

**Upper Snoqualmie Valley Elk Management Group  
(USVEMG) General Membership Meeting Minutes  
January 22, 2018**

**Meeting called to order:** President Scott Phelps called the USVEMG meeting to order January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, at 7:34 P.M.

**Introductions:** Travis Bridgman, Jim Bridgman, London and Beth Cravener, Paul Bernier and Steve Spohn.

**Quorum:** Officers and directors present: Scott Phelps, Harold Erland, Tom Kemp, Jim Gildersleeve, Elaina Hays, Don Nataros, Don Hacherl, Jerry Koepping, John Vraspir, Nicolae Zaharia, Sharen Marsall and Tim Himmelberger.

**Meeting Minutes:** Meeting minutes of November 20, 2017 were reviewed, Jim Gildersleeve made a motion to approve, Don Hacherl seconded the motion and the group unanimously approved the minutes. The December meeting was replaced with a Christmas potluck and slide show. The next meeting will be held Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., at the North Bend Ranger Station.

**Treasurer's Report:**

1. As of January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, the USVEMG account at Bank of America has a balance of \$ 20,250.64.
2. Current paid membership stands at 80.
3. It was reported that Scott Phelps, Don Hacherl, Sharen Marsall, Don Nataros and Elaina Hays met on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to complete the budget proposal for 2018. Don Hacherl reviewed the proposal for the group, Jim Gildersleeve moved to approve the budget as outlined, Harold Erland seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with the stipulation that volunteer hours were added after Harold submitted 2017 totals.
4. Don Hacherl completed the Form 990 Tax Filing at a cost of \$40.

**Committee Reports:**

**Public Education and Outreach:**

Position Vacant, no report.

**Elk Research and Habitat Improvement Committee, Harold Erland**

1. Harold announced that there was an elk in the trap at Meadowbrook and will be needing volunteers after the meeting to help with collaring her. He also asked for volunteers in the next few days to help move the trap over ten feet to combat the mud.

2. Harold gave a presentation and slide show on Birds and Birding. He cited a study done in 2011 that reported seven million people, 24% of the population in Washington, are bird watchers. Nationwide, \$40 billion dollars is spent on trips and equipment. Some of this money goes to conservation. Harold reported that there are 500 species of birds in Washington, of which 350 are full time residents and 189 species are declining in population or are threatened. Harold's presentation included many colorful pictures that he and his family have taken from all over.

**3. Collaring update:**

Harold reported that three elk have been caught in the traps. The first one caught had a collar on that quit last year so they were able to replace it (#073). The second one had a collar on and was released (#011). The third one got a collar (#075). Harold would like to trap four more at Meadowbrook. He would then like to relocate the traps to Mountain Meadows to target the Tanner elk and Mt. Si Road to target that group. He would like to move the traps to Wellers after. There are 12 collars remaining and Harold will be ordering 5 more VHF collars. He also reported that he has attached the tags with our return information on the inside of the collars, in the event that they are recovered.

**4. Collaring Lower Valley:**

Chris Anderson from WDFW has requested as much information and data that we can give him on the lower valley elk population. Harold is working to put a group together for this.

**5. Habitat update:**

CCC Flats: Harold will be setting up work dates and will notify us when that will be.

Fire Training Center: The roads are ready to have grass planted on them. Nothing is scheduled at this time.

**6. Census:**

The Census dates are as follows:

March 12, 13, 14, 16 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)

March 19, 20, 21, 23 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)

March 26, 27, 28, 30 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)

Volunteers can sign up by contacting Harold.

**People and Land Management Committee:**

Position Vacant, no report.

**Fundraising Committee, Scott Phelps, Sharen Marsall, Don Hacherl**

1. Scott updated the group on the Benevity Microsoft Giving Program. Dates are needed for upcoming volunteer opportunities and he is working on getting this information to post on their web page.

2. Mailing for membership renewals will be sent out some time in April.

**Secretaries Report, Elaina Hays**

1. Elaina reminded the group that they have a \$100 gift certificate for equipment rental at R&R Rentals that will expire 3/20/17.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **1. Nominations for Education and Outreach Committee Chair:**

John Vraspir nominated Don Nataros for the position, Tom Kemp made a motion to elect Don, Jim Gildersleeve seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

#### **2. Nominations for Land and People Committee Chair:**

No one nominated and no one volunteered.

#### **3. Newspaper advertising of meetings:**

Elaina volunteered and will post this information in the local paper.

### **New Business:**

1. It was asked that people fill out the proper form for reimbursement of expenses.

2. It was asked that all billing be sent to the PO Box to help insure it gets to the Treasurer.

3. Web page and social media updating:

Nicolae Zaharia volunteered to update the EMG web page as well as Facebook and twitter.

4. The next meeting will be held Monday, February 26th, 2018, at 6:00 pm.

### **Comments for the Good of the Order:**

#### **Adjournment, 8:15 p.m.**

Elaina Hays

EMG Secretary

1/22/2017