

MINUTES for AFRC [Virtual] ZOOM MEETING

(Sunday, 12 February 2023, 1-3 pm); Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82636512286?pwd=U3JHTHU3eVowczdYVHBOYXFPK0E0Zz09>

1. Consideration of the Agenda (additions to the agenda and appointing a Minute Taker)

Tony:

- started and started the recording for the meeting,
- asked if everyone had the agenda and most said they had or agreed,
- asked if there were any additions to the agenda and none were needed,
- stated minute taker as Jonathan L and reminded that it is a summary of discussions, resolutions and motions of meeting.

2. AFRC President's Message

Tony introduced himself and involvement in the Lacombe Handicraft & Lapidary Guild for 16 years. He is currently working in Red Deer as an engineer for control systems for amplifiers for TV and radio stations, and particle accelerators. He was born in Australia, married his wife who is a Canadian (Carolyn) and has 3 daughters. They moved to Canada in 2006, to live or visit in both Australia and Canada. He gained a love of rocks from father - from his rock collecting (agates, thunder eggs, and other stones), travelling to various Australian areas, and creating handmade rock tumblers and saws. He appreciates the varieties, colours, textures; schools and people like Dave Burrough and Brett, that can be learned from.

3. Roll Call:

Calgary Faceters Guild - Mark Williams (CFC) (came at 2:08 pm)

Calgary Rock & Lapidary Club (CRLC) – Dale Nielsen (Vice President), Mike O’Toole, Jeff Williamson
Regrets: Linda Brydon (CRLC)

Edmonton Tumblewood Lapidary Club (ETLC) – Michelle Morin, Jim Routledge

Lacombe Handicraft & Lapidary Guild (LHLG) – Tony Cave (President), Ron Biele

Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club (MHRLC) – John Cherwonogrodzky (Treasurer), Karen-Anne Cherwonogrodzky

Southern Alberta Rock Hounds Association (SARHA) – Brett Jensen, Jonathan Legg, Henry Komadowski

4. In Memoriam (bereavements, 1 minute of silence)

In Medicine Hat, Deloris Doucette passed away. She was a club member, often at May Daze, done lapidary for quite a while, travelled down to the United States, and travelled to Calgary to events.

In Calgary, Ken Rose passed away Nov 14, 2022. His company was Crystal Rose which he ran at the many rock shows. He was a long-time member of the Calgary club.

We had one minute of silence for these members.

5. Minutes of the 13 November 2022 Directors/Delegates meeting. Motion to approve.

John C grateful some time spent by Karen-Anne “unscrambling” the past meeting minutes. Tony thanked both Karen-Anne and John C for taking and revising the minutes.

Motion: Move the November meeting minutes being accepted with the corrections mentioned by Dale and Jim (noted below). Seconded: Dale N; Motion carried unanimously.

Action Items:

- Under 6.2, Dale requested (Karen-Anne or JohnC) to change :
 - In the 7th point, “DaleN (CRLC) noted that they have two Facebook pages; one for just their members and the other for the public.” to “DaleN (CRLC) noted that they have two Facebook pages; one is **the official site (members and public), the other is the folks of the rock and lapidary member (members only).**”
 - In the 9th point, third sentence, to take out “Cranbrook” from the sentence “DaleN (CRLC) noted that 2-3 members of the CRLC used to be GMFC members from **Cranbrook BC.**”
- Under 10.3, Jim requested (Karen-Anne or JohnC) to change:
 - 7th point, change “Cushman” to “Koshman” in the sentence “They are currently planning a large estate sale of George **Cushman.**”

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

6.1. Follow-up on the handling of historical documentation including storage, access, digitization and donating materials to the Provincial Archives

Karen-Anne read out an email from Pauline [Zeschuck], who was looking for a reply from AFRC on it: “I have the contact information for the person that confirmed that AFRC has a file in the Alberta Archives. Regarding submitting files to the Alberta archives, would it be reasonable to submit newsletters? Each newsletter has the minutes of the meeting. I think that all the other information in the newsletter, including pictures would be interesting reading. Regarding confidentiality, I do not think that we published any confidential information in the general newsletter that would not be found in the minutes. Before we submit information for storage at the provincial archives, I think it would be

important to have the approval of the AFRC board of directors. Would they agree to have the minutes only or the newsletter? I think the newsletter would be easier to access issues according to the date of publication.”

And also a related email from Tom Anderson, from the Alberta archives, who confirmed, “There have been 3 donations from the Alberta Federation in 1972, 1988, and 2003.” And that it would be good for the Federation Executives to donate the materials.

And that Pauline and Ed Zeschuck have newsletters from 2002 to donate.

And that there was a motion made in 2002, “Grace Luo moved that each year, we give the Provincial archives of Edmonton an update including a list of the executive, member clubs of Alberta, and the year’s minutes. This is to be the responsibility of the Alberta Rockhound News and it is to be done in January. Motion seconded by Ed Zeschuck. Carried.”

And that there was concern not including financial information, and about confidentiality (i.e., names included). However, most have passed away so this should not be a concern.

Other related conversation ensued.

