

Forest History Association of Alberta
9th Annual General Meeting
March 21, 2013
Coast Edmonton Plaza, Edmonton

The quorum requirement of a minimum of 15 members was met with over forty members in attendance. A one-foot spring snow fall impacted attendance with highways in central Alberta being closed most of the day, and a one hundred car pile-up between Leduc and Edmonton.

Bruce Mayer opened the meeting with introductions and provided an overview of the documents for review which included the draft agenda, draft minutes from the March 20, 2012 meeting and a copy of the financial statement.

It was acknowledged that March 21, 2013 was the first International Day of Forests. Established by resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on November 28, 2012, the International Day of Forests is to be held each year on the 21st day of March. The occasion is intended to be one of the world's leading global platforms for people with an interest in forests and climate change to share their views and work together to ensure forests are suitably incorporated into any future climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies. The message was simple at the end of the UN video, 'plant a tree'.

Directors in attendance were Bruce Mayer, Peter Murphy, Cliff Smith and Bob Newstead.

There were no changes or additions to the Agenda. MOVED by Morgan Kehr, SECONDED by Craig Rose; Motion carried.

Opening Remarks, President Peter Murphy

Peter Murphy provided welcome to all that were in attendance, particularly with the weather conditions. He commented on the January 2013 newsletter saying it was both interesting and 'voluminous', representing a major contribution by Bruce Mayer. Peter's main message was that we are a part of a larger national network of forest history associations, and through that group we participate in monthly conference calls led by the Canadian Forest Service. Membership includes the Canadian Forest Service, NiCHE (a social sciences research group out of the University of British Columbia), the Forest History Society in Durham, North Carolina, and representatives from the British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec forest history associations. Peter also encouraged people to write stories for submission in either the FHAA newsletters, or for inclusion in the Canadian Institute of Forestry, Forestry Chronicle magazines. There is an interest in forest history across Canada with an opportunity to share.

Past Years Activities

Adoption of minutes from the March 20, 2012, 8th Annual General Meeting – no changes made. MOVED by Cliff Smith, SECONDED by Darryl Johnson; Motion carried.

Action items and accomplishments from 2012 Annual General Meeting:

- Owen Cook and Greg Boyachuk provided thanks to the FHAA for advertising in the January 2013 newsletter the February 2013 AFS Oldtimers Hockey Tournament and E.S. Huestis Curling Bonspiel.
- Canadian Institute of Forestry grant funding – dollars provided to the Alberta Land-Use Knowledge Network to start scanning the pre-1930 Dominion Forestry Branch photographs, and to start work on website upgrades.
- Newsletters – the January 2013 edition was the only newsletter published. Open invitation to members to provide stories, pictures, etc. for inclusion. It was an interesting year in the forestry community with over twenty retirements and nearly as many people passing away.
- Canadian Institute of Forestry – the FHAA has begun submitting articles for inclusion in the Old Growth section of the Forestry Chronicle, and for the forest history edition planned for January/February 2014.
- Canadian Institute of Forestry – Peter's article titled 'Where Did All the Loggers Go' was featured in the Forestry Chronicle Old Growth section in January-February 2013.

Business Items

2012 Financial Statement

Assets include the appraised value of the three donated Robert Guest paintings that are currently at the Hinton Training Centre. Expenditures in 2012 were linked mainly to 2012 Annual General Meeting. Dedicated grant funding still to be used for the Lookout book project (the compilation of the Tim and Hope Klein historic calendar collection) and for projects identified through the Canadian Institute of Forestry grant. No timelines have been identified to finish.

Financial report MOVED by Bruce Mayer; SECONDED by Rob Thorburn; Motion carried.

Elections of Directors

There is total of 9 directors within the association, elected on a 3-year rotation; 3 from government; 3 from forest industry; and 3 from the public. Positions up for election at the 2013 AGM were the government position held by Butch Shenfield, the forest industry position held by Norm Denney and the public position held by Bob Stevenson. Butch Shenfield and Norm Denney were acclaimed each for additional three-year terms with Rob Thorburn elected to the public position for a three-year term.

The Board of Directors for 2013 comprises:

Government: Butch Shenfield, Ken Yackimec, Bruce Mayer

Industry: Norm Denney, Clif Smith, Bob Udell

Public: Rob Thorburn, Bob Newstead, Peter Murphy

Other Business

Book Draws – Brett Walker and Gail Tucker received copies of the Foothills Research Institute's 'TransCanada Ecotours Northern Rockies Highway Guide', while Dave Wall and Greg Branton each received copies of the book 'The Sky Was On Fire', personal stories of the wildfire that ran through Slave Lake and area in 2011.

Motion to adjourn business meeting MOVED by Tim Klein; SECONDED by Morgan Kehr; Motion carried.

Evening Presentation

Peter Murphy - La Grande Traverse

Peter provided a great overview and story of the La Grande Traverse, The Columbia Trail from Jasper House I (north of Brule) to Boat Encampment (big bend of the Columbia River). He began work on this project with local historian and friend Tom Peterson, after completing the book 'A Hard Road to Travel'. Very little has been told about the Columbia Trail despite the fact that it was a major fur trade route through the Rocky Mountains from 1812 to 1853. The impetus of the work came following a history meeting at the Pine Bungalows in Jasper, where teachers in attendance expressed interest in a product they could use in the classroom to teach about David Thompson, the Columbia Trail and other local history information. The presentation to the Forest History Association of Alberta was essentially a 'report back' on work done to date.

The Land-Use Knowledge Network had a staff member in attendance to video the presentation for future use. The presentation has been separated into five parts and is available at the following link: <http://landusekn.ca/resource/la-grande-traverse-video-series-dr-peter-murphy>.

Attendees – March 21, 2013 Annual General Meeting

Terry Jessiman
Chad Morrison
John Brewer
Dave Patterson
Deanna McCullough
Michelle Shesterniak
Darryl Johnson
Stephen Mills
Tim Klein
Chris Samuelson (LuKN)
Daniel Walton
Con Dermott
Anne McInerney
Roger Loberg
Andrew Gesner
Hugh Boyd
Doug Smith
Bill Tinge
Kevin Vander Haeghe
Peter Murphy
John Luckhurst

Owen Spencer
Kevin Quintilio
Rob Thorburn
Rob Galon
Jeff Henricks
Gail Tucker
Bob Newstead
Bob Morton
Brett Walker
Greg Branton
Cliff Smith
Rory Thompson
Craig Rose
Gordon Sanders
David Wall
Rick Moore
Morgan Kehr
Shawn Barraclough
Bernie Schmitte
Bruce Mayer