

Green Timbers Heritage Society

Board of Directors Meeting
June 26, 2014
Surrey Nature Centre



Lehmann Grove Dedication Ceremony June 18, 2014: Peter Maarsman, Susan Lehmann, Linda Hepner

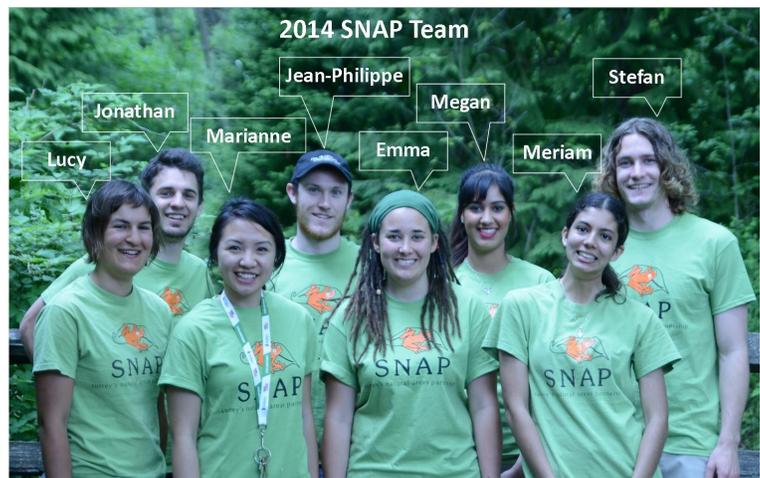
The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

Present: Ellen Edwards, chair; Susan Lehmann; Stephen McGlenn (SNAP); Ian McLean; Don Schuetze, secretary; and Deanna Welters. Peter Maarsman and Jim Foulkes sent their regrets.

1. SNAP report:

Stephen McGlenn gave a presentation and report on SNAP activities. There are currently 8 members plus Stephen: Lucy, Jonathan, Marianne, Jean-Philippe, Emma, Megan, Meriam and Stefan. Lucy and Meriam are returning members. Two high school students, Jeannette and Gabriel, will join the teams July 3. All members have an environmental focus with their studies.

SNAP is divided into two teams this year, the habitat restoration team and the environmental outreach team. The habitat



restoration team focuses on removing invasive plants and restoring and maintaining natural areas. Up until this report the team has spent eight full days at Green Timbers, seven at Blackie Spit and four at Sunnyside. They've removed 114 square meters of invasives at Green Timbers, including impatiens, blackberry, morning glory, lamium, English ivy, etc.

The environmental outreach team has a focus on community events, park roving and nature play in the park. They can be seen at the Surrey Urban Farmers' Market on Wednesdays and have gone to nine events so far. They've roved through 12 sites talking and engaging with park users. Stephen estimates approximately 40-50% of their time is spent at Green Timbers. Nature play is where they will set up pop-up children's activities in parks.

The report is attached to these minutes.

2. Previous minutes and finances:

Minutes from the March 5, 2014 meeting were reviewed. Don Schuetze moved they be accepted as read, seconded by Ian McLean. Passed.

Ellen gave the financial report as Jim is away. The Green Timbers Heritage Society has a balance of \$32,000 due to three *Canada Summer Jobs* cheques coming in for SNAP. Appreciation was expressed to the City of Surrey for providing a line of credit so the SNAP people could get paid. We received a VanCity grant of \$10,000 that will be used for SNAP's Blackie Spit restoration.

3. Communications:

Don Schuetze gave a brief report on the email newsletter program. GTUF emails have about a 50% open rate. That's high, but also means about half of our members are not receiving communications from us. The analytics from the website were passed around. There were approximately 1,000 unique visitors for the previous 30 days. The most viewed page after the home page is the trails page. There was some discussion about redesigning the site and using social media more.

The analytics are attached.

4. Current issues:

Traffic light at 144 St and Fraser Highway

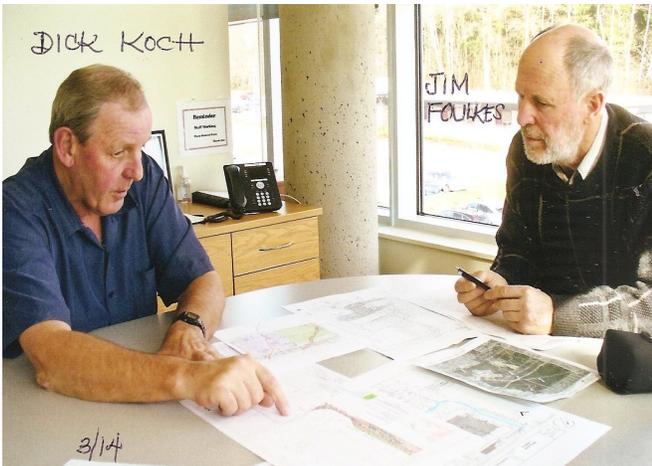
On May 21, after receiving an email from Engineering that they wished to put a traffic light at this intersection, Ellen, Peter, Jim (GTHS Directors) and Neal Aven met with four engineers from City Transportation Division, at City Hall. Jaime Boan was the Chair. There have been 38 accidents in the past five years at this intersection and Engineering feels it's a safety issue.

