

Forest History Association of Alberta
4th Annual General Meeting
March 18, 2008
Coast Edmonton Plaza, Edmonton

Meeting called to order by President A. Rytz at 7:15 p.m.

Directors and Members Present

Board of Directors representatives Arden Rytz, Peter Murphy, Bruce Mayer, and Bob Newstead were present. Twenty-two Association members were in attendance. Two guest attendees, Trevor Wakelin and Janet Millar of Millar Western Forest Products Ltd. were introduced.

Opening Remarks

President, Arden Rytz opened the meeting by reading a short memo from Bob Steele, a former Alberta Forest Service Deputy Minister, who reflected on some of the early years with the AFS in the 1950s. Arden then passed the meeting over to Bruce Mayer for the remainder of the agenda.

Minutes of the 2007 Annual Meeting

The minutes of the March 14, 2007 Annual General Meeting were made available to members in attendance. Bruce Mayer provided a brief review of the previous year's activities. The Board of Directors met once during the year on December 20, 2007. Ed Gillespie moved, Peter Murphy seconded that the minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

2007 Highlights

Issue #5 of the Association newsletter "Tales and Trails" was recently distributed and past copies were available at the front of the meeting room. Interviews with "old timers" continued throughout the year as every effort was being made to capture their recollections. Canadian Institute of Forestry/Society of American Foresters historical interviews captured on video from the October 2004 joint meeting are being transferred to DVD for long term storage. Reproduction and distribution will be a joint Foothills Model Forest and FHAA project in 2008. Another Foothills Model Forest project being supported by the FHAA, "The Last Patrol" is based on notes and records of Harry Edgecombe's last horse patrol in the Willmore Wilderness with the Alberta Forest Service. Peter Murphy recounted a few aspects of Edgecombe's final horse patrol and recommended that his memoirs become a stand-alone publication.

Bruce Mayer then commented on the historical values and benefits of the large collection of glass plate survey photographs stored at Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa. Among them, the Bridgeland collection of Rocky Mountain panoramas offers a 100-year reflection of change on landscapes in the eastern slopes. There are 70,000 glass plates in storage between the Library and Archives Canada, Alberta and British Columbia archives and museums and private collections.

Mayer reported that there has been discussion with Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation on a research effort aimed at archiving information and photos of historical provincial cabins and sites. Some early effort is to be focussed on the southern rockies area. He also noted that a FHAA web site is under construction.

Financial Statement

The financial statement for the year January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007 was available for circulation. The closing bank balance of just over \$9,500 does not reflect about \$3,000 in disbursements approved at the December 2007 Board meeting. Bruce Mayer moved, John Brewer seconded that the 2007 financial statement be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Election of Officers

Three Directors positions expired in 2008. Bob Udell – representing forest industry membership, Peter Murphy – representing public membership, and Bruce Mayer – representing government membership each allowed their names to stand for re-election. Nominations for these three positions were called from the floor three times. No further nominations were forthcoming. Steve Ferdinand moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Bob Newstead. Motion carried. Accordingly, all three of the above Directors were returned by acclamation.

New Business

No new business was forthcoming other than a brief reference to possible affiliation between the FHAA and the College of Alberta Professional Foresters and College of Alberta Professional Forest Technologists regarding joint efforts on continuing education initiatives. The date of the next AGM will likely be in February or March, 2009.

Adjournment

Arden Rytz called for a motion of adjournment. Tom Grabowski moved that the meeting be adjourned. Business meeting was adjourned at 2010 hours.

Presentation

Bruce Mayer introduced the evening's guest presenters, Janet Millar – great granddaughter of the founder of Millar Western Forest Products and currently the Director of Communications for the company; and Trevor Wakelin – Director of Fibre Resources for Millar Western. Their informative and enjoyable PowerPoint presentations traced the company's growth and development over the past century.