

Unofficial until approved at the next AGM

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

SECHELT GROVES SOCIETY

5823 Skookumchuk Rd., Sechelt, BC

Tuesday, June 27th, 2023 at 2 PM

Meeting of the Membership

All attendees were required to sign in as part of the record to confirm a quorum

1. Welcome and call to order at 2:10 PM by President Davidson. It was noted that a quorum was in attendance – 5 members, all on the Board of Directors.
2. There were no additions to the Agenda.
3. The President called for a motion to adopt the agenda – moved by Terry Nichol – Seconded by John Campbell– carried.
4. Motion to approve the minutes of the last general meeting of the Society, August 10, 2022, moved by Nancy Smith and seconded by Howard Baker, carried unanimously.
5. **Elections:** All nominees to the Board of Directors: Michael Davidson, Terry Nichol, Ken Kolterman, Nancy Smith, Howard Baker and John Campbell, were unanimously elected. There were no other nominations from the floor.
6. **President’s Report – [as presented at the meeting]** The president reported heavy use during the year but no issues of concern. Main focus has been on trail building and maintenance (see Terry Nichol’s report below). A major push to add a variety of native plant species to the parking lot this fall will be aided by Nancy Smith.
7. **Secretary/ Treasurer’s Report presented by the President [Financial Statements handed out to attendees upon their sign in]:** Year-end balance was ~ \$2000 over the opening balance due to the increasing generosity of supporters. The current balance is \$22,390. Biggest expenses for the year were for trail building supplies, brochures and the annual Trailbuilders’ dinner.
8. **Membership Report:** Our membership at the end of 2022 was 63 members.
Motion to accept both reports as set out was moved by John Campbell, seconded by Terry Nichol and carried.
9. **Report on trail building activity:** Terry Nichol, head of the Trailbuilders, praised the “awesome” Wednesday and Saturday crews. Besides immediately clearing any trees across the trails during the year, he oversaw the Saturday Gray Creek Trail effort which involved the construction and placement of 4 log bridges and is now less than 50 meters from the end, next to the creek. As his team retreats back to intersection #23 they will be addressing certain problem areas in and along the trail. Along with Michael Davidson, he continued leading the Wednesday work party as they upgraded the Red Trail, an

improvement much praised by visitors. It is now fully completed and he will turn to other trails or trail sections in need of overhauling.

10. There were no additional agenda items for discussion.

11. Open Discussion:

Parking: Concerns were raised about adequate parking spaces. Current parking labeled "Bus and RV Parking" will be changed to include "Overflow Parking". It might be possible to carve out more spaces behind the Accessibility parking area at the far end of the lot. Signs directing visitors back down the hill for parking in front of the chained logging road is another possibility.

Annual Trailbuilders Dinner: to be held in late September or early October at Terry Nichol's house.

Memorial bench: those in attendance suggested a bench in the Sechelt Heritage Forest dedicated to Gertrude Pacific in recognition of her tremendous contribution to its protection.

The issue of liability was discussed in terms of whether Trailbuilders were covered by the District of Sechelt's insurance policy when they were working beyond the borders of the Hidden Groves. Also discussed was the wisdom of putting up any signs with the words 'danger' or 'risk' as they might make the SGS liable for any injuries, since they imply prior knowledge of hazards. It was agreed that more research was needed.

Future projects: Upgrading of central and southern intersection signs to the improved versions.

- Creating a new SGS logo

- Installing the backlog of memorial benches

- Adding drone footage of the most popular trails to the website

12. Motion to Adjourn: Moved by John Campbell, seconded by Terry Nichol. Meeting adjourned at 2:47 PM.