

ALBERTA GOLD PROSPECTOR'S ASSOCIATION
2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
February 24, 2018

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Clearview Community Hall located in Red Deer, Alberta. The meeting was called to order by the President, Alexandra Hadash, at 11:15 AM. There were 24 members in attendance.

Acceptance of the Agenda, Dan Hadash motioned to accept the Agenda, Tom Christianson seconded, passed unanimously.

An abbreviated version of the minutes from the 2017 Annual General Meeting were read by Kathy Trombley (Secretary/Treasurer) and placed into the record and a motion was made by Pat Walker to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Jim Wirth, passed.

Alex Hadash read the President's Report.

We did very well at all of the events that we were invited to. Also invited back to the various shows. Also received an invite to a Bevereee (5-7 yr olds) this June.

Big thank you to Jim Holzer, Lorelei Gettle, Robin Rosborough and everyone else who assisted in making all of the events a success.

Kathy Trombley read an abridged version of the Secretary/Treasurer's report on the financial health of the club as per Addendum 1 of the Agenda.

A quick review of last year's Minutes covered the following:

We've been fortunate to have a number of members volunteer to help make our Events as successful as they have been.

The income & expense statement from last year shows that we ended up in the black - always a good sign.

The current income & expense statement also shows that we are continuing our trend of ending up in the black - again a good sign.

Fortunately, the various shows that we participate in, continue to be profitable, however there is a definite need to find ways to increase the coffers so no one from the Club has to be out of pocket for the expenses until such time as they can be repaid.

Old Business:

We did not have any old business to carry forward.

New Business:

- 1) Proposal to select dates and locations for events:

Spring Breakout:

Marilyn Johnson was going to touch base with the town of Devon to see if we could use the park again. Report from the new committee people have basically given us a no-go on the park. We can't organize competitions in the Lions Park Campground due to safety issues with the tubs of water and the inability to limit access by the other campers who are not participating in the competitions.

Other campgrounds which were put forth as options include:

Campsite at Alex, although no one has been able to check this one out.

A few campgrounds in the Stettler area; camping fees range from \$25-30/nite.

Trenville Park which is located on the Red Deer River; \$22/nite to camp.

Lion's Campground on the Red Deer River suggested however they are very strict with the rules; well marked so easy to find.

The Trenville Park suggestion offers the following features:

Accessibility to the river due to the lower banks; the Club trailer could be driven down to the river; panning and sluicing possible on the river (some testing has been done & flakes found); possibly some diamonds? It's roughly a 2 hour drive from both Edmonton & Calgary, just southeast of Red Deer. The park is not usually busy the first week of June; reservations can be made as early as May 1. Kathy Weisse advised that the busy time is July & August. The river is easy to cross, by foot or boat and geocaching can also be done here. The Red Deer River usually starts to flood at the end of June.

In this location, the tubs can be filled up in the morning to ensure there are no issues with possible kid drownings. There are campsites that back onto the road and they are fairly large. Easy accessibility; washrooms on site, water, showers available, lots of play areas, pet friendly and a sani dump. No hook ups.

Dates suggested were the first weekend of June (1,2 & 3) as the weather is usually decent. The May long weekend is the 19,20 & 21st; there is a competition in Enderby that weekend as well.

Dan Hadash put forth a motion that the date be the first weekend of June; vote taken and all in attendance agreed.

Trenville Park – motion to accept this location as the destination for the Spring Breakout was put forth by Christina VanEmber, seconded by Pat Walker. Carried.

We will need to provide everyone with information ahead of time to ensure they call and book a spot by May 1 (will include a map with the announcement as well as a suggestion as to which spots would be preferable).

Corn Roast:
Gold Dust Dinner

Date: Sept 7,8 & 10 for corn roast. When attendees asked if they preferred a one day only or a weekend, the majority preferred a weekend.

Suggested options put forth:

Red Deer– Mckenzie Park with covered shelter – can be rented for \$40.00.

Could go to Trenville Park again.

Mystery farm: Alex's friend has an uncle who has a farm near Wabamun. Camping is \$40 for the weekend. The farm backs onto the N. Sask. river – access could be steep or muskegg. Tactical paintball next door – close to Burnsville Island. RR43, twp 511A. Need to see photos or something.

Jerry Vanderwell Memorial Park is nice but we no longer have access to our favourite panning site. About 3 ½ hrs north of Calgary. Hwy 20 or 22.

Buck Creek – somebody has to go there first to clean it up. 5 hrs north of Calgary. Local party spot.

Terry advised that since there is very little gold in Alberta, having it more central would be the preferred location; Trenville. Any wilderness sites west of Red Deer – North Rocky/ Baptiste Lake? Crescent Falls (near Nordegg) maybe a horse campsite? Nothing really west ... Hoburg area – anything? Terry can contact a friend near Rocky Mountain House to see if there is anything. Near the Baptiste River bridge; a potential campsite.

The final destination to be announced at the Spring Breakout although going to Trenville Park again gives everyone the opportunity to pan & sluice.

