

SLOCAN LAKE STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

May 4, 2015, Zion United Church, Silverton, BC.

1. CALL TO ORDER: 6:38 PM.

In attendance: Bruce Cottingham, Sally Hammond, Therese DesCamp, Margaret Hartley, Ellen Kinsel, Ann Meidinger.

Absent: Bob Fuhrer

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved: Ann, *“that the agenda be adopted and followed herein”*. **Seconded:** Sally.
Carried.

3. DELEGATION: Marcy Mahr

Marcy recently returned from work in Indiana helping to develop a conservation action plan for a sensitive dunes area there. Scientists were interviewed and the interviews were followed by a workshop to develop collaboration among the scientists and to problem solve. The process in Indiana will continue with development of an action plan. Marcy reported that the process in Indiana is very similar to what SLSS proposed in our Science Framework grant applications, although some of the terminology used to describe the process was different. She said that the interviews in Indiana were very rewarding, and that she now has expertise asking questions and in running the subsequent workshop. She strongly encourages SLSS to continue to look for funding for our Science Framework proposal for Slocan Lake region, although we should consider using different terminology (e.g. conservation action plan, resource analysis) and to have a panel of scientists already on board in subsequent applications. It was mentioned that Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) made it clear that it was not interested in funding planning stages of projects. Marcy suggested that we talk to the BRAES Institute (Okanagan Institute for Biodiversity, Resilience and Ecosystem Services, a consortium of UBC Okanagan faculty members) and Dave Schindler for advice on how to proceed.

4. OPERATIONS

4:1 Minutes:

Moved: Ellen, *“that the minutes be accepted as amended”* **Seconded:** Therese.
Carried.

4:2 Correspondence: A letter of support for the Village of New Denver’s grant application for the Laurie Mori Trail repair/restoration was sent (in response to a request from the New Denver Village Council).

4:3 Financial Report:

- **Moved:** Margaret, *“that the April 2015 Financial Statement be accepted by the Board”*. **Seconded:** Therese. **Carried.**
- **Silverton Creek Water Quality Monitoring Project:** Margaret submitted expenses for equipment (\$190.12) to the SLSS Treasurer. Recompense invoice for Leah Main and Jodi Cliff for their time during April sampling (\$262.00) was

submitted to Columbia Basin Water Quality Monitoring Program (Mainstreams – the entity managing administration of the project). Both Leah and Jodi are kindly donating their recompense to SLSS. SLSS may have to pay some courier bills out of our funds before SLSS is reimbursed by Mainstreams.

- **Display Tent:** Discussion of when to purchase the tent to house the SLSS booth resulted in the decision to pay now out of operating funds.

4:4 Grant Applications/Reports/Other funding strategies/sources:

- Columbia Basin Trust small grants program (under \$10,000): Call for applications was made and “Let’s Go Wild” to support Friday Market and four ½ day special event presentations was submitted.
- We did not receive funding from the Legacy Foundation Fund. In conversation with a member of the review panel, it was indicated that the SLSS application was weak in the criteria of number of people served/\$ grant money.

4:5 Membership Review: A request went out to those currently on the SLSS e-mail list, who are not paid members, requesting permission to continue to send e-mail information.

4:6 Website update and current issues: The problem that resulted in the WEB site being shut down has been resolved. Updates to programming are on-going.

4:7 New Business

The Freshwater Alliance is searching for partners to engage in constructing materials for the media focusing on water and the Water Sustainability Act. The board decided that SLSS was not able to undertake a new energy intensive initiative at this time.

5 SCIENCE AND WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

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

SWAMP steering committee met last Tuesday. Audrey Ehlers will include the SWAMP data on maps of the BC Wetlands Field Guide, and such continued interest in SWAMP data led to the resolution to keep track of who is using SWAMP data/maps – this is very useful for fundraising. SWAMP data will be used in Ministry of Forests, Lands, Resources and Operations maps (i.e.MoF maps). SWAMP was not successful with its funding applications to Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, Columbia Basin Trust or the Real Estate Foundation. A couple of Steering Committee members at the meeting expressed disappointment in the decisions and pledged help finding SWAMP connections to aid in future applications. Wetlands promoted by SLSS for SWAMP monitoring this summer will include Fennel Creek and Bonanza Corridor.

5:2 Silverton Creek/Carpenter Creek:

- Water collection and monitoring from Silverton Creek has begun. Red Mountain Association is coordinating with the Silverton Creek group to use the WQMP (Water Quality Monitoring Program) equipment to perform analysis on water samples from their creeks.

- There are 3 years of samples from Carpenter Creek. Turbidity and pH used WQMP equipment. Margaret suggested that Carpenter Creek monitoring should stop unless somebody else is interested in taking the collection over.
- SLSS thanks Don Wocknitz and Dave Ballard for donating “Fall-Arrest” harnesses to the Silverton WQMP project. Ann will send thank you notes.
- SLSS also thanks Margaret Hartley for the many hours of work to recruit and train volunteers and establish the monitoring procedures.

6. EDUCATION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

6:1 Logo/Newsletter committee: Proposed Logo design accepted. There was discussion about design of a ‘kid’s insert page’ for the Newsletter. There was also discussion of priorities in face of limited time and resources. It was decided that SLSS needs a Newsletter that can be handed out at the Friday Markets (by end of June) and something current on the WEB site. Ellen also reminded the committee that 2 grant applications include funding for a big map for the Friday Market and a smaller version of the same map for handout. It was decided the priorities should be on the Newsletter and maps.

6:2 SWAMP is planning 2 days of Wetland Training this summer – dates yet to be scheduled.

6:3 It was decided that SLSS will not sponsor the Fish Derby that is part of New Denver May Days. It was felt that trophy fishing is inconsistent with SLSS mission of ecological conservation and preservation (of endangered species).

7. WATERSHED PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY

7:1 Lake Management Plan and related processes: Bruce attended Kootenay Lake Partnership (KLP) meeting and returned with the strong impression that the LMP for Kootenay Lake is dead because there is no appetite to proceed without capacity and input from the Provincial and Federal governments willing to make regulations and enforce them. There was some thought that if the whole region (RDCK- Area H North) could work together, it might be able to come up with a water quality plan that could be legitimized and enforceable under the Water Sustainability Act.

7:2 Willa Mine: In the current economic climate, there will be no work at Willa Mine.

9. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE

Tuesday, June 2, 2015, Zion United Church, Silverton.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Ann 9:15 PM

Recording Secretary: Ann Meidinger

Reviewed and Approved by the Board: June 2, 2015



Signed: Per _____
President