



Green Timbers Heritage Society Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Surrey Nature Centre | 14225 Green Timbers Way, Surrey, BC



In Attendance:	0
Regrets:	0
Meeting Called to Order:	0
SNAP Report:	0
New Business:	1
Heading 2:	1
Communications	1
Meeting Adjourned:	1
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In Attendance:

- Don Schuetze, Jim Foulkes, Shenae Borschack, Gord Robelato, Mary Jane

Regrets:

- Bill Potma, Nathan Evans, Amar Virk, Deanna Welters,

Meeting Called to Order:

- 7:00 pm
- Not enough directors for a quorum so we had a round-table discussing various things about Green Timbers, erratics, bee turf, the watermain, etc
- Slowly packed up around 8 pm

Reports:

SNAP

See attached.

SNAP will be in the Meadow on Thursday removing scotch broom and other invasives. Come by and say hi!

GT Open House Sunday, 1-4

PR to councillors and MPs - monthly report

Co-event with SHARP at Chantrelle Creek Park, 24th and 137th, date TBA.

World Oceans Day and Sunnyside Open House events done; apparently SNAP on TV!

FINANCIAL

Regular report.

GTUFAC

Nothing planned

WEB

May performance for your website vs. previous month

Users: 1.3K Increase 44.19%

Sessions: 1.4K Increase 40.2%

Bounce Rate: 87.27% Decrease 0.93%

Average Session Duration: 00:41 Decrease 0.53%

How did you acquire your users this month?

Organic Search: 72.73%

Direct: 25.31%

Communications:

EMail about the Anniedale/Port Kells NCP, about "35,000" trees to be cut down. Were there any protests? Responded with the petition and other contact info.

Fri, May 31, 10:28 PM (9 days ago)

Hi, Don!

In today's Surrey NOW-Leader (Friday, May 31, 2019) was a booklet titled "Surrey Community Guide".

On page 43, a page about cycling, is a paragraph that reads:

"Meanwhile, there are many forest trails to ride along in Tynehead Park and Green Timbers Urban Forest."

The City of Surrey has signs that indicate no cycling is allowed on trails in Green Timbers. In order to protect the safety of walkers and to allow tranquil enjoyment of the forest these signs make sense.

Has Surrey changed its policy about cycling on Green Timbers trails or has the Surrey Community Guide got it wrong? I recently fell because I was trying to get out of the way of two cyclists who were speeding along a forest path. As someone who has had a hip replacement and will be having my second hip replacement next week, I believe the forest trails in Green Timbers and Tynehead should be reserved for walkers.

Yours truly,
Dennis Hutton

*Not clear there are any signs
There are cyclists
Rob had seen a small motor bike in there; bylaws called*

New business:

Pop-up event: Green Timbers Day

Info text:

Meet at the Lake, off the 100th Avenue entrance

Sunday June 16, 1 to 4 pm (Fathers' Day)

Make the day special for dear old dad, and everyone else in your life! The Surrey Natural Areas Partnership Outreach Team will be there with activities and snacks for kids of all ages (including dad-aged kids), we'll have a few old people (like me) with pictures and information about what the lake used to look like (hint: nothing like it does now), a few tours of the first forestry replanting in BC and maybe even one to the big ol' glacial erratic (a big rock).

See you then!

Advertising:

The outreach team will be distributing the postcards this weekend (June 1). I also got a larger version of your postcard printed so that the City can put it in the kiosk at the front entrance of the forest (I believe this will happen next Thursday). The Surrey Nature Centre staff also have a handful of the postcards to give to people who visit the Nature Centre.

GT FB page, shared on SNAP FB and "Save Hawthorne Park" group page; email to users and directors

Lake:

SNAP has two tents

The Nature Centre has an unbranded tent that the GTHS can use for the event. The SNAP outreach team can bring this and some tables.

Puneet from the City of Surrey Stewardship team will be attending our event. She will have a tent with a couple activities.

The City is also providing 50 salal and 50 hawthorn for us to give away at the event.

Don got in touch with the fish people -- we should keep them in mind for next year. They'd be interested in doing something in September. Hmm.

Surrey Nature Centre and Museum:

The Surrey Nature Centre staff leading the Father's Day walks will encourage people to attend our event after the walks.

SNAP will have someone from the outreach team at the museum from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm.

GTHS plan:

Tent: find lake book and big pics of logging etc

Tours: to SNC, museum and back (or around)

To Erratic

Garbage pick-up? (SNAP can bring litter pickers and buckets) -- have one person interested in this. I can bring some gloves and small garbage bags.