Executive to do final determination of location.

Majority vote is to stick with Olds; as long as it's not the Grey Cup weekend (Sun, Nov 25). Saturday, Nov 24 is the chosen date. The hall here in Red Deer is too small. Can check out another location here in Red Deer. Legion here? Previous years when held at Legion – food was sketchy. Can look at different locations and will confirm final location however date is agreed to. Sylvan Lake Legion? Average \$25/plate – 55-60 people. Members are supplemented where guests pay full price. Standard has a huge community hall that's available; a possible location? Hotels available?

Terry Beaton offered to look at a possible hotel for the price we want to pay, as an option.

Decision was to book the Olds Legion again and if we can find something else in Red Deer, we will cancel Olds. Motion to accept put forth by Pat Walker, seconded by Fred Walker. Motion carried.

2019 AGM

The next AGM will be held on Saturday, February 23, 2019 at Clearview Community Hall in Red Deer. Concerns about the date; if there is sufficient time to plan the Spring Breakout? Canadian Winter Games are being held in Red Deer, Feb 14-March 3, 2019. Suggested that Alex book this venue now. Motion to accept date & location moved by Christina VanEmber, seconded by Rod Walker. Carried.

2) Vote to appoint auditors for 2017 financial statements

Dan Hadash volunteered to audit, along with Christina VanEmber. Moved by Pat Walker that Dan Hadash & Christina VanEmber to audit the books, seconded by Fred Walker. Carried.

3) Increase to Membership Fees:

If no membership fees this year, there will be nothing. Boils down to certain members having to pay, out-of-pocket, for the various items and it takes til almost the end of the year to repay. Supplying flakes for all of the events is great for the participants, however it's money that has to be put out first. Because of the economic downturn, we have not realized as much money as in past years but the expenses continue to increase. Also the membership has dropped, due to economics and the age of members.

In prior years, the Club has paid out additional expenses, such as port-a-potties, rental of venues which put us behind. Each member will now be expected to pay their own camping fees where the Club used to cover them. Suggested that membership fees be increased in the year(s) that they need to be and then lowered again when finances are in better shape.

A suggestion was made to increase the membership by posting on Facebook to members' family & friends, to invite them to come out. Do not have to be a member to compete at the Spring Breakout.

Global TV segment – didn't make a huge impact as it was on during the morning hours so not as many people saw it.

Might want to look at doing a membership promotion, such as signing up new members. Also suggested that each member be encouraged to bring in at least one new member.

Opposition by the majority to raise the fees. Move that we do not raise membership fees by Leslie Kellow, Vivian Perepelecta seconded. Carried.

It was asked if we can we reduce expenses.

Mailbox expense? Is it necessary? This was set up to avoid people coming to a personal home which could be a safety issue.

The \$145.35 was for the website.

The only real major expense is the gold itself. Can cut back the value of the competition prizes, also the size of the nuggets.

Insurance – can we possibly pay the premium monthly instead of one lump sum? This would be of great help and will be explored.

4) Selection for two of the spots under Competition Director & Vice President

See below for election of empty positions.

5) Volunteers for various events:

A request for volunteers for the various events listed below will be sent out shortly. We're hoping for some new volunteers to step us as there is a small core group who are always volunteering.

- CRCL Show – May 4-6
- Edm Rock, Gem & Mineral Show – April 27-29, 2018 – Shaw Conference Centre
- Spring Breakout
- Parkland County Riverday – June- Second weekend? Scouts Jamboree – May 4-6 – only one day (Saturday) Wabamun

- Beaveree – June 15-17 – Sylvan Lake – Camp Wood – ages 5-7 / 8 groups of 40
Alex Hadash to contact the organizers to discuss what we are prepared to do; suggest the kids go to the Scouts Jamboree and see the what panning it is all about.
- We are welcome to camp there; not many spots for trailers & they will feed us. Would have volunteers available to assist.
- The kids would have to sign up for the event.
- The kids are so young they will probably forget what they learn.
- Do a gold pan demonstration - 3, not a full teaching group. Only need a few people to volunteer. One person talks about how the gold travels down the river and one person does an actual demonstration.
3 or 4 volunteers needed only; give the kids a small bag of paydirt that they can take home.
- Kids are more interested in the coloured rocks and you have to be constantly moving to maintain their attention
- Use coloured rocks instead of real gold. Could give all kids a certificate with a AGPA brochure on the back.

- Riverday pays us and this is the same weekend as the Beaveree.

- Corn Roast
- Calgary Rock & Gem Show – Late Sept/early Oct
- Gold Dust Dinner

6) Promotion of Spring Breakout by the AGPA

Several people who were at Yukon Dan's last summer expressed an interest in our competition; Alex Hadash will send out info to the emails she has. Everyone is encouraged to reach out to general Q public and get the information out. Encourage people to check out the website. Suggested the word 'panning' be included more often in the website so it will pop up in the search engines.