Engineering seemed unaware of discussions between the Green Timbers Heritage Society and the City over the past 15 years to close 144 Street. Susan Lehmann and Peter Maarsman provided documentation for Engineering of this agreement, and Ellen has sent letters to both Mr. Petrovic, Traffic Operations Manager, on April 28 and Mr. Lalonde, City Manager, on June 18, apprising them of the situation. There has been no response to date.



144 Street

School District Head Quarters parking lot expansion



Above left: School District's Dick Koch meets with GTHS's Jim Foulkes; right: evergreens saved

At our last meeting we reported that one of our members had noticed some preparatory work for cutting trees at the School District's head office on 92 Ave and 140 St. Kerry Magnus and Dick Koch of the School District Development Dept, met with Ellen and Jim to go over extension plans. The land belongs to the school district, although it connects to the Green Timbers forest. The school district was willing to listen and come up with a slight alternative that will save the evergreens and limit the deciduous trees to be felled. Ellen felt that it was the consultation that saved many trees.

Cadet academy building site being assessed by City?

The buildings on the north side of Green Timbers Way, across from the Jim Pattison Outpatient Centre have been torn down and removed. Rumour has it the City is pondering what to do with the site.

There are two parcels, 9800 and 9900 140 Ave, both belonging to the City and are not part of Green Timbers. They are currently zoned as conservation areas according to Cosmos, as part of the OCP.

There was some discussion about who to contact to see what, if anything, is being planned. The fear is it will be turned into parking for the Outpatient facility or the RCMP headquarters.

Small forested area south of 92 Ave

Ellen received a call from a citizen (Ron) concerned that the forested area south of 92 Ave would be developed. This area is called “the old King Creek reservoir” and is five acres currently zoned RF, which means it could be developed. This area is contiguous to Green Timbers but was never part of the urban forest. Ellen has written a letter to Mr. Lalonde, the City Manager asking about adding this property to the Green Timbers Urban Forest. The protection of this forested area would give the City an opportunity to follow its goals to involve the community.



Trees-at-risk culling

The City has finished its culling of trees-at-risk in Green Timbers. The City assesses trees every 13 years for potential hazards. This year it was Green Timbers turn. There seemed to be some miscommunication between the arborists who assessed the trees and the people who did the cutting. Some trees were cut down that were only meant to have some branches lopped off.

Susan was in communication with Julian Dunster, an arborist and tree assessment expert based in Victoria, who is willing to come out to assess the next assessment.

Ian pointed out the tree felling happened in March-April, which is breeding and nesting season for many birds. It should be later in the year.

Advisory Committee

The Green Timbers Advisory Committee discussed many of the issues presented here.

A large tree in the arboretum had to be felled due to rotted roots. It will be replaced by Ryan Brayfield with another tree.

Miscellaneous items

- The film company that originally wanted to bring a helicopter into the park ended up not doing so. There should be some money coming for using the park.
- There is no further word (yet) on rapid transit being run through Fraser Highway.

- Fortis Pipeline update: the pipeline upgrade does not run through Green Timbers, and the park will not be used as a staging area. At their open house in Whalley, Ellen met the environmental program manager and Jim spoke with the engineers. Once again, an institution's willingness to listen and show interest in our concerns (like the school district) demonstrates how land use issues can be resolved amicably and in everyone's best interests.
- Garry Oak Stand: Susan, Linda, Deanna and the SNAP team will be watering the oaks this summer.

5. Events

- Party for the Planet, April 26, was at the new City Hall. We had a booth inside, with Ellen and Susan attending.
- Darts Hill Volunteers Celebration was attended by Ellen. Colleen was there with SNAP too.
- Green Timbers Lake Painted Turtle Day: Susan attended this on May 24. Pictures of the 1989 clearcut were greeted with astonishment by attendees.
- World Ocean Day, June 8, was at Blackie Spit. We were next to Sunnyside. There were lots of passers-by. This was attended by Susan, Ellen, Don and Ian.
- Lehmann Grove Dedication was on June 18. This was well-attended and had an article in the Surrey Leader, as well as the City's website.
- Heritage Partnerships had a networking meeting on May 21 that Ellen attended. This was for the various historical and heritage society reps to meet and mingle.



