

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARK WARDEN SERVICE ALUMNI SOCIETY HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 7TH, 2018, AT THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, INVERMERE, B.C.

PRESENT: Dale Portman, President. Dave Reynolds, Vice-President

Marie Nylund, Secretary-Treasurer

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kathy Calvert, Perry Davis, Jim Murphy, Cliff White

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Scott Ward, Mac Elder, Bob Haney, Perry Jacobson, Don Mickle

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Nylund, Colleen Reynolds, Greg Keesey, Gord Anderson, Larry Gilmar, Jane Gilmar, Alan Westhaver, Dennis Herman, Linda Stinson.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 pm.

2.0 ADDITIONS TO and APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Item 7.5 Pine Bungalows – invitation from Mike Wasuita, Pine Bungalows, Jasper, was added to the Agenda.

3.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

3.1 Minutes of June 7th, 2017 Annual General Meeting

Last year's Annual General Meeting was held in Canmore, Alberta. The minutes had been circulated electronically to members prior to the meeting, and are also included in the Agenda package for today's meeting.

MOTION: MURPHY/GILMAR - to approve the Minutes of the June 7th, 2017 Annual General Meeting.
CARRIED.

4.0 FINANCIAL REPORT

4.1 Audited Financial Statement - January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

Marie reviewed the financial report for the fiscal year 2017. The fiscal year is January 1st to December 31st. The bank balance at January 1st, 2017 was \$9,925.93. Income for the year totaled \$12,260.08 and Disbursements were \$15,357.15. Don Hepburn has completed the financial review of the 2017 financial records which reflect the activities of the Park Warden Service Alumni Society during 2017. Mr. Hepburn noted that the monthly statements and the balance sheet summary accurately reflect the current financial status of the society and are supported by the information from the cancelled cheques, deposit slips and receipts. Mr. Hepburn expressed his gratitude for the gift of a copy of the book Ya Ha Tinda A Home Place and requested that a donation be made to the Stockmen's Memorial Library Foundation for his financial review services. Subsequently, a donation of \$100 was made to the Stockmen's Memorial Foundation.

The financial statement will be submitted to the Province of Alberta later this year accompanied by the Provincial Annual Return.

4.2 Financial report for 2018

Marie reported a bank balance as at January 1st, 2018 of \$ 6,828.86
Total revenue to June 6th, 2018 is \$ 6,771.55. Total disbursements to June 6th, 2018 total \$631.55. There are two outstanding cheques to clear the bank leaving a bank balance of - \$13,968.86. Donations received to the end of April are \$1,175.00. Some of these are specified for the Oral History Project.

MOTION: DAVIS/WESTHAVER - to accept the 2017 audited financial statement, and to accept the financial report for 2018 as reported.
CARRIED.

5.0 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

5.1 Membership Chairman's Report

Kathy Calvert reported there are a total of 125 members. These include 83 Voting, 5 Associate, 7 Honourary, 28 Lifetime and 2 Supporting members. The membership report was accepted as information.

5.2 Membership Drive

A discussion ensued on how to encourage membership. The new category of Supporting Member may help in increasing our membership numbers. Ideas were presented such as reaching out through social media to encourage membership through regional representatives. It was felt that without this drive to increase membership, PWSAS may die.

Cliff White proposed that consideration be given to creating a national “umbrella group” consisting of all Parks Canada affiliated present and past staff, and other supporting individuals. Various “chapters” could exist under the umbrella group (e.g., PWSAS, Second Century Club etc.). The concept would provide an opportunity for all Parks Canada staff from across Canada, as well as others, to join. They would have the opportunity to join the national group or any chapter of the national group. This concept might make it more attractive to a broader range of people across Canada, not just the mountain parks. Members in the national group could join chapters that they are interested in (perhaps more than one). Dave Reynolds described this as similar to the R.C.M.P. Veterans' Association model.

This new approach could rapidly expand PWSAS membership, particularly through enrolling supporting members that are interested in joining the overall Parks Canada group, but also the PWSAS chapter that commemorates the classic role of the Warden within Parks Canada.

It was agreed that the social part of the society is important.

MOTION: WHITE/PORTMAN – to explore the idea of creating an umbrella group consisting of all Parks Canada affiliated present and past staff, and other supporting individuals that would comprise of various “chapters” under the umbrella group. The basis for the concept is to provide an opportunity for all Parks Canada staff from across Canada, as well as others, to join.

Discussion ensued with the consensus being that the concept it worth pursuing.

A vote on the motion was called.

CARRIED.

ACTION A sub-committee was formed comprised of Cliff White and Dave Reynolds to explore the concept of an umbrella organization and come up with a feasibility plan for the umbrella group and its components.

