

**Unofficial until approved at next AGM**

**2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
SECHELT GROVES SOCIETY  
5823 Skookumchuk Rd., Sechelt, BC  
Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7 PM  
Meeting of the Membership**

**All attendees were required to sign in on a form made part of the record to confirm a quorum.**

- 1) Welcome and Call to Order at 7:13 PM by President D'Arcy. It was noted that a quorum was in attendance – 7 members including 3 Board members.
- 2) The President asked if there were any additions to the Agenda at this time. No additions
- 3) The President called for a Motion to adopt the agenda – Moved by Lou Janke – Seconded by Ken Hall- Carried
- 4) Motion to approve the minutes of the last general meeting of the Society – April 11, 2017 – posted on website. Moved by Ken Hall and seconded by Lou Janke, carried unanimously.
- 5) **Elections:** The President advised - 7 of the Current Board of Directors – President: Bob D'Arcy, Vice President: Doug Smith, Secretary/Treasurer: Michael Davidson, Directors: Rupert Clark – Michael Siddall – Mike Sutcliffe – Lou Janke –were elected for a term of two years in 2017 and carry on. Jim Stockall was elected for 2 years in 2015, his current term has expired and therefore with the resignation from the Board and the office of the President by Bob D'Arcy at the close of this meeting there will be 2 openings for new nominations for Board members in accordance with the Bylaws of the Society. It is not required these positions be filled. Mike Paddison was nominated for election to the Board by Lou Janke and was approved unanimously from the floor.

There is provision for 8 Board members. With no additional nominees put forward, in accordance with the Bylaws of the Society, the previous board members are elected by acclamation.

**6) President's Report – (as presented to the meeting)**

The 2017 year has been super as have so many years been. Our Trailbuilders have excelled all dreams in perfecting the trails and maintaining them. How about a round of applause with special thanks to Michael Davidson who has coordinated so much of the efforts.

We, the Groves Society, have received many, many Google compliments, Guestbook entries, emails, assurances from the Visitors Centre that the Groves are most complimented site they send visitors too. Thanks to Vital Signs, special 'DogDo' signs were installed. We ran an ad for Trailbuilders and were very pleasantly rewarded with some super new volunteers. We installed 'No Camping' signs as we had a few, very few, incidences of problems. On October 19th the first interpretative signs were installed on Monty's Way with the sign cost contributed by the Sunshine Coast Community Forest. This an ongoing project and the SCCF have set aside further funds. One new bench is going in and it is proposed to be in honour of the Trailbuilders at the new viewpoint location.

We have other volunteers who do not get any special titles or credit. I would like to especially acknowledge Debra Campbell who has kept the map box stocked in the kiosk.

More formally, I can report that the filing for continuance of the Groves charitable status has been filed and accepted for the year so good to go until this time next year. We have maintained our good relationship with the Provincial Sea to Sky Recreation District and we thank the past services of Alistair McCrone and welcome the new representative, Jessica McKierahan. As mentioned the Community Forest is super supportive in many ways with special thanks to Dave Lasser there who advises so well on forestry matters, gets danger trees looked after and more. The District of Sechelt

has continued to pay for extended insurance for the Society. There are many others, and these have been listed on the Donors page of the website.

This will be my last President's report after so many, but I would like to withhold remarks about that until we discuss new business and I give my 'summing up' remarks at the end of the meeting.

**7) Secretary/Treasurer's Report presented by the President [Financial Statements handed out to attendees upon their sign in at reception]**

**a. Review of Financials for Fiscal Year 2017 and summation to date with Membership Report**

Now is the time for the **Secretary/Treasurers report** and your President will present that for Michael Davidson who is designated for the job but let's me do it.

First the Financials: You should have received a year end copy of the report for the close of our fiscal year, December 2017 as you came in. I have also supplied a report of our up to date position.

With no major project in the cards and some funds coming in regularly we are in good shape. If a new major project starts, we will start a special fund-raising effort. I am pleased to confirm that we have received a grant of \$750 this year from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

For now, membership count is more important than our financial balance. We have a total of 68 members at April 8<sup>th</sup> but that includes 14 Complimentary members for Trailbuilders and other honoured folks. We sure would like to see a lot more.

Membership count is what gives us influence with potential helpers like the DoS, The SCRD, the Province and, of course, the big donors in Victoria and Ottawa when we need them. This issue was highlighted in my report last year.

I appeal to you: speak to all you can and ask them to join the Groves Society – just the annual regular \$10 membership is little to ask and could make a big difference. Of course, if they want to make a donation too that is welcome and donations over \$10 get tax receipts.

I find it hard to understand how there are so many people who use the Groves nearly daily and fail to join - just as a thanks to the Trailbuilders for keeping things up.

**b. Motion to accept the Report as set out moved by Charles Fox, seconded by Mike Sutcliffe**

**8) Now for a little more detail:**

a. First Michael Davidson reported on various trail building work focused primarily on upgrading trails and solving drainage issues as well as some key rerouting of certain heavily used trails. Interpretive signs supplied by the Community Forest were installed along Monty's Way.

Planned for later this spring is an expansion of the parking lot to provide an additional 8 spaces, much needed during peak use periods.

