

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARK WARDEN SERVICE ALUMNI SOCIETY OF ALBERTA, HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 9TH, 2016 AT THE BANFF-CANMORE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOARDROOM, BANFF, ALBERTA.

PRESENT: D. Portman, President; G. Antoniuk, Vice-President; M. Nylund, Secretary-Treasurer.

Directors: Perry Jacobson, Don Mickle, Bob Haney, Mac Elder, Perry Davis, Larry Gilmar, Dave Reynolds, Cliff White, Rod Wallace, Scott Ward.

ABSENT: Gord Anderson, Kathy Calvert

GALLERY: Frank Coggins, Colleen Loxam, Colleen Reynolds, Larry Harbidge, Sharon Harbidge, Greg Keesey, Chris Worobets, Tom Davidson, Rick Langshaw, Jim Murphy, Cathy Elder, Bob Barker, Elaine Jacobson and John Nylund.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm.

The Chairman thanked the Banff-Canmore Community Foundation for providing the meeting space.

2.0 ADDITIONS TO and APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

7.1 Donation to Banff-Canmore Community Foundation

7.2 Conference call with Wayne Stetski, NDP MP for Kootenay-Columbia

3.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

3.1 Minutes of June 4th, 2015 Annual General Meeting held in Jasper

The minutes of the June 4th, 2015 have been circulated electronically prior to the meeting.

MOTION: REYNOLDS/LANGSHAW – move to approve the Minutes of the June 4th, 2015 Annual General Meeting. CARRIED.

4.0 FINANCIAL REPORT

4.1 Audited Financial Statement - January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

Marie reviewed the 2015 financial statement. The bank balance January 1st, 2015 was \$5,348.24. Income was \$3,574.80. Disbursements were \$1,267.36 leaving a bank balance at December 31, 2015 of \$7,655.68. This financial statement will accompany the Provincial Annual Return. A financial review of the 2015 financial records has been completed by Don Hepburn, Treasurer of the Stockmen's Memorial Foundation.

4.2 Revenue and expenses to May 31, 2016.

The fiscal year 2016 saw an opening balance of \$7,655.68. Total income is \$2,855.62. Total disbursements are \$542.99 leaving a bank balance as at May 31, 2016 is \$9,968.31 with one outstanding cheque (\$100 donation to the Keith Everts Warden Service Scholarship) yet to clear the bank. Once it clears we will have a bank balance of \$9,868.31. Donations this year total \$1,350.00.

MOTION: DAVIS/PORTMAN – to approve the financial report as presented.

CARRIED.

5.0 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Marie reported that we have a total of 123 members. There were about 30 unpaid members, however, several have paid today and we have a couple of new memberships. The breakdown of membership is:

83 Voting members; 7 Honourary members; 6 Associate members; and 27 Lifetime members. Although the Lifetime members are not required to pay membership fees they are very generous with their donations.

MOTION: MICKLE/REYNOLDS – move to accept the Membership Report.

CARRIED.

6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (OLD BUSINESS)

6.1 Oral History Project – Phase 7 – The Ya Ha Tinda: A Home Place (Book)

Dale reported that Kathy has contacted Christine Crilley-Everts regarding the possibility of preparing the provincial grant applications for the book and the plaque. Christine has completed these grant applications in the past for our oral histories and does a great job.

MOTION: MICKLE/REYNOLDS – to contract Christine Crilley-Everts, at a rate to be established by the executive, to prepare grant applications from the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation Heritage Preservation Partnership Program.

CARRIED

These are matching grants. The two grants: 1) the Publication grant which funds the cost of publishing books that document Alberta's history; and 2) the Heritage Awareness grant for interpretive plaques, monuments and markers that provide substantial information about Alberta's history.

ACTION: Dale will contact Christine Crilley-Everts to discuss a contract to prepare the two Alberta Historical Resources Foundation Heritage Preservation Partnership Program grant applications.

Discussion ensued regarding remuneration for hours spent on recording and transcribing the oral histories. Rod, Marie and Kathy and Dale will keep track of their hours spent on the book. Some of these hours may be applied to the in-kind portion of the grant application(s). The grant application is somewhat confusing when it comes to what can be applied for. For example, anything already paid for is not eligible to be applied for. We must prepare a budget of what it costs to produce the book and to install the plaque. The accounting for the grant is completed after the grant is awarded.

MOTION: DAVIS/LANGSHAW – to establish a sub-committee of Perry Jacobson, Cliff White and Dave Reynolds to prepare a detailed budget for the costs of producing the book and the plaque. The budget is to be presented to the fall meeting of the society.

CARRIED.

6.2 Parks Canada's public celebration of the Ya Ha Tinda

Parks Canada has not confirmed the date, time, and details of their public event (to be held July 2017) at the Ya Ha Tinda. It is hoped that the Park Warden Service Alumni would be able to present the plaque at this celebration. A separate gathering may be held in the fall at Eagle Creek Campground or Bighorn Campground. This event would be a simple BYOE (Bring Your Own Everything) campout.

