

Evergreen Seniors Outdoor Club Annual General Meeting Minutes April 5th 2018

Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 12.30 pm by John Boyd – Chair.
2. Quorum established by the Chair.
3. Agenda reviewed by Chair.
4. Motion to accept the Agenda.
 - a. Moved by Glen Campbell.
 - b. Seconded by Eric Leavitt.
 - c. Carried.
5. Motion to accept the minutes of the 5th April 2017 AGM.
 - a. Moved by Gisela Ironside.
 - b. Seconded by Anne Lyon.
 - c. Carried
6. No business arising from the AGM Minutes - Chair.
7. Introduction of the Board and Volunteers - Chair.
 - a. Eric Leavitt - Past President Website Director.
 - b. John Boyd - President.
 - c. Jane Fraser -Vice president.
 - d. Bob Perkins -Treasurer.
 - e. Jennifer Aikenhead - Secretary.
 - f. Greg Mackenzie - Summer Transportation Director.
 - g. Gary Kerr - Winter Transportation Director (absent).
 - h. Peter Fisher - Summer Hiking Director.
 - i. Hugh Powell - Winter Activities Director.
 - j. Murray Lees - In-town Hikes Director.
 - k. Cheryl Campbell – Social Director.
 - l. Glen Campbell - Social Director.
 - m. Mary Kelly - Social Director.
 - n. Ole West - Membership Director (absent).
 - o. Elsie Boutillier - Phone Coordinator.

- p. Anne Lyons - Phone Coordinator.
- q. Sheila Perkins - Sunshine Person.
- r. Newsletter - Editor.
- s. Eric Leavitt - Web Administrator. (Volunteer)

8. Bylaws, Policy and Objective Update – presented By John Boyd for Gary Kerr.

The changes to the existing Bylaws were presented by John Boyd. Following the discussion, the subsequent Special Resolutions were moved.

9. Special resolution that the Bylaws of the Evergreen Seniors Outdoor Club be rescinded and be replaced by the following Bylaws

- a. Moved by Eric Leavitt.
- b. Seconded by Peter Kubica.
- c. Carried.

An Amendment that the quorum (Section V, Meetings, part 3) for a meeting, be decreased to 25% of Membership

- a. Moved by Hugh Powell.
- b. Seconded by Glen Schultz.
- c. This amendment was defeated.

An Amendment that a quorum (Section V. Meetings, part 3) for a meeting, be decreased from 50% to 40% of the Membership in good standing.

- a. Moved by Ann Lyon.
- b. Seconded by Stefa Fassina.
- c. This amendment carried.

An Amendment that the words (Section V, Meetings, part 3) “for routine motions” be deleted from the Bylaws

- a. Moved by Eric Leavitt.
- b. Seconded by Hugh Powell.
- c. This amendment carried.

The special resolution to rescind the old Bylaws and replace with the amended Bylaws carried.

10. Special resolution that objectives for the Evergreen Senior Outdoor Club be established (as required by Alberta Registries).
Motion to accept the objectives of the Senior Evergreen Outdoor Club be to:

To Provide seniors of age 55 years and over with the opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities throughout the year.

- a. Moved by Cheryl Whitehead.
- b. Seconded by Elsie Boutillier.
- c. Carried.

11. Motion to adopt revised Policies and Handbook - presented by John Boyd for Gary Kerr.
 - a. Motion by Val Scholefield.
 - b. Seconded by Jane Fraser.
 - c. Carried.

12. Treasurers Report presented by Hugh Powell for Bob Perkins.
Full report will be posted on the New Web site.
The bank statements of 28th Feb 2107, does not include reconciliation of uncashed cheques.
Equity \$2000 more than 2017, good ridership of the buses helped.
Glen and Cheryl Campbell social events contributed to positive finances.
Audited by Hugh Powell, Barb Brunton.

13. Motion to accept Treasurers Report for 2017-2018 Fiscal Year.
 - a. Motion by Betty Weightman.
 - b. Seconded by Cheryl Whitehead.
 - c. Carried.

Motion to accept Hugh Powell and Betty Whiteman as Auditors for the fiscal year 2018-2019.

