



Green Timbers Heritage Society

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Virtually, via Google Meet

In Attendance:	0
Regrets:	1
Meeting Called to Order:	1
Reports:	1
SNAP	1
Finance	1
New Business:	1
Bike signs	1
Election:	1
New ducks:	1
Meeting Adjourned:	1
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In Attendance:

Don Schuetze, Nathan Evans, Jim Foulkes, Amy Kim, Allison Baker, Nick McMahon

Regrets:

Bill Potma, Deanna Welters, Leana Kininmont,

Meeting Called to Order:

6:35 pm

Reports:**SNAP**

Applications for summer closed Sunday. Application for CSJ program end of January.

Finance

Current balances in:

GTHS: 13,931.28 savings and 6,135.82 in operations.

SNAP: 1,263.66 savings and 69,356.34 in operations.

Financial statements are completed, electronic copies to be sent out to AGM attendees and new directors for approval.

New Business:**Bike signs**

All signs pulled down, including path name signs about a year or so ago.

Bikers are using off-road cycling, moving logs and branches to create jumps, etc. Jim pointed out they destroyed Watershed park in Delta.

More people using the park, and not always in the way we'd like: more garbage, drones, noise, feeding birds.

Garbage cans removed in winter. What's with that?

To do: find out if any signs still there; what's the deal? Better signage?

Election:

Send Director applicants to members Wednesday.

Send package to dirs and members with financial notes, and agenda and reports.

New ducks:

Small white-headed ducks on lake haven't been seen before.

More cormorants, eagles, hawks

Meeting Adjourned:

7:45 pm

Next meeting

Appendix 2: News Mentions June-December, 2020

June

Surrey loses ‘invaluable’ community leader

Peter Maarsman, 83, of Newton died of cancer on June 1

Tom Zytaruk Jun. 9, 2020

Surrey has lost a man who gave so much of his energy to this community.

Peter Maarsman, 83, died of cancer on June 1. It wasn't a long fight – he only learned about it in April.

His contribution to this city was considerable. Maarsman served as president of the Foundation for the Coalition Against No-Fault in B.C., as executive director of the Surrey Crime Prevention Society, as president of the Green Timbers Heritage Society, and chairman of the Surrey Board of Trade, the latter being from 1994-95.

<https://www.surreynowleader.com/news/surrey-loses-invaluable-community-leader/>

25 years of summer employment opportunities for youth that also help the environment

Rattan Mall, June 16, 2020

CITY of Surrey's Salmon Habitat Restoration Program (SHaRP) and Surrey's Natural Areas Partnership (SNAP) are celebrating notable anniversaries in offering summer youth employment opportunities that build awareness and training in environmental stewardship. Collectively, the programs have employed over 880 students, who have received training in environmental restoration practices such as removing invasive plants, installing instream complexing features in waterways, and planting.

<https://voiceonline.com/25-years-of-summer-employment-opportunities-for-youth-that-also-help-the-environment/>

Two new supportive housing buildings on way for Surrey, province announces

Construction on Guildford facility to begin in July; land identified in Newton for third project

BEAU SIMPSON, Jun. 10, 2020

Two more supportive housing projects will soon provide more than 100 rooms in Surrey for the homeless or those on the edge of homelessness, the province announced Wednesday morning.

...

The City of Surrey and the provincial government are also building a six-storey supportive housing facility in Green Timbers, a project that has been years in the making.

In May 2019, the city approved the 60-year lease with the province for the housing, which will include 100 supportive housing units and 30 transitional accommodation spaces. It will also include support services such as counselling, health and food services, laundry facilities, a dining lounge and recreation and outdoor open space.

RainCity Housing and Support Society plans to operate the Green Timbers Way Housing Facility, located north of the Jim Pattison Outpatient Care and Surgery Centre.

Construction began in November and is expected to be complete by late 2021.

<https://www.surreynowleader.com/news/two-new-supportive-housing-buildings-on-way-for-surrey-province-announces/>

July

14 beautiful lakes near Vancouver to visit this summer

Jul 24 2020

...

Green Timbers Lake

This lake in the heart of the Green Timbers Urban Forest in Surrey is a great spot for fishing and generously stocked with rainbow trout throughout the year. But you can also enjoy a myriad of trails in the surrounding area. No swimming permitted.

