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## REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, April 25, 2024

6:30 PM at Arts Council meeting room

Present: Jill Sanford   Gerry Sanford   John Anderson   Kate Anderson   Lou Cooke   Judy Guichon  
Liis Jeffries   Sara DeRosier

### Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chairman John Anderson at 6:31PM.

John reminded everyone the purpose of the meeting was to make a final decision about the future involvement of the NWCRT with the Laurie Guichon Memorial Grassland Interpretive Site(GIS) as the Memorandum of Understanding is due to be re-signed in June for another 10 years. Any other business will be limited unless deemed urgent.

### Opening Circle

Everyone introduced themselves around the table.

### Minutes of the Last Meeting (January 17, 2024)

These were read by John Anderson

### Discussion:

Each member was polled with these questions:

- Do we or can we continue to meet our obligations at the GIS?
- If we do continue with the MOU, should we maintain only the smaller area including just the Kiosk area and the pathways near the small lake (pond) or include the whole larger polygon where some future pathways may be developed?

- The Grasslands Conservation Council, who are our partners at the GIS, would like us to continue with the larger polygon. They can probably provide some funding but manpower is unlikely.

There was consensus to sign the new agreement with the Ministry keeping the following in mind:

- This would apply to the whole large polygon.
- The outhouse maintenance will be contracted by the Ministry to the caretaker at Lundbom Lake. Off season maintenance to be determined.
- Gerry and Jill will make a list of tasks to be done e.g. raking, weed-whacking, weed pulling on paths, invasive weed pulling, danger tree assessment & removal, keeping track of volunteer hours including work parties.
- John will check out the water trough for condition and safety.
- The school days will continue.

Other business:

- Lou gave an update on the frustrations with the different parts of the bureaucracies looking at the feasibility of more water storage at Gillis Lake.
- Concerns that the City is using water we don't have.
- General discussion about conservation storage.
- Does the Round Table have a role? This could be a Forum topic in the Fall.
- Could we partner with another group?
- Let's remember Elmer – Respectful discussion is often more important than a project.

AGM was discussed and date set for June 19<sup>th</sup> 2024 6:30-8pm

- Larger venue needed than the NVCAC (Nicola Valley Community Arts Centre), likely a room at the Civic centre.
- It was discussed that we should come up with a speaker, theme and information.
- Water Conservation and storage being top of mind. (Discussions followed about: Rain Barrels, dams, keeping existing dams...)  
ANY suggestions coming forward would be considered and appreciated.

Closing Circle with good sentiments from all and appreciation for the gather and interesting discussion.

Meeting ended at 8:15 pm.