- a. Motion by Norm Wardlaw.
- b. Seconded by Jane Fraser.
- c. Carried.

14. Membership Director Report presented by Greg McKenzie for Ole West.

Current Membership -

120 full members, 41 associate member for a total of 161.

2017-2018 - 14 members joined the club and 14 resigned.

The trips completed by members was 2323, 17 less than last year.

Chart was on display for members to review last year's outings.

Complimentary Passes.

- a. Doreen Pawson -38 outings received 3 complimentary bus passes.
- b. Greg McKenzie - 37 outings received 2 passes.
- c. Art Johnson - 35 outings received 1 pass.

15. Summer Transportation Director Report - Greg McKenzie.

Overall, summer transportation has gone very well. In total there were 32 charter bus trips. Due to poor weather in early April, the first trip of the year was April 20th to Sulphur Mtn. and Banff Townsite. The last trip was Oct 26 to the Bragg Creek area. Three hikes were cancelled. One of this year's cancellations was due to miserable weather in May, the other due to poor sign up in September. We also had to cancel the July, Sunshine Village hike due to forest fires closing the area that week. Attempts to run the bus in November failed due to weather.

Universal Coach lines was our new carrier this year. We were initially impressed with their newish coaches and professional drivers. However, our overall experience proved to be worrisome due to electronic and mechanical failures. One trip to Stanley Glacier left us all at the side of the road and unable to do the hike at all. On two trips the electronics failed resulting in the coach stalling and then coasting to a stop. After a few minutes wait and lots of anxiety the coach started up again and we continued on our way. Other clubs experienced similar issues such that the collective number of failures was very worrisome. Numerous meetings were held with Universal the outcome of which was to purchase a different type of coach – a Prevost coach that will be better suited to gravel roads.

Again, this year, City Hikes were part of the hiking schedule with a City Hike scheduled to coincide with each of four long hikes that were allotted to 6 hours of hiking time. Attention was paid to whether city hikes affect attendance to the bus. It does appear that City Hikes are popular and on two occasions significantly impacted bus attendance. One hike was cancelled due to low attendance on the bus and high attendance for the City Hike that day.

Again, this year, there were no early departures, even for the longer hikes. It was decided to be consistent and as the days are long, trips could simply return a half hour later, rather than depart a half hour earlier and risk losing people who forget the early departure time. This seemed to work fine for most.

“Canada 150” was a challenge this year for trips into the National Park. The good news was there was no charge for entry. The challenge was that parking lots were very busy and near impossible to coordinate the bus and car pool drivers. We managed and next year will likely be more typical of the past years.

This is now our fourth year of consistently applying rules as posted on the website for what happens if the bus is over subscribed. Again, the Transportation Director adhered faithfully to these rules all summer. Simply put, Members get priority. Guests then Associate are bumped to car pools. If a member is bumped it is by lowest lottery number. No Member is bumped more than once in a season unless they volunteer to be bumped more often. Common sense is applied people who can't drive, don't drive, or shouldn't drive i.e. don't drive very well! People seemed to appreciate the information. Most people now understand that if they are bumped it's done fairly and that they are not being victimised and won't be bumped again. 15 of our 32 trips this year required bumping-up from 6 of the previous year. A total of 68 members got bumped-way up over previous years due to outstanding attendance. Members only got bumped once in a season unless they volunteered to be bumped more often, Accolades to the Laidlaw who four times volunteered to be bumped and drive. Cheryl Whitehead did so three times. Most weeks we had people volunteered to be bumped because they had a guest who was to be bumped and the Member asked to be bumped too so that they could

go with their guest. We didn't have to use the lottery numbers too often once the guests, associates and volunteers were bumped. Yes, many, many guests and Associate Members got bumped-some many, many times. Michael Graven got bumped 8 times. He wanted to be a Member but membership was capped most of the summer. Thanks to those of you who contacted me when you had to cancel. It sure helped me let a happy person know they weren't bumped after all.