Where: About 45 minutes' drive from downtown Vancouver, on 96 Avenue between Fraser Highway and 148 Street in Surrey

<https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/lakes-near-vancouver>

Tree falls across road in Surrey

Crews on scene to clear the debris

LAUREN COLLINS Aug. 6, 2020

Crews were on scene at Fraser Highway and 96th Avenue on Thursday (Aug. 6) to clear the debris from a tree that fell across the road.

<https://www.peacearchnews.com/news/tree-falls-across-road-in-surrey/>

August

9 Free And Low-Cost Things To Do Outdoors In Surrey Before Summer Is Over

604 Now | @604now | August 21, 2020

...

Fishing & Bird Watching at Green Timbers

Nature lovers can head to Green Timbers Urban Forest for some much-needed time relaxing in the great outdoors.

Spanning 226 hectares, this park is a popular spot for hiking and biking. It's also a haven for bird watchers, with a serene lake in the middle that attracts a plethora of bird species to the area. The lake is also a great place to go fishing as it's stocked full with rainbow trout.

<https://604now.com/summer-in-surrey-things-to-do/>

Nesting birds delay construction of Surrey supportive housing project

Councillor says work is 'well underway now'; Nickerson Place closing Aug. 31

LAUREN COLLINS Aug. 27, 2020

...

Meantime, work is ongoing at two other supportive housing projects: one in Green Timbers and one near King George Boulevard and 132nd Street.

Locke said the one on King George Boulevard, a 57-unit project, is "underway as well."

The Green Timbers site, she said, is a "full build." It will include 100 supportive housing units and 30 transitional accommodation spaces.

<https://www.surreynowleader.com/news/nesting-birds-delay-construction-of-surrey-supportive-housing-project/>

SkyTrain project includes four-lane widening of Fraser Highway in Green Timbers

Kenneth Chan Sep 14 2020

Fraser Highway through Green Timbers Urban Forest will be widened to accommodate both a larger roadway and the elevated guideway of SkyTrain's future Expo Line extension towards Langley.

The City of Surrey states it has worked with TransLink on an optimized design to widen the arterial roadway from the existing two-lane width to a new four-lane standard between 140 Street and 148 Street.

<https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/surrey-langley-skytrain-fraser-highway-widening>

September

This is the ultimate guide to a bicycle adventure to Green Timbers in Surrey

September 16, 2020

...

Ride along 100 Avenue

This is a treat to ride — and it's new! There are raised, separated bike lanes on both sides of 100 Avenue. The lanes feature an asphalt surface, between 2 to 2.2 metres wide, that allows side-by-side passing. Cyclists are raised to sidewalk elevation (curb height) and are physically separated from pedestrians by a boulevard and from traffic by a street buff (stamped and colourized concrete).

100 Ave at 148 Street

The new raised, separated bike lanes were funded through the TransLink Walking, Cycling, and Roads Program under Bicycle Infrastructure Capital Cost Sharing (BICCS). TransLink and the City of Surrey cost-shared upgrades along 100 Avenue, between King George Boulevard and 148 Street, to create these raised, separated bike lanes on both sides.

<https://buzzer.translink.ca/2020/09/this-is-the-ultimate-guide-to-a-bicycle-adventure-to-green-timbers-in-surrey/>

TransLink releases Surrey-Langley SkyTrain station designs (RENDERINGS)

Kenneth Chan Sep 18 2020

September 2020 artistic rendering of 140 Street Station on the Expo Line's Surrey-Langley SkyTrain Extension. (TransLink)

For its third phase of public consultation on the Surrey-Langley SkyTrain project, TransLink is seeking public feedback on the designs of the new stations that will be built along Fraser Highway for the Expo Line Extension reaching Fleetwood. <https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/translink-surrey-langley-skytrain-station-design-renderings>

The best places to see fall leaves in and around Vancouver

Sep 21 2020

...

Green Timbers Urban Forest

Once fall hits the Green Timbers Urban Forest, you'll be floating on a carpet of golden leaves as you stroll the second-growth forest trails, or wander around the picturesque lake.

<https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/where-to-see-fall-leaves-vancouver>

No news mentions October to December.

