

ESOC October 9th., 2019 Board Meeting

1. Craig Barnstable confirmed we had a quorum, meeting called to order at 10:00 AM.
2. **Present:**
Craig Barnstable
John McLean
Jane Fraser
Bob Perkins
Carol Morris
Jennifer Aikenhead
Eric Leavitt
Greg McKenzie
Joan McLean
Gary Kerr
Barb Brunton
Lynn Whittingham
Elsie Boutillier
Absent:
Jane Fraser
Stefa Fassina
Hugh Powell
Sheila Perkins
3. Carol Morris moved to accept the minutes from the June 5th, 2019 board meeting, seconded by Lynn Whittingham, passed.
4. As requested by Greg McKenzie the agenda was modified to include the sports swap at the fall luncheon.
5. Update from the following board members:
 - a. **Treasurer – Bob Perkins**
 - For this meeting I used a different format so allow the reader to see the changes since the previous Board Meeting(s). There has been very little change in our overall position. Our net assets have reduced marginally.
 - Bus operations are still showing a small profit thanks to the months of March and April where we were still benefitting from the higher bus fares. Since the inception of the reduced fare we have lost \$487. We have also benefitted from good attendance on the long distance trips to Helen Lake and Takakkaw Falls where we are still charging \$25 fare. These two trips showed a profit of \$613 and the Icefields trip which was poorly attended only lost \$6. I still anticipate increased losses from the bus in the next few months

- In-town hikes have contributed \$230 so far which has not been included in the above calculations. This will certainly assist in reducing the loss on bus operations.
- The BBQ required no real subsidy from the Club as it only lost \$8. Well done Stefa!
- I am of the opinion that we can afford to significantly subsidize the Fall Luncheon. This has the attraction of directly benefitting a large portion of the membership while drawing down the assets that we currently hold. A subsidy of \$15 for members is recommended.
- Our outstanding no show bus fees currently are \$100.
- Bob Perkins recommended we continue charging \$20 for the bus.
- He also recommended we subsidize the luncheon fee to keep it at the same rates as last year.
- Several motions were made regarding the cost of the fall luncheon tickets, it was decided to discuss the ticket cost later in the meeting.
- Elsie Boutillier suggested changing the venue for the fall luncheon. The survey done by the social committee last year resulted in more than 80% of the membership wanted the fall luncheon to remain at Heritage Park.
- The board discussed other recommendations to reduce our bank balance:
 - i. Speaker for the AGM
 - ii. Subsidize the X-country ski lessons
 - iii. Eric recommended not spending too quickly as we may require \$1500 for web site changes.

Reports for Board Meetings 2019-2020						
Board Meeting held:	2018 September	2019 January	Year End	2019 June	2019 October	2020 January
Financial Position at:	24 Sep 2018	16 Jan 2019	28 Feb 2019	31 May 2019	30 Sep 2019	
Bus Operating Cost						
# trips ytd	25	37	44	9	24	
Amount paid to Bus companies ytd	\$26,292.00	\$39,053.88	\$46,658.56	\$9,502.50	\$25,725.00	
Amount collected (excl In-town Hikes) ytd	\$26,083.00	\$38,460.00	\$46,625.50	\$9,880.00	\$25,963.00	
Average Ridership ytd	50.2	49.5	50.0	52.1	51.6	
Net Gain ytd	\$(209.00)	\$(355.63)	\$(33.06)	\$321.50	\$238.00	

Net Gain per ticket ytd	\$(0.17)	\$(0.32)	\$(0.02)	\$0.69	\$0.19
Financial Position					
Bank Balance	\$15,747.00	\$14,939.60	\$20,506.38	\$20,757.00	\$19,149.43
Liabilities (unpaid bus fees)	\$(2,163.00)	\$(2,108.92)	\$(4,095.00)	\$(5,457.50)	\$(3,244.50)
Liabilities (pre-paid memberships)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$(3,060.00)	\$0.00	0.00
Assets (Heritage Park deposit)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Assets (Boundary Ranch deposit)				\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Assets (Pre-paid park passes)	\$427.00	\$366.60	\$324.30	\$268.00	\$148.05
Net Assets	\$15,011.00	\$14,197.28	\$14,675.68	\$17,568.00	\$17,052.98
BBQ net result		\$722.20			\$(8.30)
Fall Lunch net result		\$(295.19)			\$0.00
In-town hikes ytd	\$238.25	\$238.25	\$238.25	\$0.00	\$230.30
Unpaid no shows					\$100.00

b. Membership Director – Lynn Whittingham

Current ESOC members:

Full members	132
Associate members	33
Total	165

The club has reached the membership cap for Full members.

An **updated Emergency Contact List** has been sent to the Board. Hard copies will be in the Day Leader binder and with the Bus Coordinators, the President and Membership Director.