Watermain along 148 Street

Link: <http://www.metrovancouver.org/Search/Pages/results.aspx?k=148%20Street>

I haven't looked at this since then? Has anyone else?

Meeting Adjourned:

- 7:45 pm
- Next meeting

Appendix 1: SNAP Update

Month day, 2018

Shenae Borschneck, Program Coordinator

Appendix 2: News Mentions May - June, 2018

June

COLUMN: Surrey council has one consistent advocate for nature (June 5, 2019)

Trees ingest huge amounts of carbon dioxide and are effective in reducing greenhouse gases.

As far as Surrey is concerned, that seems to be of little consequence. Coun. Steven Pettigrew, who appears to be the only consistent advocate for the natural world on council, says council has approved removal of 50,000 trees since it took office in October.

Meanwhile, Surrey council has given approval for a lease of city-owned property at Green Timbers for transitional and emergency housing. This project has been in the works for years, and housing for these vulnerable people is needed. Too bad it involves the wholesale cutting of trees in one of the city's two most significant forests.

It won't be the last time the number of trees in Green Timbers will be reduced. The plan for SkyTrain along Fraser Highway will mean hundreds of trees planted as part of the 1930s reforestation effort (the first major reforestation project in B.C.) will be cut down. The only consolation is that even more would have come down if the former council's LRT project had gone ahead.

<https://www.peacearchnews.com/opinion/column-surrey-council-has-one-consistent-advocate-for-nature/>

May

Surrey approves lease with province for shelter near Green Timbers forest (May 28, 2019)

The project is to include 99 transitional housing units and 31 emergency shelter beds

A transitional housing facility and emergency shelter near Green Timbers Urban Forest is one step closer to reality.

Surrey council voted Monday night to approve a 60-year lease for the city-owned property, at 9810 Foxglove Dr., to the Provincial Rental Housing Corporation to allow for the development and operation of the facility.

<https://www.cloverdalereporter.com/news/surrey-approves-lease-with-province-for-shelter-near-green-timbers-forest/>

Green Timbers forest advocates raise concerns about proposed Surrey-Langley SkyTrain route (May 15, 2019)

TransLink says it plans a 'comprehensive' environmental screening project review

Advocates for the Green Timbers Urban Forest are voicing environmental impact concerns for the proposed Surrey-Langley SkyTrain route through the forest.

The proposed SkyTrain route would go down Fraser Highway toward Langley and through the Green Timbers Urban Forest.

<https://www.surreynowleader.com/news/green-timbers-forest-advocates-raise-concerns-about-proposed-surrey-langley-skytrain-route/>

Surrey Natural Areas Partnership (SNAP) team helping to preserve natural heritage for future generations (May 15, 2019)

SPRING is in the air and that means boots on the ground for the 14-member Surrey Natural Areas Partnership (SNAP) team.

Fourteen post-secondary students and recent graduates will be employed from now until the end of August, thanks to the federal government's Canada Summer Jobs program. They will be working on habitat restoration, urban forest outreach, and tree care. Two more students from high school will be hired for the summer months.

<https://www.voiceonline.com/surrey-natural-areas-partnership-snap-team-helping-to-preserve-natural-heritage-for-future-generations/>

New SkyTrain along Fraser Highway could mean some logging of Green Timbers (May 16, 2019)

There are renewed concerns over what rapid transit along Fraser Highway will mean for the strip of land adjacent to the roadway through Green Timbers Urban Forest in Surrey.

A roughly 1.5-km-long section of Fraser Highway runs through the forested park, which also happens to be the same route the proposed SkyTrain extension will take between King George Station and Langley Centre.

<https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/skytrain-logging-green-timbers-forest>

Green Timbers group worried about Surrey-Langley SkyTrain (May 16, 2019)

TransLink says it will take into account the concerns of the community

The Green Timbers Heritage Society fears the Fraser Highway will be widened to accommodate the train
SURREY (NEWS 1130) – Surrey nature lovers are raising concerns about what the proposed Surrey-Langley SkyTrain could do to Green Timbers, a rare urban forest in the region.

Don Schuetze with the Green Timbers Heritage Society fears the Fraser Highway will be widened to accommodate the train, dividing the beloved green space into smaller areas.

“Instead of having a forest that people can walk through, from the north to the south, now you’ve got a little bit in the south, you’ve got another little fragment in the middle, another little fragment in the north,” says Schuetze.

...

“there will be an ineffable damage done to the forest as a whole by widening that area”

<https://www.citynews1130.com/2019/05/16/green-timbers-group-worried-about-surrey-langley-skytrain/>