6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (OLD BUSINESS)

6.1 The Ya Ha Tinda A Home Place – book sales

Dale reported that 875 books have been sold during the period October 2017 to March 2018. A royalty cheque should be received soon and a percentage (40%) will be paid to the Park Warden Service Alumni per the agreement with Kathy Calvert. Several ideas were suggested on venues where the book might be offered for sale (i.e. Calgary Stampede, 100 Year Anniversary of the Southern Alberta Pioneers and Spruce Meadows, however, Dale reminded everyone that it is the Publisher who is responsible for distributing the book.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Carleton Family Personal Oral History Project

Mike Carleton and his brothers are undertaking an Oral History of the Carleton family. The Carleton brothers would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be interested in sharing a memory of their parents, Ed and Dorothy, for the book. Ed Carleton kept some personal diaries with a fair amount of detail during 1958, 59, and 60 when he was stationed at the Mt. Eisenhower district. The district was quite unique, having both “front country” and “backcountry” aspects. One idea for a section in the book is to take a “typical week” of a warden’s life at Mt. Eisenhower, with the various responsibilities and events that occurred. If any of the alumni have a good familiarity with Mt. Eisenhower district as it was then, or recollections of the parks people around that time, their input would be valuable. This could also involve “proofreading” once a draft of that section was done.

The chairman encouraged members to contact Mike Carleton if they might be able to assist with this project.

7.2 Oral History Project – Phase 8

Questions arose as to:

1. What are we going to do with the 47 completed Oral Histories
2. How many more interviews should be undertaken? There are several on a list for future interviews.

Cliff White will be meeting with the Whyte Museum on June 13th and offered to inquire as to the legalities of our society donating the completed oral histories to the Whyte Museum Archives.

P. Davis has drafted letters to three members whose names were suggested as possibly being interested in conducting interviews on behalf of the PWSAS in the regions where they live. It is a concern that hiring a professional who has limited or no knowledge of the warden service to might be prohibitive due to the cost factor and the fact that the person conducting the interviews may not have understanding of the warden service that we feel is essential in capturing the spirit of the interview(s).

Perry also reported that he’d spoken with Elinor Florence, an author who has conducted several oral histories and written books based on these interviews. Elinor may be able to provide our society with a couple of names of people who are willing to conduct oral histories for a fee; however, the concerns noted above would factor in.

The following is some information on Elinor Florence from her website www.elinorflorence.com

Elinor Florence grew up on a Saskatchewan grain farm, a former World War Two training airfield near North Battleford. After earning her English degree at the University of Saskatchewan, she studied journalism at Carleton University. She launched her career at her hometown newspaper *The Battlefords Advertiser-Post*, followed by *The Western Producer* in Saskatoon, *The Red Deer Advocate* in Alberta, *The Winnipeg Sun* in Manitoba, and *The Province* in Vancouver, British Columbia. Elinor and her husband moved to the town of Invermere, B.C. and for 8 years, she was a regular writer for *Reader’s Digest*. She then purchased a fledgling local newspaper, *The Columbia Valley Pioneer*, and turned it into an award-winning community staple. Elinor sold the newspaper in 2010 to pursue her lifelong goal of writing fiction. Her first historical novel *Bird’s Eye View* was published by Dundurn Press of Toronto in October 2014. She continues to interview veterans and blog about our proud history at Wartime Wednesdays. In 2016 many of her original interviews appeared in a book of non-fiction titled: *My Favourite Veterans: True Stories From World War Two’s Hometown Heroes*.

A sub-committee was struck comprised of Cliff White, Jim Murphy, Don Mickle, Dave Reynolds and Perry Davis to examine the Oral History Project, i.e. what to do with the completed interviews and the future of the

project, and to consider a meeting with Elinor Florence who may have some valuable suggestions regarding the publication of Oral Histories into a book. Jim Murphy will chair this committee.

A grant application in the amount of \$2,987.50 has been submitted to the Province of Alberta for the Oral History Project. This is a matching grant. Should our application be successful and we receive the amount requested, the society is required to contribute a matching amount of \$2,987.50 per the terms of the grant application. The results of this application should be received this month.

Marie reviewed the payments made for previous Oral Histories – Phases 1- 6. It would appear that if we are successful in getting the full amount of the grant, the society could afford to pay for 10-12 Oral Histories.

7.3 Future direction of the Park Warden Service Alumni Society

This was discussed under 5.2.

In response to a question from P. Davis regarding taking a stand on environmental issues, D. Reynolds reminded everyone that we should be careful not to exceed our mission statement.

7.4 Special Resolution to amend bylaws – By-law #2, Section 4.5 and By-law #18.

The Board of Directors passed a motion at their November 23rd, 2017 meeting to include a new membership category. The proposed amendment affects two clauses - to Section 2 (Membership), Clause 4.5, and Section 18 (No Vote). The chairmen read the proposed by-laws as follows:

AMENDMENT: By-laws Section 2 Membership. (New) Clause 4.5 – Supporting Member.

“A supporting member can be someone for whom the Association is important and wishes to participate in the Association’s activities by lending expertise to assist in projects or provide advice.”