Appendix 3: Facebook postings

June to December, 2020

I'm sure we'll all remember 2020, but here's a positive reason to add to your list: Surrey's Natural Areas Partnership (SNAP) celebrated 20 years! This was also the first year we were able to get a Fall team in place. They've done a great video covering the past two decades and what's been accomplished:

<https://www.surreysnaturalareapartnership.com/about>

www.surreysnaturalareapartnership.com

2020 marks SNAP's 20th year anniversary. Take a look at 20 years of restoring, enhancing and encouraging residents to become stewards of Surrey's urban forest. Thank you to our partners and Canada Summer Jobs for continuing to support our program!

This is worth a read! It's not mysticism: biologists show how a forest is a networked community and not just a collection of trees.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/12/02/magazine/tree-communication-mycorrhiza.html>

The Social Life of Forests

www.nytimes.com

Trees appear to communicate and cooperate through subterranean networks of fungi. What are they sharing with one another?

Green Timbers Society's Annual Meeting Postponed 🌲 -

<https://mailchi.mp/953e827f7a45/green-timbers-societys-annual-meeting-another-election-4196169>

Green Timbers Society's Annual Meeting and election: details! 🌲 -

<https://mailchi.mp/051ca440f42d/green-timbers-societys-annual-meeting-another-election-4195589>

126261743_2378643518927030_7502943608649

Green Timbers Annual Meeting and Ball, without the Ball, Tues. Nov. 24, 2020. Social Distancing, and online component. <https://mailchi.mp/1f4b058f0e97/green-timbers-societys-annual-meeting-another-election>

123943074_2346872582104124_3892220941775

SNAP is supported by Summer Jobs Canada.

Link for the day from Green Timber's MP:

<https://www.facebook.com/728912523858841/posts/3414372581979475>

This is interesting: Moose Jaw has an annual "Tree of Significance". If you had to pick one for Surrey, which one would it be?

City of Moose Jaw's 2020 Tree of Significance Revealed - DiscoverMooseJaw.com
<https://discovermoosejaw.com/local/city-of-moose-jaw-s-2020-tree-of-significance-revealed>

DiscoverMooseJaw.com - Local news, Weather, Sports, Free Classifieds and Business Listings

discovermoosejaw.com

Every four years the City of Surrey gives out a slew of civic awards. 2020 is one of those years, and the Environmental Award is among them. Deadline for nominations is October 16.

From the site:

"The Environmental Award recognizes outstanding contributions in environmental action, such as people and individuals who 'go beyond' to enhance Surrey's natural environment and projects that inspire and inform, creating awareness as they related to environmental action or environmental issues of concern. Award categories include: Outstanding Individual, Community Group (neighbourhood or non-profit); and Outstanding Business. "

For more information, please email environmentalaward@surrey.ca or call (604) 591-4691

<https://www.surrey.ca/about-surrey/community-initiatives/award-programs/civic-distinction-awards>

Civic Distinction Awards

www.surrey.ca

Learn more about the City's Civic Distinction Awards and how you can apply or nominate a resident, business or organization.

An "erratic appreciation walk". Along the way we also appreciated the variety of mushrooms and fungi popping out all over the place!

Photos from Green Timbers Heritage Society's post

A few photos from our "erratic appreciation walk" on Sunday, Oct 4, 2020. Lots of mushrooms to admire, and yes, the erratic was still there! Subscribe to our Meetup page for the next walk:

<https://www.meetup.com/GreenTimbers/>

Green Timbers walk Sunday, October 4, 2020

An "erratic appreciation walk". Along the way we also appreciated the variety of mushrooms and fungi popping out all over the place!

Surrey is offering trees for sale Oct 6-22. \$20 each.

Tree sales open at 8:30am on Tuesday, October 6 and close on October 22. Purchase your trees online, then pick them up from the Surrey Operations Centre (6651 148 St) on October 25.

<https://www.surrey.ca/news-events/events/tree-sale>

Tree Sale

www.surrey.ca

Purchase up to three trees to plant in your yard. Your new trees will increase your property value, help the environment, provide shade and insulation for your home, and make your neighbourhood more livable.

When the glaciers retreated from the last ice age they dropped big rocks along the way. Geologists call them erratics. One of them is in the Green Timbers Urban Forest.

