

Nature Calgary Annual General Meeting Agenda

Date: November 17, 2023

Time: 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Location: The Confluence

1. Call to Order 1:43 PM - Quorum Achieved

Parking was an issue - City of Calgary machine wasn't working

- Welcome and Introduction
 - Take a stand and introduce yourself your other people
- Land Acknowledgement
 - Confluence of Bow and Elbow Rivers
 - NC spoke to Blackfoot Confederacy elder a couple years ago
 - On land follow Indigenous practices
 - Respect - your footsteps are not the only footsteps
 - Give back to the land
 - Acknowledge and respect your teachers - we encourage this through field trips and education
 - Share your stories - successes and improvement
- Confirmation of Quorum
 - 35 members present

2. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to Approve the Agenda
 - Nathan - 1st
 - Lenora Flynn 2nd
 - Passes unanimously

3. Approval of Previous AGM Minutes

- Review and Motion to Approve
 - John McFaul - 1st
 - Jim Donahue - 2nd
 - Passes unanimously

4. President's Report

- Overview of the Past Year's Highlights and Accomplishments
 - 419 members - some kids

- 112 field trips - Encouragement to join and/or lead a field trip - we are happy to train and provide more information for either
- 18 talks - transitioning back to in-person with Zoom still available
 - Next series - geology of Alberta
 - In-person meeting to talk results of Christmas Bird Count
- Social media
 - 2007 Instagram followers - up 500
 - 2013 Facebook followers - up 300-400
 - 212 YouTube followers - up 100
 - Leverage to share our message
- Highlights
 - Garbage collection 68th st wetlands - 4th year in a row
 - City Nature Challenge - started by Matt Walton
 - East Village Partnership - 28 walks this past year
 - Funding for public events - TD Friends of Environment funding
 - Flower Walk - Nose Creek Park w/experts
 - Moths Event - permitting issues - couldn't happen
 - Global News - Kaya goes every other month talking about birds - Thursdays at noon - video presented

5. Committee Reports

- Advocacy
 - Canvassing for new members - you don't need to be a member
 - Current projects
 - Future projects
 - You can bring your own projects
- Future Goals -
 - Branding
 - Katrina and Liz refreshing materials and making sure all our links work
 - Digitization
 - NC has collected data for a very long time - 60s and 70s
 - Kaya showed examples of how we kept records before E-Bird
 - 75,000 of these records - awaiting response on Birds Canada grant
 - Digitize Pika magazines
 - Call for people who have published anything or have records of our previous publications to bring forward so we can digitize
 - Education and Outreach
 - Call for volunteers who would be interested
 - Citizen Science
 - Taking over City Nature Challenge from Matt - looking for volunteers to contact partner organizations
 - Calgary Greenbook - re-surveying 11 natural area parks
 - 70th Anniversary
 - Example of swag shown

6. Financial Update

- Interim Financial Summary (noting that audited financials will be presented at a future Special Meeting)
 - Lots of cash on hand - ready for new projects
 - Some liabilities - haven't done the projects yet so haven't earned them
 - Membership fees have been steady
 - Non-member admissions 40% increase
 - Donations up - one big donation for \$5000
 - Interest increased
 - Overall revenue up \$10k
 - Not a lot of program expenses
 - Admin costs consistent
 - Bottom line - \$21k more in our bank account
 - **Motion to approve pending any significant change from Special Meeting**
 - Nathan Schmidt 1st
 - John Faul 2nd
 - Question - are we a registered charity? - Yes - donations get income tax receipt - Do donations have strings attached? - No - Jim showing the types of income that has "strings attached" - grants that require certain programming or can only be spent on certain things
 - Question - John Faul - professional auditor used in the past - sometimes it's awkward trying to find two members - should we go back to a professional auditor? - Jim says it shouldn't be tough to find with so many members - bylaws say within 12 weeks of year-end we need to have our AGM which is not required
 - Question - difference b/t restricted and non-restricted assets - grants that have specific criteria and can only be spent on certain things
 - Passed unanimously

7. Election of New Board Members

- Presentation for Slate of Nominees - Nathan and Kaya not up for re-election
- Call for nominees - no one puts their name forward
- 1st - Jess
- 2nd John Faul
- No discussion
- Passed unanimously

8. Thank You's & President's Award

- Thank You's to Supporters and Partners - East Village - Wild Bird Store - Calgary Underground Film Festival - City Nature Challenge
- Draw for two tickets
- President's Award

- John McFaul - present and accepted
- Greg Wagner - not present but recognized

9. Q&A and Open Floor

- Opportunity for Member Questions or Additional Announcements
 - Emily - field trip waiver forms - she has a whole pile of them - Kaya will talk to Maya and then get in touch
 - Charitable status - does advocacy affect this? Have to be non-political but otherwise have wide berth to advocate for things under our mandate
 - Where will in-person meetings be held? Hoping to have various locations around the city - depends on the type of event

Formal AGM portion closes at 2:31PM - talk begins

10. Special Guest Presentation

- **Dr. Heather Addy**
- Topic: Tiny Forests
- Minutes on presentation not taken
- Q & A from various members

11. Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn - 3:40PM