SLOCAN LAKE STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

February 9, 2016, Zion United Church, Silverton, BC.

1. CALL TO ORDER: 6:35 PM.

In attendance: Therese DesCamp, Sally Hammond, Ellen Kinsel, Ann Meidinger, Bob

Fuhr, Norbert Ruebsaat. **Absent:** Brad Raymond

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved: Ann, "that the agenda for February 9, 2016 be adopted and followed herein".

Seconded: Sally. Carried.

3. **DELEGATION:** Richard Johnson.

Requested support for 2 grant applications.

- Silverton Eco-Asset Mapping Project: Silverton village council would like to examine its ecological assets in order to plan for upkeep and future problems/opportunities. The village does not have money to do this and through Leah Main requested that Richard Johnson and SS (Slocan Solutions) apply for a CI (Community Initiatives) grant of \$5,000 to examine aquifer/creek assets. Richard felt it made more sense for SLSS to apply for the grant to be undertaken by SS. This initiative could be seen as pilot direction for SLSS that could be extended to other villages of the Slocan Lake valley. Board agreed to submit a CI application for Silverton aquifer/creek asset mapping, and Richard agreed to help write the grant.
- **Springer Creek Water Monitoring**: Springer Creek is the back-up water supply for the Village of Slocan. Jennifer Yeow has been doing basic creek monitoring for three years and Richard would like to continue for another 2 years. He requested support from SLSS in the form of permission to use the equipment SLSS has through the Water Quality Monitoring Project. **Board granted this permission.**

4. OPERATIONS

4:1 Review and approval of Minutes:

Moved: Sally, "that the minutes from January 5, 2016 be accepted as amended."

Seconded: Bob. Carried.

4:2 Business arising from the Minutes: None.

4:3 Correspondence:

KCP (Kootenay Conservation Program) sent a letter requesting that SLSS participate in a stewardship tracking survey by submitting a list of stewardship activities in our area. The request was passed on to Margaret Hartley since many of our activities are through SWAMP and she is best able to provide the list.

4:4 Financial Report and related motions:

Moved: Ellen, "that the February 8, 2016 Financial Statement be accepted by the Board". **Seconded:** Ann. **Carried.**

SLSS currently does not have funds coming in to cover operating costs. (Current grant funds are targeted to specific projects.) There is money banked, but this will run out within a couple of years. Either we need grants that provide general revenue or we will have to cut costs.

4:5 New Business/Other: set date for revision of strategic plan.

Therese will take the lead in making the revisions. Board should plan for a meeting end of March or early April to discuss the revisions.

5 SCIENCE AND WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

5:1 Slocan Watershed Assessment and Monitoring Project (SWAMP) update:

SWAMP will be presenting its final report to the public as an event on March 5 (1-4 PM) in Bosun Hall. There will be a formal presentation of results along with displays and presence of many local scientists and Richard Canning. Margaret Hartley requested that SLSS have a table to display its stewardship activities, another table to display the Silverton Water Quality Monitoring activity, and provide a volunteer to man the snack table. Sally will do a SLSS table, Ann will do a WQMP table and Barb Yeoman will man the snacks table.

- 5:2 Silverton Creek WQMP (Water Quality Monitoring Project):
 - All data for last year has been entered into the WQMP data base and a Communication Plan has been submitted. Analysis of the data will be done after the Ministry of Environment web site has been updated.
 - WQMP will be taking applications for new groups in the WQMP. SLSS has suggested Carpenter or Wilson Creeks and will need to submit an application soon that describes the background of volunteers and stream characteristics.
 - CBWN (Columbia Basin Watershed Network) is in the process of becoming a distinct society (rather than a part of the WQMP). Its mandate is to be the go-to hub for watershed groups to find training, information, and connections. Several on-line training sessions are planned, but the network is currently concentrating on getting society status, funding and a strategic plan.

5:3 Invasive Species:

5:4 Science Research Framework update:

Grant for funding part 2, the Science Forum, pending with FWCP. Grant for part 3 to be submitted through CI (Community Initiatives) process end of this month.

5:5 News from the Park/Other:

The Valhalla Wilderness Society (VWS) is taking an interest in the parcels of private land on the West side of Slocan Lake and says that it may know people who are able to purchase any parcels that come up for sale to donate them to the park. Parks doesn't have the money to purchase land directly.

6. EDUCATION/PUPLIC RELATIONS

6:1 Project update and implications: Summer plans.

Ellen provided 3 scenarios for funding SLSS educational programs this summer: a 'bargain' model with no additional funding, and 'economy' and 'full' models dependent on some level of funding from CBT (Columbia Basin Trust) Small Projects Grants (Spring application). In the 'bargain' model SLSS can pay booth fees only for Friday Markets and the Garlic Festival. Additional funding is required to support volunteer coordination and Wild Days events. Will apply for Slocan Valley Legacy fund to try to get 'economy' program.

6:2 Other reports, news, activities and events: Newsletter, letterhead & website.

Intend to have newsletter ready for start of Friday Markets. Bruce will continue to work with Theresa Tremaine (volunteer) on website maintenance.

6:3 New Business/Other:

7. WATERSHED PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY

7:1 Watershed Protection updates: Willa Mine.

Big equipment has been brought in and parked, and an engineer is analyzing the mine and mine site. Ministry of Mines has stopped any mine work until the issue of sulfuric acid leakage has been resolved. SLSS will work with the Red Mountain Residents Association and be represented by them at and up-coming meeting in Cranbrook.

7:2 Lake Management Plan and related processes:

Nothing new to report. In the meantime, the Eco-Asset mapping approach may be a way to work with the villages.

7:3 Other reports, news, activities, events: Summit Lake Park Proposal. Wayne McCrory (Valhalla Wilderness Society) met with Jakob Dulisse and Irene Manley about logging by NACFOR (Nakusp Community Forest) West of Summit Lake. VWS reports that an expansion of Summit Lake Park on the West side is in the works and that this should affect where cut-blocks can be located (park buffer zone).

7:4 New Business/Other: For future agenda – need discussion of how to go about recruiting and organizing members for volunteer work.

8. FOI (for our interest):

9. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE

Tuesday, March 1, 2016, Zion United Church, Silverton – 2:00 PM.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Ellen, 9:12 PM

Recording Secretary: Ann Meidinger

Reviewed and Approved by the Board: March 1, 2016

Signed: Per ______