Future plans also call for extensive native planting of under represented species in the parking lot.

b. Next, the interpretive signage. This is ongoing, and funds are in place. It is just a case of getting the content and placement agreed and we can get them made and in place.

c. Other organizations:

- i. SC Trails – Rupert Clark is our rep and he keeps track of the goings on there. Much of what they are involved in does not affect the Groves directly, but it is good to follow and occasionally contribute.
- ii. Community Forest – I have already praised their help, financially and technically.
- iii. District of Sechelt – not much interaction but they are paying for some insurance. As an aside, the parks department kind of unofficially steps in from time to time with help.
- iv. SCRD – nothing cooking right now

- v. Sea to Sky is the province and things are good there. Provided we apply early and vary our finance request we seem to be good for about \$700 to \$1000 a year.
- vi. Sandy Hook Community Association seems to be defunct at the moment including their ill proposed community hall for in the Groves.

9) No new business was brought forward.

10) No additional items added to the agenda at the start of the meeting.

**11) Open Discussion:**

- i) Lou Janke has observed that the new interpretive signs are being used by visitors and is all for more of them. He also felt even more parking will be needed in the future.
- ii) Mike Sutcliffe wanted to see a bigger effort to recruit new members.
- iii) Nancy Smith suggested a SGS booth at Hackett Park on Canada Day for recruitment of members.

**12) Summing Up:**

**From outgoing President, Bob D'Arcy:**

And so, we come to the end of another AGM and the most important thing is that we can thank all those who have done so much – thank donors and just plain members for their support. So, thank you all.

The next year and years look good and at this time I want to say how much I will miss my involvement after so many, many years. It has been a special honour and it has been very heart warming to be involved in such a great and successful and friendly organization. At my age I will never see a repeat for myself, but it feels like I am going out on a high and feeling good. This piece of paper is my formal resignation for the record for the Board.

Thank you all so much.

**The following was also read by incoming President, Michael Davidson:**

Most of you here have no idea how much time and effort Bob put into leading the effort to protect Hidden Grove from complete clear cutting, beginning in 2000. Endless letters to elected officials at all levels of government which had to be renewed every few years as the names changed. Meeting after meeting where he would plead our case to the powers that be, accompanied by carefully crafted maps and handouts. He also orchestrated media coverage and tours whenever he felt it could further our cause. When cutting rights were handed over to the Community Forest he had to develop new strategies and start the whole process over again. More meetings, more letters, more pleas. Gertrude kept the archives for this period including phone logs [this was before email] which fill 6 thick binders. On top of this, Bob created a Hidden Groves website and spent days [weeks?] transferring all the archival data to PDF's. Those who have visited the site know it is a gold mine of information. Using Monty as a model, he created virtual photographic tours of the trails. Even now he spends many hours a week, every week, on the Groves, chasing after grant applications, handling correspondence, maintaining the website and taking photos for the archives. He has tirelessly promoted the Groves in other ways as well such as the creation of the brochure now found in many Sunshine Coast B&B's. In February 2011 he formed the Sechelt Groves Society in order to get charitable status from the federal government for fund raising. That application alone was 80 pages. SGS is responsible for both the Sechelt Heritage Forest as well as the Hidden Groves.

In short, the success of Hidden Groves and its trail network is the combined effort of many people. And as with any group effort some people have contributed more than others. Way more. Without Bob there would be no Hidden Groves as we know it today. □

**13) Motion to Adjourn**

Moved by Ken Hall. Meeting was adjourned at 7:42.

# Sechelt Groves Society - General Expense

## 2018 Financial Statement

Updated: April 8, 2018

Opening Balance January 1/18 = \$8,790.38

### Income

#### GENERAL INCOME

Annual Memberships	\$612.00	
Memberships held at PayPal	\$0.00	
Over Annuals & Donations	\$1,387.91	
Over Annuals Held at PayPal	\$0.00	
SHCA Donation	\$0.00	
Sales of Goods or usage	\$1,500.00	
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	
Investment & Interest	\$0.00	
District Grant in Aid?	\$725.00	
BC Government	\$0.00	
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	\$4,224.91	\$13,015.29

### Expenses

#### GENERAL EXPENSES

PayPal Deductions	\$85.47	
Registration (society) costs	\$0.00	
Misc. Groves Materials	\$762.15	
Gifts Given	\$0.00	
Licenses/Permits/Memberships	\$0.00	
Dinner Meet-Trailbuilders	\$1,000.02	
Printing, Office, etc.	\$0.00	
Website -	\$0.00	
Bank Services	\$15.00	
Plaques and Benches	\$0.00	
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	\$1,862.64	\$1,862.64

**OVERALL BALANCE** 

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 \$11,152.65

**Sechelt Groves Society - General Expense**  
**2017 Financial Statement**  
 Updated: December 31, 2017

Opening Balance January 1/17 = \$8,415.60

**Income**

GENERAL INCOME

Annual Memberships	\$530.00	
Memberships held at PayPal	\$0.00	
Over Annuals & Donations	\$3,247.00	
Over Annuals Held at PayPal	\$0.00	
SHCA Donation	\$0.00	
Sales of Goods or usage	\$0.00	
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	
Investment & Interest	\$0.00	
District Grant in Aid?	\$0.00	
BC Government	\$750.00	
	\$4,527.00	\$12,942.60

**Expenses**

GENERAL EXPENSES

PayPal Deductions	\$61.25	
Registration (society) costs	\$40.00	
Misc. Groves Materials	\$1,876.92	
Gifts Given	\$0.00	
Licenses/Permits/Memberships	\$0.00	
Dinner Meet-Trailbuilders	\$941.85	
Printing, Office, etc.	\$1,039.16	
Website -	\$129.44	
Bank Services	\$63.60	
Plaques and Benches	\$0.00	
	\$4,152.22	\$4,152.22

**OVERALL BALANCE** \$8,790.38