Managing carpools was a new challenge this year in that almost half the trips required cars and often two or three even as many as six cars. Good communication of each driver is so important as to where the Biffy Break will be, and where the trailhead is located. Also challenging was managing things when there was more than one drop-off point or more than one pick-up point. Where possible cars were organised with hikers in each car going to the same drop off and pick-up point. That was hard to do at times as people often weren't sure what hike they would like to do as they usually make up their mind after hearing the Trip Leader outline the day. Helpful for future years would be to add as much detail as possible on the website by Trip Leaders so that people going in cars can make a good choice in advance.

Something that we've continued this year is keeping a Guest list. This was an idea that Erlinda passed along to be from the Skraskins Club of which she is also a member. As each guest signs in, we now collect their e-mail address as well as a phone number. New guests are added to Guest list. Then, each week that I suspect may be low attendance, I send the now 28 Guests an invitation to join us on that Thursday's hike. It usually results in two or three people from the list opting to join us which helps keep the bus full. I think it has also contributed to attracting some new members. Mind you this year, the bus has been so full that I've only sent out our guest list e-mails three times all summer.

Again, this year, I've valued the assistance of John Morck and Glen Schultz filling in for me when I am away. Thank you both. The new \$20 fee is wonderful for the Bus Coordinator. It really helps speed up getting onto the bus. It is also so much easier to

count and get to the Treasurer before the bus gets back into the Parking Lot.

Apart from the above, there have been few complaints and people are very cooperative and understanding of particular situations that can arise unexpectedly due to weather or when their lottery number comes up.

16. Winter Transportation Director Report- presented by Greg McKenzie for Gary Kerr.

The winter season went reasonably well considering the colder weather. Great snow conditions helped keep the bus full. When weather conditions were good, we even had to car pool a couple of times. We cancelled three times due to low registration during the holiday season. Although we had fewer outings than last year, we were generally full or close to capacity. There were 601 passengers over a total of 13 trips for a registration average of 51.

17. Summer Hiking Director Report- Peter Fisher.

There were 29 trips 2017, 3 long trips to Drumheller, Waterton Lakes and Emerald Lake.

Thanks to all Day Trip Leaders, whose support made for a very successful club season.

Peter Fisher met with Art Johnson, Jane Fraser, Barb Brunton, John Morck and Eric Leavitt to plan and finalize the hiking schedule for 2018.

Attached is the hiking schedule for 2018.

Day Trip Leaders are still needed to lead many of the hikes.

Jane Fraser advised everyone that in the new schedule, 4 hikes would have an earlier start in the day, as the distance to travel to the hike was longer. On the long trip days, there will be a 30 minutes earlier start time. It was also suggested, that an email be sent out to the membership prior to the Thursday longer hike days, as a reminder of the early pick up time.

18. Winter Activity Director- Hugh Powell.

There were 19 Thursdays from 30th November 2017 until this AGM and thus I needed 19 Day Leaders. I would like to thank all the members who stepped up and volunteered. There were 5 trips cancelled, basically due to very cold weather forecast or forecast for heavy snow and/or icy rain. Then some of those people who had volunteered for those days agreed to fill in as lead on a later trip.

I believe that all our Day Leaders performed admirably. We are limited when selecting winter destinations as we need places to suit skiers and snowshoers of differing abilities, as well as walkers. Also, we would like a place to get indoors while waiting for the bus although it is not always possible. William Watson lodge is not available every week and this needs to be coordinated. As our Bus Company was licensed and insured for trips to BC, we took advantage of this for trips to Lake O'Hara parking lot and Emerald Lake.

The Out of Town Trip- to Fernie's Island Lake Lodge, with 21 people and 11 rooms from August 28th -31st. We were lucky to have very good weather and avoided the forest fires with the associated smoke that were affecting Alberta and BC.

This years out of Town trip July 23rd-26th is to Jasper, for 21 people.

Volunteer needed to plan 2019 Out of Town Trip.

19. Web Administrator Report – Eric Leavitt

By the time of the AGM we will have switched web sites. This switch was necessary because the person in charge of web site maintenance did not wish to continue supporting the previous web site.

