

# Galiano Naturalists

## Meeting Minutes March 14, 2005

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Present were: Jerry Azevedo, Dick Chase, Pam Frier, Mike Hoebel, Brian Mitchell.

The five of us pulled into the parking lot within seconds of each other, as if it were a timed event, and after racing each other to the front door, the Naturalists got straight to business...

1. "Species of the Month" project: Brian was ready with the draft of his piece on beavers, and Jerry reported that the month's Natural Mysteries were ready to be appended. That reminded Brian that he'd brought along some questions submitted by small children in his family. We added them to the stockpile of mysteries for publication in future months. Pam suggested we post the Mysteries on our Website, and Mike added the task to his list.
2. "Galiano's Natural Areas Brochure" project: Mike presented the current iteration of the mock-up of the brochure, the product of some concerted efforts of several people over the last few weeks. The brochure will be ready to hand off to Keith this week. Dick, his mind never far from rocks, mused that the progress has been like erosion, which we all took to mean "steady and inevitable". After all, he might have said glacial.
3. "Sunday Drawers" project: Unable to attend the meeting, Libby sent word that she'll be starting the drawing sessions on April 4. The date was duly entered into the minutes until Brian, the only one of us with a calendar, asked whether we were changing the name to the Monday Drawers. The secretary scratched out April 4 and wrote April 3 instead.
4. "Western bluebird stewards" project: Mike reported that the Naturalists have not seen any bluebirds yet, but the walks have been fine. Because of scheduling conflicts, the monitoring walk this week will be on Thursday, leaving from the Lord Road trailhead at 1 PM. Aspiring monitors are encouraged to sign up for the April monitoring.
5. "Hummingbird banding" project: Banding is scheduled to start next Monday, the 21<sup>st</sup>, at 6:45 AM, and continue every second Monday for the next few months. Volunteers should contact Mike at 2003. The meeting digressed a bit as we all thought of the warm days we've been having. Mike said that hummingbirds and swallows are here a week earlier than last year but that tree frogs started calling a bit later. After banging those two facts around in a tin pot for several minutes, someone resurrected the issue of a Naturalists' Calendar, just the place for this sort of information. The ever-accommodating Mike said sure, go ahead and send observations to him, and he would start posting them on the Website.
6. Bird walks: Mike will lead bird walks on nine consecutive Saturdays starting April 2 (8:30 AM). As last year, the first walk will start at Mike's house; other walks will explore sites all over the island. The full schedule will be posted on our Website.
7. Earth Day: A bird walk at Bluffs Park will be the Naturalists' certain contribution to the Earth Day activities. Several people also like the idea of having a display of some sort too, but, as a wise person said out loud, we seem to be short of helping hands at the moment. We all resolved to think of what we might do for Earth Day and bring our ideas to the next meeting.

8. Other business:

Other business? We decided we were already busy with regular business and couldn't contemplate any other business. Some of us made a rush for the door, others sat around talking about famous Galiano dump sites, and still others went in search of scissors to cut up the natural areas brochure.

9. Next meeting time and place: MONDAY, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM at the Activity Center.

Corrections and comments to:

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