Join us SUNDAY, Oct 4 at 11 am for a gentle walk over to have a look. We'll meet at the Surrey Nature Centre (14225 Green Timbers Way). Look for the purple hat! We'll be social-distancing aware.

<https://www.meetup.com/GreenTimbers/events/273583939/>

Erratic Appreciation Walk

www.meetup.com

Sun, Oct 4, 2020, 11:00 AM: We will meet outside the Surrey Nature Centre, in the parking lot. I will be wearing a purple hat so any newcomers can identify me.

Green Timbers update > September 2020 🌲 -

<https://mailchi.mp/a9272c051404/green-timbers-update-march-4129009>

Leana has been kind enough to organize walks in Green Timbers -- usually about an hour or two at a gentle pace. Find the next one on Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/GreenTimbers>

Mushrooms are popping out of the ground. I think this is an inky cap.

#greentimbers #greentimbersurbanforest #surreybc #mushroomsofinstagram

Our neighbours to the northwest (Vancouver) are offering \$10 trees to increase their Urban forest.

Quote: "“The sale is part of a larger effort to grow the urban forest by planting 150,000 trees since 2010,” explained Vancouver Park Board Chair Camil Dumont."

<https://www.vancouverisawesome.com/vancouver-news/vancouver-selling-trees-help-grow-urban-forest-2712460>

Residents help grow Vancouver's urban forest with \$10 trees

www.vancouverisawesome.com

Park board's semi-annual fall tree sale sees popular varieties sell out within hours

The path from the Surrey Nature Centre to the lake was rerouted a few years ago. If you look closely you can see where it once was, but it's not obvious!

#greentimbers #greentimbersurbanforest #urbanforest #surreybc

Walk along the Railway trail south of Fraser Highway in early Fall.

#surreybc #greentimbers #greentimbersurbanforest #urbanforest #forestbathing

Green Timbers Urban Forest walk September 12, 2020

Watch video on Facebook.com

Signs of Fall: leaves changing.

#surreybc #greentimbers #greentimbersurbanforest #urbanforest

SNAP Summer 2020 Year End Reflections

Urban forest news from other cities: Montreal has to cull 18000 trees because of beetles.

<https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/montreal-ramps-up-tree-cull-cutting-down-18-000-ash-trees-last-year-to-fight-pest-1.5061906>

Montreal ramps up tree cull, cutting down 18,000 ash trees last year to fight pest

montreal.ctvnews.ca

The emerald ash borer has long plagued Montreal but the city is stepping up its fight, doubling the number of trees it culled last year and spending \$15 million. If you're a property owner with an ash tree, take note.

A few years ago (2018) SNAP cleared out invasives and with the help of a VanCity grant planted native trees and shrubs in the top north corner of the Green Timbers Urban Forest, off the official trails.

We visited the area yesterday and it was unrecognizable. Green and lush, it shows how careful stewardship makes a difference!

#surreybc #urbanforest #urbanforestry #forestpark #stewardship #greentimbers #greentimbersurbanforest

No caption needed.

#greentimbers #greentimbersurbanforest #surreybc #forestbathing #urbanforest

A gentle light glows through a mushroom on an old stump.

#greentimbers #greentimbersurbanforest #forestbathing #surreybc #mushrooms

It was the stripped down double-seater stroller that really caught our eye, but we picked up some other detritus on the Salal trail last Saturday too. #greentimbers #greentimbersurbanforest #surreybc

OPPORTUNITIES | SNAP

www.surreysnaturalareapartnership.com

Want more info? Contact SNAP with your questions about how to get involved in the stewardship of your local natural areas.

I thought the bark stripping that happened in Green Timbers back in February was one of those "only in Surrey" things, but apparently not. Tree vandalism has also been happening in Vancouver and North Vancouver. I'm going to guess it's probably everywhere.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/vandals-take-it-out-on-trees-in-metro-vancouver-as-observers-ask-why-1.5620949>

Here's an example from Green Timbers (which isn't mentioned in the article):

A group walk along the Salal and other trails in the Green Timbers Urban Forest on the first day of summer, June 20, 2020. Along the way we saw salmonberries, huckleberries, whortleberries (presumed), elderberries, thimbleberries and loads of interesting fungi and mushrooms. Sadly we also saw garbage dumped, dog poop bags tossed into the bush, and trees with their bark stripped.