Try and get more retailers to promote the AGPA. Roughneck HQ in Millet is best place to go to for gold panning supplies. They will put our newsletters and brochures in their store.

7) Prizes at the Spring Breakout competitions

It was suggested that we reduce the number of prizes handed out at competitions. Kathy Weisse has volunteered to provide the plaques; Christina VanEmber has offered to donate funds to offset the cost. Past donations from various members were received to provide their craftsmanship to make the awards for the 2nd or 3rd place winners.

Moved by Kathy Weisse that Kathy Weisse & Terry Beaton make the plaques, seconded by Terry Beaton. Carried. Dan Hadash to provide a list of the awards. Was also asked of the members that they keep an eye out for sales such as Michaels or secondhand shops to pick up blanks. The plaques will carry the event name, date & year.

8) Suggestions for fundraising activities:

Bags of pay dirt. Have them at every event. Steve Hnatiw confirmed he will stock them in the Roughneck HQ – groups of 30 for \$5 per bag. Burnco is a good place to pick up the dirt; has been known to have some gold in it.

Terry Beaton suggested that the Nugget Raffle be held earlier in the year so the money comes in sooner.

This past year's raffle was not nearly as successful as the previous year. More tickets were purchased by members than the general public. Perhaps some smaller prizes should be included, along with the nugget. The idea was to sell tickets to the general public and it was thought it would be more enticing if they could win a nugget; possibly have 3 different sizes. A suggestion was made to offer pans as prizes however using pans limits it to people who actually pan.

Big, medium & small nuggets for the draw, instead of only one. Previously, couldn't do the raffle/draw until later in the year due to availability. Mines only start giving up their nuggets in July. Also, check with Dave Schabert as he can possibly provide the gold we need for the various events at a more reasonable price. Suggested we offer a free membership as one of the prizes???

Motion put forward that we put 3 nuggets in the draw; moved by Petri Nystrom, seconded by Terry Beaton. Carried.

Terry Beaton is willing to work/organize the Silver Cove Rock and Gem show Red Deer in October and would welcome any others who would like to volunteer. The average cost of the gold flakes is .27 cents each for an 18 mesh. We normally use 16 – 18 mesh.

There is an issue with Indigem and this particular group and we definitely don't wish to alienate Indigem. The tubs can always be either picked up or dropped off to use. Would also have to ensure that if the AGPA is going to do this show, that it is well represented.

Need new volunteers to step up as there is a small core group who are always volunteering.

Motion put forth that the Club, Alex Hadash, check with Alex Kuznetsov at Indigem to ensure that our participation in the Red Deer show does not interfere with our participation in the other Rock and Gem shows before we commit to participating in Red Deer. Moved by Dan Hadash, seconded by Pat Walker. Carried.

Terry Beaton asked about our participation in the summer regional shows in Red Deer and was advised that the only major drawback is having volunteers. Most shows are 10 days long. Terry Beaton to look into the possibility of participating.

A suggestion was also made to hold a nugget draw/raffle at each AGM? 3 for \$5. Easy money.

9) World Gold Panning Competition, Hodrusa Hamre, Slovakia – Aug 6-11

a) Flat Pan Competition & b) Try-outs for Alberta Team

Canada didn't fair extremely well at the Scotland event. 4 members going to the Slovakia competition.

Flat pan is the majority event. Suggested that possibly use a Truck wash in Red Deer; rent a bay for the day and hold an event? Terry Beaton to look into the possibility. As soon as possible and an email will be sent out for anyone who is interested. Could plan it in conjunction with Riverday and then go to Robin Rosborough's home, camp and have a practice.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Rod Scott won the event last year. Someone needs to make a shield for the award, which Robin Rosborough has. To be brought to the Spring Breakout.

Will Edmonton be running the Spring Breakout event and providing prizes?

For competitions, mostly require the dirt, tub set-up, water. Vivian Perpelecta will help where needed, to ensure smooth set up and running. Mike Scriba will definitely not be available to assist.

10)Elections:

Lloyd Barbaree is passing on as Director.

Mike Scriba has stepped down

Vice President: John Garner – nominated by Dan Hadash, seconded by Wayne Trombley. Vote nominations cease, moved by Dan Hadash, seconded by Wayne Trombley. Carried.

Not a huge commitment; helping to coordinate events, represent the AGPA: prefer someone from the Edmonton area.

Competitions Director(s) Dan Hadash & Robin Rosborough

Communications Director Cera Hollywood

Directors at Large Fred Walker

Christina VanEmber

Nominated by Fred Walker, seconded by Pat Walker. Carried.

Rod Walker

Nominated by Dan Hadash, seconded by Tom Christianson, Carried.

The role of the Directors at Large usually oversee the running of the association, take control of the club, ensure the mandate of the club is followed.

Draw for Door Prizes:

Gold Nugget: Won by Lee Kasper

Alex Hadash then thanked everyone for coming out today.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by: Alex Hadash, seconded by: Mike O'Donnell, Carried.