



Shuswap Naturalists General Meeting

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Ed welcomed everyone at 7:00 p.m including a number of new and seldom-seen faces. He remarked that the swallows are now back, at least in a few areas.

Minutes:

Sherry Bowlby's name was incorrectly spelled in the March minutes. Otherwise, the minutes were accepted as circulated.

Treasurer's report:

Ted reported the following for March 2011:

Bank balance as of March 1, 2011 was \$3,942.27.

Revenue:

Dues	\$90.00	
Coffee	\$8.46	
Post box refund	\$12.29	Total: \$110.75

Expenditures:

Nil

Bank balance on April 5 \$4,053.02

Ted moved acceptance of the report, 2nd Gary.

Announcements:

1. Marg Johnson
Marg Johnson passed away recently, and Cathy Gillick sent a condolence card to Marg's daughter.
2. Owl survey
Geoff – went on survey with the Ted & Barb Hillary and Ed & Monica Dahl, and spotted a variety of owls including Great Horned, Pygmy, Saw Whet, and Barred.
3. Bird checklist
The checklist is nearly finished now; will cost around \$1500 to do the printing and have the hardcover cover designed. The club has just received \$900 from SASCU to go towards this cost.
MOTION: to use funds from our account to pay for the remainder of the cost (~\$1500 less \$900) Moved by Joyce, 2nd Molly.

Business:

1. Baillee Birdathon
Geoff – proposes that our club participate in this fundraising birdathon. What it's about (quoted from Bird Studies Canada's website): The challenge is to identify as many bird species as possible within a 24-hour period, during the month of May. The

money raised benefits Bird Studies Canada, the James L. Baillie Memorial Fund, and participating migration monitoring stations and conservation organizations (designated by participants to receive a portion of funds raised).

It can be done individually or as a team, and sponsorships could be sought. Geoff will be the contact for further information and for organizing it.

MOTION: to proceed with the birdathon. Moved by Roger, 2nd Hanne.

2. Breeding Bird Atlas

Ted – This is now the fourth year of the Breeding Bird Atlas project; and our area still has two years' worth of targets so we are effectively one year behind. A number of ,squares' north of the lake still need to be covered, during the window of mid-May to mid-July.

3. Resolutions for AGM

Janet P is away right now so she cannot elaborate on these. However, they can be read in the email sent around by Ed M.

4. Lakeshore News column for Nature's Corner

Have had the first submission by Karen Beggs on what to do when baby animals are encountered. This will appear sometime within the next month. Ed M. will be the coordinator for future columns.

Reports

1. Good News – Hanne

A. Russell Cannings is currently trying to break birding records.

B. Crocodile babies vocalize before hatching to communicate to their mothers and other egg-bound siblings.

C. Mice are born with an innate love of singing; males chirp to prospective mates.

D. [submitted by Mike] Oldest known wild bird, a Laysan Albatross named Wisdom, has been found raising a chick. Estimates put her in her early sixties.

2. Outings – Dorothy

The outings committee met today, and the first outing will be on the foreshore, on April 14. The full outings list for the season will be emailed out shortly.

3. SABNES – Mike

A reminder that the SABNES AGM will be held on May 26.

No sightings but Ed did mention that Karen Beggs recently won a short story contest.

After the meeting Phil McIntyre-Paul gave a presentation on the Shuswap Trail Alliance.