The new Surrey City Hall



6. Communications

Jinny Sims MP sent an email expressing an interest in meeting the SNAP teams.

Green Timbers has a page in the *Surrey Stories* newsletter, submitted by SNAP Coordinator, Stephen.

Bill Bourgeois of New Direction Resource Management Ltd sent an email asking if we were planning anything for National Forest Week, September 21-27. Ellen had replied that we were too extended to do anything this year. Stephen said that perhaps we could tie this in with a planting at Blackie Spit on September 27.

Patty Bates from Thunder Bay sent a note saying how much she enjoys visiting Green Timbers when she's out here, particularly the croaking of the frogs in the lake.

Brenda Boye, past GTHS Director, sent a hello, and a notice that her mother had died.



Scenes from World Ocean Day

Several emails were sent back from our email about the Lehmann Grove dedication.

Kwantlen University expressed an interest in volunteering work on helping with financial planning and bylaws. Unfortunately, we felt there wasn't enough for them to sink their teeth into and regretfully declined.

7. Other items of interest

Ellen thought everyone should be aware that there were seven lots to be developed near Elgin Creek. This is outside of our normal scope, but shows the continual pressure on natural areas.

Ellen had some photos of Washington forest from long, long ago – a reminder how trees know no boundaries!

The Fraser Valley Heritage Railway is running on Saturdays and Sundays. Sundays are better since they are at the scheduling whims of the Railway that owns the tracks.

The BC Historical Federation Conference in Cloverdale, June 6-7 was very successful.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, September 4 at 7 pm at the Nature Centre. Our Annual General Meeting will be Thursday, November 6 at 7 pm, at the Nature Centre.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Attachments:

- Google Analytics report for www.greentimbers.ca
- SNAP report for June

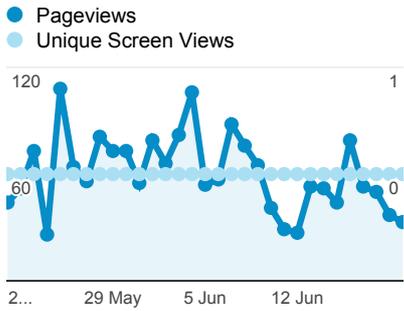
The quick overview

21 May 2014 - 20 Jun 2014

All Sessions
100.00%

+ Add Segment

Pageviews and Unique Screen Views



How many unique visitors?

1,019
% of Total: 100.00% (1,019)

Pages / Session

1.67
Site Avg: 1.67 (0.00%)

How many unique laptop/desktop v...

711
% of Total: 69.77% (1,019)

How many unique smartphone/tabl...

308
% of Total: 30.23% (1,019)

Bounce Rate

78.74%
Site Avg: 78.74% (0.00%)

Pageviews by Page

Page	Pageviews
/	237
/about-gths/trails-maps	116
/vegetation-and-wildlife/wildlife/mollusk/121-banana-slug	93
/vegetation-and-wildlife/vegetation-life/coniferous-trees/158-western-yew	64
/vegetation-and-wildlife/vegetation-life/coniferous-trees/157-western-redcedar	63
/vegetation-and-wildlife/vegetation-life/deciduous-trees/130-red-alder	55
/vegetation-and-wildlife/vegetation-life/ferns/136-lady-fern	51
/vegetation-and-wildlife/vegetation-life/flowers/151-wild-lily-of-the-valley	50
/vegetation-and-wildlife/vegetation-life/coniferous-trees/159-western-white-pine	42
/vegetation-and-wildlife/vegetation-life/deciduous-trees/133-white-birch	39

In which cities do your visitors live? - Top 5

City	Users	Bounce Rate
Surrey	164	52.40%
Vancouver	92	75.00%
Calgary	26	81.48%
Burnaby	21	57.58%
Victoria	20	80.00%

Your visitors' favorite devices - Top 5

Mobile Device Info	Users	Bounce Rate
Apple iPad	105	75.00%
Apple iPhone	103	87.27%
Samsung GT-I9500 Galaxy S IV	5	50.00%
Samsung SCH-I747M Galaxy S III	5	40.00%
Samsung GT-I9300 Galaxy S III	4	100.00%

Your visitors' screen resolutions - T...

Screen Resolution	Users	Bounce Rate
1366x768	150	86.25%
768x1024	103	74.60%
1280x800	84	77.01%
1920x1080	81	77.53%
1440x900	66	76.47%
1280x1024	57	91.94%
320x568	55	92.98%
320x480	50	80.00%
1600x900	48	66.67%
1680x1050	42	64.00%



SNAP

surrey's natural areas partnership

SNAPSHOT 2014

Progress Report to
Green Timbers Heritage Society
Stephen McGlenn. June.26.2014

Meet the team!