AMENDMENT: By-laws Section 18 No Vote to read, “Honourary members, Associate members and Supporting members are not entitled to vote at any meeting of the Society.”

Per Section 51 of our by-laws a Special Resolution must be passed at a Special Meeting or at our Annual General Meeting in order to incorporate these changes into our by-laws.

A discussion ensued as to Section 18 (No Vote) and whether or not to allow voting status to Honourary, Associate and Supporting members. This would require a by-law amendment. The executive could address this at a board meeting and if an amendment was passed by motion a Special Resolution would then be presented at next year’s annual general meeting (or a special meeting) of the society to amend the by-laws.

The chairman called for three motions:

1. to accept the proposed by-law amendments,
2. to repeal the existing by-laws
3. to approve the by-laws of the society as amended.

MOTION: MURPHY/C. REYNOLDS – to accept the Special Resolution as read which would see by-law amendments as follows: add Clause 4.5 Supporting Member to the by-laws of the Park Warden Service Alumni Society defined as follows: “A supporting member can be someone for whom the Association is important and wishes to participate in the Association’s activities by lending expertise to assist in projects or provide advice.” And further, to amend Clause 18, No Vote to read: Honourary members, Associate members, and Supporting members are not entitled to vote at any meeting of the society. CARRIED.

MOTION: DAVIS/WHITE - to repeal the existing by-laws of the Park Warden Service Alumni Society Alberta (Corporate Access #5014397136). CARRIED.

MOTION: CALVERT/KEESEY – to approve the by-laws of the Park Warden Service Alumni Society Alberta (Corporate Access #5014397136) as amended. CARRIED.

ACTION: The Secretary-Treasurer will amend the society by-laws and submit the necessary documents for the Province of Alberta Corporate Registry.

7.5 Pine Bungalows – Mike Wasuita

Gord Anderson passed along an invitation from Mike Wasuita to the warden alumni society members to stay at the bungalows over the weekend of October 12-14th at a reasonable accommodation rate. Mike is selling the business and wishes to have the Warden Service as his last clients.

The offer from Pine Bungalows was well received by those in attendance. It was suggested that perhaps the next directors meeting could be held in Jasper at Pine Bungalows on either October 12th or 13th, 2018.

ACTION: Gord Anderson, Dale Portman and Alan Westhaver will work together with Mike Wasuita (Pine Bungalows) to confirm the date and time for the meeting and obtain more information from Mike regarding accommodations rates and other pertinent information.

8.0 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

By-law # 22) states: Board of Directors, Executive Committee or Board shall mean the Board of Directors of the Park Warden Service Alumni Society Alberta. The Board shall be comprised of (12) and no more than (14) persons.

Vice-President, Dave Reynolds, will assume the position of President for the term ending 2019. The position of Vice-President will need to be filled at today's meeting. Dale Portman will become Past-President as per the by-laws and expressed interest in serving on the board as a director as well.

Five directors positions terms have expired - Perry Davis, Mac Elder, Bob Haney, Scott Ward, Don Mickle. Mac Elder, Bob Haney and Scott Ward have declined to run for another term. Perry Davis and Don Mickle have agreed to let their name stand for election for another 3-year term.

The Chairman opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice-President.

Jim Murphy nominated Cliff White for the position of Vice-President.

Perry Davis nominated Jim Murphy for the position of Vice-President.

Jim Murphy declined the nomination.

Cliff White was elected by acclamation.

The Chairman opened the floor for nominations for director(s) for a three-year term.

Jim Murphy nominated Don Mickle as a director for a 3-year term.

Dave Reynolds nominated Perry Davis as a director for a 3-year term.

Cliff White nominated Dale Portman as a director for a 3-year term.

Marie Nylund nominated Colleen Reynolds as a director for a 3-year term.

Alan Westhaver nominated Gordon Anderson as a director for a 3-year term.

Dale Portman nominated Dennis Herman as a director for a 3-year term.

No further nominations were made. The Chairman declared that nominations cease.

Don Mickle, Perry Davis, Dale Portman, Colleen Reynolds, Gordon Anderson and Dennis Herman were elected by acclamation.

ACTION: Marie will send out an updated list of board members to the new Executive.

ACTION: Marie will send advise the Bow Valley Credit Union of the change of signing officers so that the official signing authority can be updated.

9.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. P. Davis announced that for those members who are interested, there will be a memorial/wake/celebration of life service for ACMG Honourary member, Brian Greenwood, on Sunday, June 24th from 2 to 6 pm at the Creek Side Seniors Centre in Canmore.

2. Linda Stinson extended an invitation to everyone present to a social gathering at her home after the conclusion of the meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: C. REYNOLDS/WHITE – to adjourn the meeting at 3:12 pm. CARRIED.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Mission Statement

“Maintaining the culture and tradition of the National Park Warden Service by fostering good will and assistance through mentoring, volunteerism, historical commemoration, advocacy, and social activities.”