An **updated Members List** has been sent to all members. Members have been asked to check it and the website and notify the Membership Director of any changes to their personal information.

Members are notified quarterly of the number of their **club outings**. The most recent notice was sent on August 31 and the next will be at the end of November.

Evergreen members have been offered **discounted shopping opportunities** at a Friends and Family event at Sportchek and Atmosphere in September. Camper's Village offers a smaller discount year round. Atmosphere at Market Mall has offered a Friends and Family event all day on Wed., Nov. 6.

c. Summer Hike Director – Barb Brunston

- The summer hike schedule began on April 11 and ends October.31; the April hikes were organized as carpool hikes.
- April 18 carpool outing to Glenbow Ranch had 54 participants. We may want to consider bus transportation for this destination if we decide to use it next spring.
- The April 2 carpool outing to the Cross Conservation Area had 35 participants.
- 2 planned bus trips were cancelled due to low registration / bad weather forecast: Mount Lipsett on July 4 and Upper Kananaskis Lakes area on Sept. 26.
- 2 destinations were changed in response to a poor weather forecast or road conditions. June 27 planned for Raspberry Ridge area, changed to Elbow Falls area (43 registered). Oct. 10 planned to Rummel Lake area, changed to Upper Kananaskis – Rawson - Kananaskis Village (53 registered).
- Average bus registration was: 53.6.
- Several in-town hikes were scheduled (thanks, Carol!) for weeks with long hiking times. These in-town hikes did not seem to have a major impact on the bus numbers whether they were held on a Tuesday or Thursday.
- Our lowest bus registrations were for: West Bragg Creek – 41, Burstall Pass – 42, Icefields – 43, Elbow Falls – 43.
- We restricted participants for September 19 Moraine Lake trip to 56 as parking for additional cars is a problem in that area.
- Some trips came back late (Yoho, Buller, Stanley Glacier, Old Goat Glacier, Dry Island), mostly due to injury or health issues; people on the bus were accepting of the delay.
- We are considering having only one pickup (at Montgomery) on days with long hiking days next year, to reduce pressure on bus driver's working day limitations.
- Some issues with overly large groups, and groups of mixed speed levels (e.g. B1 and B2 together). Day Leaders have been told to split the groups or at least appoint assistant leaders for large groups and make sure they and their sweeps have radios. Unfortunately, some

senior members/executives of the club have told specific day leaders not to worry about that and let the group sort themselves out after they convene outside the bus. I will also try to make sure when more than one level has the option to go to the same destination, I'll set up separate trip options on the event for each level.

- There were 5 new day leaders this summer: John McLean, Kyra Fisher, Marilyn Hardie, Jill Johnston and Mike Gervais. New Day leaders were invited to 'job shadow' another more experienced day leader, but as far as I know, no-one did that, but they have all done a very good job and asked lots of questions of experienced day leaders to prepare.
- Proposed a few changes to operation of our website to make the Summer Trip Director job easier.
- The proposal for one pick up location on long trips was tabled.

d. Summer Transportation Director – Greg McKenzie

- Overall, summer transportation has gone well. In total there were 30 charter bus trips. The first trip of the year was May 2 to West Bragg Creek area. This was two weeks later than last year as we did shoulder season non-bus hikes in April. The last trip is scheduled for October 31 to Lady MacDonald area. The July 4 trip to Mt Lipett and the Sept 25 hike to Rawson lake were cancelled due to low attendance with miserable weather.
- Good attendance for most hikes.
- Most trips came off as usual, but on three occasions (Emerald Lake, Old Goat Glacier, and Paint Pots trips), the bus returned very late due to medical issues.
- City hikes were a part of the hiking schedule with a city hike scheduled to coincide with each of the long hikes. For the first time, three of the six city hikes were on Tuesday. This helped keep the bus full on Thursdays. Some folks enjoyed hiking both Tuesday and Thursday those weeks.
- There were no early departures this year due to complaints about it the previous year. Now there are complaints because we didn't have early departures!
- No bussing problems with Universal with whom we have a renewed 2 year contract.
- Again this year, we have had thoroughly reliable service on every trip. Not a single issue. We love our driver Ray Grummet.

e. Website Director – Eric Leavitt

- Eric sent an email to the board re changes to the web site (see attached)
- Some members have had difficulty entering park pass information.

