



**Minutes of the Rocky Point Bird Observatory Society  
Annual General Meeting  
Held March 18, 2015**

Convened at 7:08 pm

In attendance: 31 members (13 board members and 18 general members)

1. Introductions: all executive and board members.
2. Approval of the agenda. Moved by Jessie Fanucchi. Seconded by Andrew Harcombe. APPROVED.
3. Approval of the minutes 2014 AGM: Moved by Jessie Fanucchi. Seconded by Acacia Spencer-Hills. APPROVED.
4. **Review of Program Activities and Achievements** by Ann Nightingale.
5. **President's Report:** Jessie Fanucchi – Summary and highlights of 2014
  - a. 2014 – our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
  - b. 15 years since becoming a Society
  - c. Fundraising activities:
    - i. Banding Workshop 2014: Instructor Nick Bartok  
(2015 workshop will be in 2 weeks and we have a waitlist)
    - ii. Raptor Workshop 2014: Instructor Bill Clark. He also gave a public lecture.
    - iii. BC Nature AGM had 200 participants and was a successful fundraiser.
    - iv. We held our annual Raffle, participated in the Baillie Birdathon, and our Adopt-a-Bird project continues.
    - v. Thrifty Foods (Sobeys) Smile card continues – RPBO gets a percentage for each dollar spent. Received over \$2200 in 2014.
  - d. 2014 International Migratory Bird Day – organized and participated.
  - e. Two very successful Owl/Salmon BBQs were held.
  - f. Purple Martin work continues with John Costello and Wallis Reid.
  - g. Migration Field Season – we hired 2 interns.
  - h. Hummingbird project continues under the direction of Alison Moran.
  - i. MAPS at Witty's Lagoon and Madrona farm continued (managed by Jo Motek).
  - j. Pedder Bay had its 3<sup>rd</sup> full season and has become the official public site for visitors.
  - k. Pedder Bay also had its first full season monitoring Northern Saw-whet Owls.
  - l. Our Patron Lieutenant Governor visited Pedder Bay.
  - m. Bird Call CD project is complete and the tutorial CD will soon be available for volunteers.
  - n. Volunteer Victoria – has helped us with recruiting volunteers and other opportunities.
  - o. We have over 130 active volunteers who spent over 10,000 hours in 2014.
  - p. Facebook has 500 likes and we have a Twitter feed.
  - q. Recognition goes to some significant volunteers:

- i. Ann Nightingale, our Past President and Fundraising Director, has, with the assistance of Judith Toms, our Executive Director, raised thousands of dollars in grants.
- ii. Gail Harcombe, Treasurer, for numerous hours spent reconciling all membership and financial records.

For 2015:

- i. We will continue all our programs.
- ii. We will recruit an Education Director (preferably a member of the Board of Directors) and hire a Lead Educator.
- iii. We plan to analyze some of our existing data and produce scientific papers for publication.

**6. Treasurer's Report:** Gail Harcombe

- a. Some new rules were developed to comply with *Society Act*, e.g., no tax receipts for membership dues.
- b. Year-end Financial Report for 2014 presented:
  - i. We ended 2014 with just over \$90,000 in assets (over \$28,000 in excess revenue over expenses - almost double the previous year).
  - ii. Memberships increased.
  - iii. General donations increased somewhat, at close to \$24,000.
  - iv. BC Nature AGM netted over \$8000 for us, and various fundraisers, some associated with the AGM, netted us over \$9000.
  - v. We raised 10s of thousands of dollars in grants, the largest from Joan Outerbridge Charitable Fund, and included one for volunteer/employer matching.

Gail Harcombe moved acceptance of the 2014 Financial Report. Seconded by Daniel Donnecke.

APPROVED.

**7. Elections to Board of Directors:** Jonathan Moran led proceedings;

- a. The following current board members indicated their willingness to remain on the board: Jessie Fanucchi, Andrew Harcombe, Gail Harcombe, Donna Ross, Michael Simmons, Ann Nightingale, Jo Motek, Mike Motek, David Robichaud, Daniel Donnecke, Alison Moran, Acacia Spencer-Hills, John Costello, Ann Scarfe and Wallis Reid.
- b. Names put forward for the board included: Cathy Reader and Kim Beardmore.
- c. Nominations from the floor included: Penny Lancaster.
- d. Jonathan Moran moved that the members presented for election to the board be elected. Seconded by Donna Ross. All in favour. APPROVED.
- e. The board will meet March 19 and will select executive officers at that time.

**8. Thank you to Jonathan Moran** who is leaving the board but who will stay on the Scientific Review Committee.

**9. Added Motion:** Ann Nightingale.

MOTION: that the Lifetime Membership category (currently costing \$1000), also apply to those members who have donated 1000 hours volunteer time. Moved by Ann Nightingale. Seconded by Andrew Harcombe. APPROVED. As the AGM notice to members did not include this motion, members not present at the AGM will also be asked to vote on this motion. If anyone in the membership objects, the decision will be deferred to next year.

**10. Reminders:**

- a. Renewal of membership due for many members. We will be getting reminder notice out.
- b. Peninsula Co-op membership – Membership was purchased and we ask all RPBO members to use RPBO number at the Coop for gas, groceries and home heating oil. 7:53 pm adjournment of the Annual General Meeting.

Break followed by Dr. Judith Toms' presentation "Winter in Puerto Rico: Good birds, scary science".