Several features of the revised web site are not satisfactory, including:

The new web site is very unattractive. It is important that the club have an attractive web site, prospective members will find attractive and informative.

We wish to continue with our current lottery system and not set bus reservations on a first come first served bases as the new web site does.

We want to have a web site that can be easily modified or updated by anyone in the future. This means it should be developed using tools such as WordPress.

After careful review of the revised web site, the Board of Directors decided to pursue development of a web site that would be better tailored to the needs of the club. While this web site is being developed we will be using the revised site on an interim basis.

Besides asking members for advice we also reviewed other club's websites. Two of the web sites that inspired us were the Backcountry Lodges of BC and the Second Sixties. Based on our research we sought bids from three companies.

After reviewing the bids, we selected CCF Development and Consulting Inc. to develop our web site. (Full disclosure is that this is Curtis Fraser's company.) Curtis has extensive experience developing and supporting web sites for a variety of clients. The new web site will be developed using WordPress so it can be supported by other developers in the future.

It is expected the new site will be ready for roll out in two to three months. During that time there will be opportunities for people to test the site and give feedback.

The cost of the development will be approximately \$3,000. It will give us a web site we will be able to modify as our needs change and will provide an attractive introduction to our club as well as contain the functionality needed to support our operations.

20. Social Director Report-Cheryl and Glen Campbell

2017 Events.

Both the July Barbecue at William Watson Lodge, and the November Christmas Luncheon, held at the Wainwright Hotel Dining Room at Heritage Park were well attended and enjoyable events. The BBQ generated a profit of \$722.76 which was used to help subsidize members for the Christmas Luncheon.

Our Club's 25th Anniversary was celebrated at that Luncheon with a pictorial, journey back through the history of the club, put together by Bernie Nemeth, Art Johnston and their 25th Anniversary Committee. Copies of the disk were made available for purchase by Bernie Nemeth at a very nominal fee. Thanks to them, as well as to John Boyd who spearheaded this committee.

2018 Events

William Watson Lodge has been booked for Thursday, July 12, for what will be our 18th Annual Evergreen Barbecue.

The Wainwright Hotel Dining Room at Heritage Park has also been booked for Thursday, November 22 for this year's Christmas Luncheon. We were able to get the same rental fee as we paid in 2017, partially due to an early booking discount and the discount we receive thanks to Mary Luciuk's many volunteer hours there. That is a saving of \$400.00 over the list price. In spite of being a bit cozy and a few glitches with the meal this year, the overall feedback is that the Evergreens really enjoy the ambiance of this venue.

Retiring and passing the torch

Glen and I, and Mary Kelly are retiring as of today as your Social Directors. I would like to say a special thank you to Mary who has been a fabulous co-coordinator for the past 2 years. And a heartfelt thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who have helped make the BBQ and Christmas Luncheon such successful events these past three years. We have really enjoyed serving in this position and you all have made it so much fun. We particularly appreciated being able to get to know so many of you so much better.

At this time, I would also like to introduce Stefa Fassina who has offered to take over as Social Director for 2018. We know you will all give her the same awesome support you gave us.

21. In-Town Hike Director - Murray Lees

Carol Morris will be taking over the In-Town Hike Director position.

There were four in-town hikes this summer, three with great weather, Glenmore Park was rainy and snowy. Some hikes have been repeated, but the group tries to select new hikes in various parts of the city. Lorrie Beattie's Book 'Calgary's Best Walks' is used as reference. \$180 was contributed to the bus cost.

Attendance

- a. 37 people July 20th to Nose Hill
- b. 25 people Aug 17th to Glenmore Park-North Side.
- c. 32 people Sept 7th to Twelve Mile Coulee.
- d. 10 people Sep21st to Glenmore Park South Side.

22. Newsletter Editor -John Boyd.

John Published Three News letter 2017-2018.

Joan McLean has accepted the Editor position.

23. Phone Coordinators Report - Elsie Boutillier.

I would like to thank Val Scholefield and Anne Lyon as my back up phoners. I would like to thank Art Johnson for his helpful trip synopses, which helped members to make safe choices in their hike selection.