- Park passes may be valid on the date of registration for the hike, but may have elapsed by the hike date.
- Day leader may have to check the date.
- When a hike is modified, please put in the date to avoid hikers choosing the wrong hike.
- Some members have dummy addresses so if a hike changes please contact Elsie Boutillier so she can contact members without internet access.
- Eric is hoping to change this problem, but the present web site needs email addresses for all members.
- William Watson Lodge is open for hikers this winter.

f. Social Director – Stefa Fassina

- The fall luncheon is booked for Nov 21st and registration open October 10.
- Announcement will be made on the bus on Thursday 10th.
- Cost for meal is \$32 pp, GST 5% \$1.60, Gratuities 18% \$5.76, Venue cost based on 110 quests is \$5.45 pp for a total of \$44.81
- I would recommend increasing the member's cost to \$45 and guest to \$50.

g. Sunshine – Bob Perkins for Sheila Perkins

- The summer life was quite quiet for outgoing cards.
- With the end of September and beginning of October we had 5 cards go out.
- A couple of "joint replacements", a couple of broken bones and unfortunate accidents. We also sent a thinking of you card to ex member Rodger Banderk.
- Here's hoping things calm down again and we have another long stretch with no need for cards.

h. Phone Coordinators – Elsie Boutillier.

- The following members do not have computers and require phone contact to register for summer / winter trips or special events:
Jo Bands
Lucie Baradoy
MJ Butala
Rob Cormack
Maria Melnychuk
Dick Van Beek
Please contact these members by phone to notify them of bus trip and in-town hike changes, cancellations or location modifications. You can also call or email Elsie Boutillier 403.239.5371 or elsie.boutillier@gmail.com.
- There are a few members who would do an in-town hike rather than a bus trip.

- 40 people requested new club crests and Elsie will look into this and make an announcement at the Luncheon

i. Newsletter Editor – Joan McLean

- The newsletter is posted on the website and sent out by mail to those people on the phone list.
- Please ask members to submit articles for the newsletter.

j. In Town Hikes Coordinator – Carol Morris

- There were 7 in-town hikes the summer of 2019, 4 were held on Thursday and 3 on Tuesday when the bus trip was scheduled to return after 6 pm or when the bus hike was more than 5 hours.
- There were 164 attendances by 79 different individuals. \$230.30 was donated to the club. A suggested donation of \$2 was waived for the first Tuesday hike on July 23. This turned out to be the most attended hike of the summer with 29 individuals. Individuals do not sign up for the in-town hikes so there is no way of knowing how well they will be attended.
- Elsie Boutillier, the phone co-ordinator, wished a note was sent to indicate date and location to allow sufficient time to contact those without emails. Sometimes I missed adding the Tues. or Thurs. or gave little notice which caused a few "oopsies". Will try better next year.
- In town hikes:

Date	location	Attendance
Thurs. July 4	Elliston Park	20
Thurs. July 11	Dale Hodges Park	25
Tues. July 23	Nose Hill Park west	29
Tues, July 30	Strathcona Ravine	19
Tues. Aug. 13	Griffith Park	24
Thurs. Aug 22	Carburn Park and Beaver Dam Flat	20
Thurs. Sept. 12	Silver Springs Gardens/Bluffs	27

- Many thanks to Lynn Whittingham for leading the Sept. 12 hike.

k. Review Status of other Issues

- **Success of Mentorship /Shadow Program for New Day leaders.** New day leaders did not shadow but certainly contacted experienced day leaders for advice.
- **Continuation of Tuesday in-town hikes**

Hikes are going well and Carol will continue to organize them. Members are still required to do 6 bus trips to maintain their full membership.

- **Acknowledging long term members**

This was done at the summer Barbecue and it was agreed the barbecue was the best place for the acknowledgements by the President or Membership director.

Photographs and write ups could be placed in the newsletter with their permission.

- AGM sports swap to be organised by Greg Mackenzie.

I. New Topics

- **Accident and unusual incident reports**

Accident reports were re-developed by John Morck and Bob Perkins. They have offered to re-develop incident report guidelines to be included in the day leaders binder.

The treasurer will keep **accident reports**.

The president will keep the **unusual incident reports**.

- **Note to snowplow operator and Park Canada**

Greg Mackenzie will draft a note to the snowplow operator Darryll for initiating the emergency response on Oct 3rd and include a copy to Parks Canada.

- **Satellite radios**

Universal Coach has an INREACH system which has limited texting ability and is slow.

Satellite radios are \$989 to buy and come with monthly charges.

There are several devices made by Garmin with Satellite ability and some have monthly fees.

Spot device also has satellite contact.

The INREACH device on the Universal bus has the ability to make a 911 call which is picked up by a satellite, Ray was unaware or under the impression he was not allowed to use 911 button.

The radio has some pre-set messages and Greg will contact Universal management to see if the pre-set messages can be customized to meet our needs.

- **Early start time and one centre pick up for long hikes**

Topic tabled

- **Website changes**

Contact Eric for any further website changes

Motion by Eric Leavitt to provide funding of up to \$1500 for web site changes, seconded by Barb Brunton, passed.

- **Fall luncheon**

- Motion to charge \$35.00 for members and \$45 for non-members for the Fall luncheon made by Barb Brunton, seconded by John Mclean, passed, 2 opposed.

6. Meeting adjourned 12:20.