This looks like an interesting read:

Legacy of Trees: Purposeful Wandering in Vancouver's Stanley Park

By Nina Shoroplova

Reviewed in the Vancouver Sun:

<https://vancouversun.com/entertainment/books/trees-of-stanley-park-takes-closer-look-at-urban-forests-unique-flora>

Legacy of Trees takes closer look at Stanley Park's unique flora

vancouversun.com

If the trees in Stanley Park could talk, they'd undoubtedly share some interesting stories about the ever-changing city that surrounds them.

Green Timbers update > June 2020 - <https://mailchi.mp/922f2374527b/green-timbers-update-march-4060661>

Peter was active with the Green Timbers Heritage Society for many years, and instrumental in a number of initiatives, including getting the forest to the North and West of the RCMP E-Division set aside as park, creating the Surrey Natural Areas Partnership, unning it for its early years, and innume...

Here are some early-morning pictures of Green Timbers from Kristina R. I have to publicly apologize -- they were shared in May and somehow -- somehow! -- I missed them. My favourites are the heron and the misty golden lake image. Yours? If you are posting your own images, make sure to add the tags #greentimbers and #greentimbersurbanforest. Does anyone else have images they'd like to share?

Photos from Green Timbers Heritage Society's post

Walks in Green Timbers are back!

We have relaxed "forest bathing" walks for anyone interested, with proper social distancing of course.

Organized through Meetup. See our schedule here: <https://www.meetup.com/GreenTimbers/>

Green Timbers Heritage Society (Surrey, BC)

www.meetup.com

We are the Green Timbers Heritage Society. We aim to preserve and promote the historicity and spirit that Green Timbers brings to our community. The park is an important part of our city's culture and

An old culvert lies hidden off the beaten path, seen only by unauthorized campers!

#greentimbers #greentimbersurbanforest #urbanforest #forestbathing #culverts

Ducklings catching their lunch

Peter Maarsman, past president of the Green Timbers Heritage Society, and I believe the instigator of the SNAP program has died:

<https://www.surreynowleader.com/news/surrey-loses-invaluable-community-leader/>

Surrey loses 'invaluable' community leader - Surrey Now-Leader

www.surreynowleader.com

Peter Maarsman, 83, of Newton died of cancer on June 1

SNAP is back in action for the 2020 season! Welcome to our new Field and Outreach Team, who will be working hard to enhance Surrey's urban forest and promote environmental stewardship to the community this summer, while ensuring COVID-19 health and safety measures are in place.

The arboretum at Green Timbers Park has a variety of exotic trees. This one hails from California - do you know what it is?

Check back tomorrow to see if you were right :)

Still being planned, but timing up in the air: SkyTrain extension through Green Timbers Urban Forest.

Quote:

"In a report to the Mayors' Council ahead of Thursday's meeting, TransLink says the SkyTrain Expo Line Fraser Highway extension project cannot proceed with its pre-pandemic planning timeline due to the public transit authority's financial uncertainties."

<https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/surrey-langley-skytrain-translink-funding-challenges>

Surrey-Langley SkyTrain extension facing delays due to TransLink's fiscal crisis | Urbanized

dailyhive.com

COVID-19 is having a direct impact on the planning of the SkyTrain extension of the Expo Line along Fraser Highway reaching at least Fleetwood.

Re: urban forests being recognized as important. It's not just in BC or North America. India is stepping up as well:

<https://www.canindia.com/centre-to-develop-200-urban-forests-in-five-years/>

Centre to develop 200 'urban forests' in five years

www.canindia.com

New Delhi, June 5 (IANS) On the occasion of the World Environment Day on Friday, the Central government announced the implementation of 'Nagar Van' scheme to de

The idea that urban forests are an important part of cities continues to grow. Ft St John is looking at enhancing theirs:

<https://www.alaskahighwaynews.ca/fort-st-john/council-gets-first-look-at-urban-forest-strategy-1.24146886>

Council gets first look at urban forest strategy

www.alaskahighwaynews.ca

Fort St John council will get an update Monday on how the city plans to spend \$100,000 this year counting trees and figuring out where to plant more. Council has already approved the spending in . . .