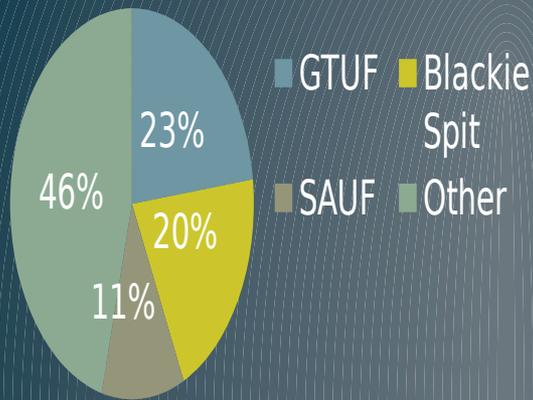


SNAP Habitat Restoration Update

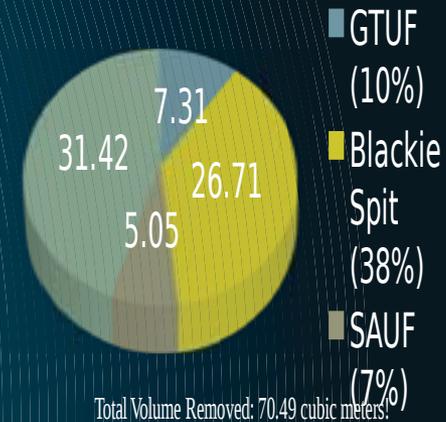
Meriam, JP, Lucy and Jonathan!

Partner Park	# of Days	Area removed (m ²)	Volume Removed (m ³)
GTUF	8	114	7.3
Blackie Spit	7	153	126
SAUF	4	108	5

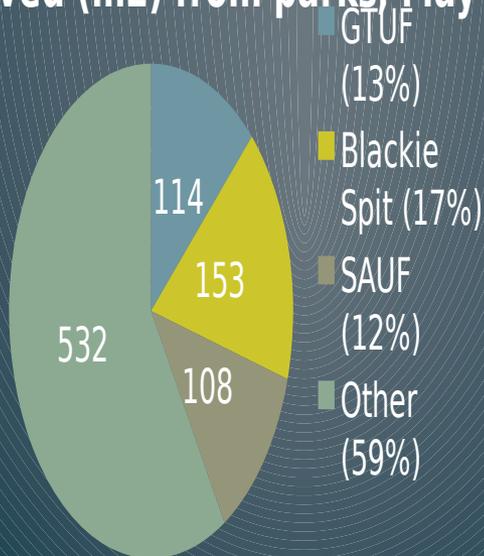
% of time in Partner Parks May-June, 2014



Volume removed (m3) from parks, May-June, 2014



Area removed (m2) from parks, May-June, 2014



13 Sites:

- GTUF
- Blackie Spit
- SAUF
- Elgin Park
- Crescent Park
- Hyland Park
- Cougar Creek
- Chantrelle Park
- Surrey Lake
- Semiahmoo Trail
- Berry Mathers Park
- 112G
- 45C





SNAP Environmental Outreach Update

Marianne, Megan, Emma and Stefan!



Canvassing:

- 17 sites
- Regarding Yard waste dumping, ATV use in parks (including 92 ave)

Events:

- SNAP has participated in 9 events so far:
 - Surrey International Children's Festival
 - Sunnyside Acres Open House
 - Surrey Urban Farmer's Market
 - Surrey Festival
 - Newton Festival
 - Park Play Palooza
 - World Ocean Day
- Future events include:
 - Canada Day
 - Bridgeview Community Festival
 - Fusion Festival
 - Tree Care community events

Roving:

- 12 roving sites so far
- Over 120 hours of roving
- Speaking to park users about environmental stewardship issues
 - Dogs off leash
 - Ecological features, wildlife
 - Littering and damage to barks (i.e. bark pulling)

Nature Play:

SNAP provides Nature Play activities in four different parks throughout Surrey:

- 15 hours in Green Timbers
- 12 hours in Fleetwood Park
- 12 hours in Blackie Spit Park
- 8 hours in Crescent Park

What's Next?

- HR Jr. Members!
- BC Gaming Grant Application
- SNAP Film – interviews
- Canada Day
- Bridgeview Community Festival
- Daycamp guest programs
- Fusion Festival
- Nature Matters at Kiyō Park, and Queen Mary Park, with SHaRP
- Community Tree Care Events

Thank You!!