24. Sunshine Report presented by Jennifer Aikenhead for Sheila Perkins.

In this past year cards seem to have gone out mainly for bone breakages and a few heart operations.

In total 24 cards have been signed and mailed out. Once the ice goes I hope my job will become much quieter. So please watch where you put your feet and keep washing your hands in order to ward off broken bones and nasty illnesses.

Very many thanks once again to Dave Pawson and Frances Chapman for their wonderful cards and to my wonderful husband Bob who takes care of all the e-mail notices on my behalf.

I am quite happy to continue as the "Sunshine Girl" for another year but as I have some travelling to do this year June Sobon will fill in for me. Many thanks June for doing this.

Think healthy and have soft landings!

25. President Report – John Boyd

Thanks to all directors, volunteers and members for a successful year. Our bus coordinators, Greg McKenzie and Gary Kerr had some problems with Universal, our new bus company and we lost one trip due to a stalled bus, but things are much better now, probably helped by a meeting of Evergreen and other clubs at the Universal office with its manager from Richmond B.C.

Peter Fisher's hiking schedule worked out well and he met with some of the experienced day leaders at Jane Fraser's house in January to help plan this summer's hikes. Thanks to Jane for organizing it.

Hugh Powell had to go with the weather and snow conditions each week and we had a good winter season, only having to cancel a few times for weather or not enough bus riders.

Our average bus ridership did increase which made treasurer Bob Perkins very happy because it greatly helps the Club's finances.

Secretary Jennifer Aikenhead managed to write up our directors' meetings as if they had gone very smoothly.

Membership Director Ole West brought in many new members and set up a new system for quickly moving associates back to full membership when they met the 12-outing requirement.

Cheryl and Glen Campbell and Mary Kelly organized a very successful summer barbecue and fall luncheon, with the help of many volunteers – as well as hosting this meeting and organizing coffee, tea and goodies.

We had our 25th anniversary in November of last year and a slide show narrated by Art Johnson, organized by Bernie Nemeth, Joyce Morrison and Anne Lyon was the entertainment. For our anniversary, we also wanted to make a donation to help the hiking community, so we donated \$1,000 to the Friends of Kananaskis for interpretive signage on the Grassi Lake trail, with the Evergreen name on the sign.

Website Director Eric Leavitt had a busy year, moving to a new website this month and organizing a committee to work with Curtis Fraser who has been contracted to develop the Evergreen's own website, hopefully ready for us by this summer.

Gary Kerr volunteered to review the bylaws and policies and the board reviewed these at its March meeting and voted to have a

special resolution at the AGM to repeal the existing bylaws and replace them with the new ones.

Sheila Perkins sends out sunshine cards, with pictures donated by Dave Pawson and Francis Chapman and these are very much appreciated. There have been a few mishaps on the trail and the response and quick thinking of the evergreens who aided the injured were very impressive.

Thanks to Elsie Boutilier for telephoning, Murray Lees for in-town hikes, Art Johnson and Cheryl Whitehead for Saskatchewan Nordic Ski Club training sessions.

26. Call for Nominations for Board of Directors and Volunteers.

Nominees -

John Boyd - Past President

Jane Fraser - President

Craig Barnstable - Vice President

Bob Perkins -Treasurer

Jennifer Aikenhead - Secretary

Ole West - Membership Director

Eric Leavitt - Website Director

Hugh Powell - Winter Activities Director

Peter Fisher - Summer Hike Director

Greg McKenzie - Summer Transportation Director

Gary Kerr - Winter Transportation Director

Carol Morris- In Town Hike Coordinator

Stefa Fassina - Social Director

Joan McLean - Newsletter Editor

Sheila Perkins- Sunshine Person

Elsie Boutilier - Telephone Coordinator

No additional nominees from the floor

Vote for Acclimation of Nominees.

Unanimous.

The above is affirmed as the new Board.

27. John Boyd thanked the volunteers and the Board, and appreciation for those stepping down, Cheryl & Glen Campbell and Mary Kelly from the Social Director position.

Murray Lees from the In-Town Hike Coordinator position.

Meeting Adjourned at 14:30.