6.3 Ya Ha Tinda 100 Year Commemorative plaque

Don Mickle has completed the interpretive bilingual text for the plaque and has received a quote from Behrends Bronze in the amount of \$2619.45 plus shipping. The next steps are:

1. Per the conditions of the grant application, we must obtain written approval from the land title holder (Parks Canada) to install the plaque at the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch.
2. Confirm an appropriate location where the plaque will be placed at the Ya Ha Tinda. The grant application requires a map or detailed description of the location of the plaque).
3. Obtain verification from Parks Canada on the bilingual text.

MOTION: JACOBSON/PORTMAN – that a letter signed by the President be sent to the Superintendent of Banff National Park asking approval for the placement of a plaque on Ya Ha Tinda land (owned by Parks Canada); to confirm the site on the ranch for the plaque placement; and for approval of the bilingual text.

CARRIED.

In order to meet the September 1st grant application deadline the written response from Parks Canada would be needed by mid August 2016 at the latest.

Dale reviewed the timeline that Kathy has established for the book. It is a six-chapter book; Kathy is now working on Chapter 4. The book will include photographs. Photographs can be sent to Dale. Cliff White and Dave Reynolds will review the book draft in late July or early August and provide feedback. Edits can then be completed in August in order to meet the September 1st deadline for the application.

NB: The grant application deadline is September 1st. A provision of the grant application states that: *Applicants are required to submit a hard copy of the edited manuscript with Table of Contents. It is also preferred that photographs of any illustrations or photographs, and a sample of design/layout of the book are submitted.*

ACTION: Marie will invite the membership to submit photos of interest regarding work related activities at the Ya Ha Tinda. All of the photographs will need to be reviewed by a committee of the board of directors and a final selection made.

Dale suggested that we include a prologue in the book. He suggested that Sid Marty be requested to prepare the prologue. Everyone agreed.

ACTION: Dale will contact Sid Marty.

Perry Davis suggested that a CD could be developed to accompany the book. The disc could include a collection of photographs, short video clips, songs such as Scott Ward's Ya Ha Tinda Bound and Stewart MacDougall and Randy Nagel's "Sundown Slim" music video about Slim Haugen. This would need to be done through the publisher. This could be a fund raising item.

Kathy Calvert also would like to contact the Friends of the Eastern Slopes to obtain information of interest for the book with regards to the long-term visitation to the Ya Ha Tinda by many members of that association. (i.e. what the ranch means to this association).

Dale welcomed donations from the membership in support of the book and the plaque. Donations to the book will be acknowledged in the book.

There have always been pressures on the existence of the ranch over the years. This is likely to continue with various special interest groups or individuals who have a vision for its future. I.e. become part of Banff National Park; b) become a Wildlife Preserve; become a National Historic site. A discussion followed regarding the final chapter of the book that will discuss the realities of the ranch today; the future of the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch; and potential challenges in maintaining the stewardship of the ranch. The history of the ranch is important and that is the primary focus of the book The Ya Ha Tinda Ranch: A Home Place. It is essential that we keep a positive spin on the book while including some comment on the changes that occurred to the warden service. For

example, the future may see the warden service restructured again possibly resulting in a greater need for horses and hence a greater need for the horse program at the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch.

In response to a question from Perry Jacobson, Dale responded that 42 interviews have been completed over 6 phases. Phase 7 interviews have been completed on Ken & Deb Pigeon, Rob & Sue Jennings, and Byron Irons. Rick & Jean Smith have yet to be interviewed. There was a list of potential interviewees from the Annual General Meeting last year. The total spent on Phases 1-6 of the Oral History Project is \$26,196.67. Community Spirit Grants of \$12,827.50 have helped to fund the oral histories with a net cost of \$13,369.17 being funded by the society through memberships and donations.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Donation to Banff-Canmore Community Foundation

The Banff-Canmore Community Foundation has generously offered the meeting space today at no charge.

MOTION – REYNOLDS/LANGSHAW – to donate \$100 to the Banff-Canmore Community Foundation in appreciation for the meeting space for today's meeting. CARRIED.

7.2 Conference call with Wayne Stetski, NDP MP for Kootenay-Columbia

Dale reported as information that in late May he, Perry Jacobson and Rod Wallace took part in a conference call with Wayne Stetski, NDP MP for Kootenay-Columbia and Mr. Stetski's assistant. Mr. Stetski is the NDP critic on National Parks. Mr. Stetski is interested in the Warden Service being returned to its original unit as an integral part of Parks Canada. The conference call included discussion on where Parks Canada is now; the current government position on environmental issues; and the lack of a consultation process. The NP goal is to develop a position paper on concerns about National Parks and have invited various stakeholders to submit their comments. A lengthy discussion ensued.

As information, Perry Davis reported on the Escape Room (in-door puzzle room) attraction being set up in Banff, one of which will be a warden's cabin, where participants find the journal of a long-lost park warden with details about how to find a treasure hidden out in the bush.

8.0 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

No election necessary as a new board was elected last year and we have received no resignations.

9.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The chairman thanked Frank Coggins for his \$50 donation; Al Stendie for his donation of \$25 and Rod Wallace for his donation of \$100 towards the Oral History Project.

9.1 Pizza and refreshments after the meeting.

The chairman announced that pizza will be served at 4:30 pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: DAVIS/MICKLE – to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 pm. CARRIED.

