote best management practices such as “leave no trace”. Links to other organizations on the website to active projects in Lillooet or other resources such as the Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation. Enhance exposure with low impact and education for responsible use by the public.</p> <p>Comments: Concerns with introduction of invasive species by public coming to visit. There is a need for connection to St’at’imc departments/guardians. Content review highly recommended. Jacquie has requested to speak to the LNS board on this topic. Possible meeting to hear St’at’imc concerns and talk about BMP’s re: marketing Lillooet wildlife. Social media reports can create consequences from public and we must be mindful. The Brewery plans to have a focus on 18 species of conservation concern and connect the beer varieties to the species, for example Mountain bluebird pale Ale.</p>	Action: Directors asked to provide input to Lillooet Brewery to share the messaging in the Lillooet Wild Website under construction with the St’at’imc. Next Directors meeting to include Jacquie R. to talk about these concerns and how to move forward carefully and with sensitivit
➤ <b>12. NEXT EVENT</b>	<b>Seedy Saturday</b> – virtual events starting Friday Feb 19 <sup>th</sup>	See emails circulated for registration
➤ <b>13. Adjourn</b>	Motion to adjourn. <b>Carried</b>	Adjournment at 11:40 a.m.

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