- John C said it is a past motion that may have been forgotten but all files should be sent.
- Karen-Anne said just the ones mentioned in the motion (except the financial information).
- Brett agreed that all the newsletters should be included and the information since the newsletter was included.
- Karen-Anne also mentioned the Provincial archive has a record up to 2002 of some of our materials which can be seen in the Hermes Database.
- Jim R has 3-5 green handmade binders/memory books and a binder of old newsletters from the Calgary Club and will show them to everyone at May Daze to review and see if it would be beneficial for the Calgary club to have them or to possibly give them to the Provincial archives.
- Dale would appreciate any CRLC newsletters or Journals from Jim for historical records of the Calgary club. Jim will bring them to May Daze.
- John C added Irene Novalin gave 5 boxes of minutes and historical material from 1963 up till when she left as treasurer that could be donated to archives or held onto
- Henry recommended sending them to Alberta archives and only taking a copy of essential information.

Tony clarified that we are in agreement as to the past motion, and yes, we can get the Zeschuck’s to pass the information on to the Alberta Archives.

Action Item: Karen-Anne will email Pauline with this information (at their new email addresses: Pauline - pzeschuk@gmail.com and Ed – edzeschuk@gmail.com) and send the material.

6.2. AFRC rejuvenation

May Daze:

- John C recommended to focus on May Daze as an opportunity to let AFRC and the SARHA club to get known. Brett agreed. Karen-Anne is trying to advertise May Daze, especially with new club members and as it is closer to the MHRLC.
- John C asked Tony and Ron about if there were opportunities that could be developed from their recent past experience with May Daze (especially in the vein of social media). Tony said they let the businesses know about it (such as accommodations and places to visit) which helped to make people aware and raise the profile of the club. Ron said they didn't do much advertising or social media, owing to skills of club members, but let people know on a one-on-one basis. John C said if there is anything needed for social media it can be supported by AFRC (as long as not exorbitant). that is needed suggested to have help from clubs. Brett said that it would be low cost and good to "do better" with social media, especially if for public.
- Karen-Anne discussed free advertising or interviews for things like the event tailgating or auction. John C noted that advertising appreciates general info/article that they can adapt and get credit for, and that this has good community appeal. Dale recommended to notify local radio stations as they often have free advertising for community events.
- Dale also wanted to confirm that the auction is open to the general public, but the rest of the events are only for AFRC members (especially field trips). Brett confirmed that was correct, but also said people could join (the club) "on the spot". Tony noted that they could also come to demonstrations. Karen-Anne also mentioned that is why they need to sign up for a field trip with their club noted. John C said that an exception is that guests of members are covered. Brett agreed. John C also noted that in the auction, public can buy, but only club members can sell. Brett confirmed.
- Jonathan noted that the SARHA club vice president is social media savvy, so hope she will be able to use some of these suggestions.
- Karen-Anne also noted that garage sale or event sites on Facebook. Brett agreed and said we will work on that and that it is an opportunity to gain new members and increase community awareness.

Action item: Jonathan will take recommendations of finding and advertising to local businesses on accommodations and places to visit, word of mouth one on one, social media (with support from AFRC for realistic costs), and free advertising on local radio (Facebook garage sale and event sites, and others) for things like the demos, auction, tailgate and (benefits of) club membership, doing a write up with good community appeal for advertising, to SARHA club.

Other club rejuvenation:

- Karen-Anne suggested to continue with some of the ideas mentioned last meeting like markets and pamphlets at them,
- Tony said he would like to keep these notes visible to us so we can be reminded of what needs to be done. Perhaps a list of suggestions for clubs to make impact in their environments.

7. New business:

7.1 Minute Taker consideration

Tony reviewed past motion about rotational minute takers and asked who would like to take minutes for next time. There was a lot of discussion. Recording to be made available for meetings.

Karen-Anne asked about the date of the next meeting in relation. Agenda item number 11 (see that item) reviewed for set up of the next meeting and date.

Michelle Morin volunteered to take minutes for next meeting (April 2).

7.2 Web site update

Tony asked about what the needs are – is it to generally update or search engine/web-optimized?

Jeff mentioned that there is a new member at the Calgary that may be able to make it better web optimized. Tony agreed.

Action Item: Jeff to ask new member if they would be willing to look at the AFRC website and see if he has suggestions, can help, and report back so we can decide if we want to update the website.

Jonathan described the question of what the main purpose and strategy is key as it depends what is needed as to the design.

Dale mentioned a member of who was looking for rock information and that this website may be a good place for information. Karen-Anne said it is directing people to AFRC and the clubs, it's a challenging site to develop on owing to its software or design (Tony agreed), and don't know if we need a big expense on it as club sites give the more specific information.

Henry said the purpose is not for the public as people are more interest in their local area and club, or if geology, specimen or legal question look to the provincial museum or others. So it is more for people generally looking or of an "umbrella" page and more for directing people to the local clubs, maybe a few items of interest. So, to make sure the links are working. Local clubs need to be more focussed in attracting people to their area, club and rocks, and experts (like Brett) and find people who are good at social media. Karen agreed.

Michelle questioned about the Edmonton page in Messenger looking for someone who could facet a stone, stone repairs, stone cuts, or petrified wood (to buy or sell). And stated we need consistent or standardized messaging on the AFRC site on items like Petrified Wood.

John mentioned that it would be important to clarify and send them to the sites (like the provincial sites and Tyrell museum) on rules on rockhounding sites for things like petrified wood and Ammolite, especially if it is from a different province

Henry recommended to develop and add an PFD FAQ that can speak to it or direct them to the right site on legal info. Michelle agreed. Tony asked if Henry would do that. Henry agreed.

Action item: Henry will develop and add an PFD FAQ that can speak to issues noted above or direct them to the right site on legal info and forward it to Tony.

Jonathan agreed that he saw the AFRC site as general, informational and a linking site; and the local clubs as more strategic about club members, locale, questions that are being asked (such as Michelle's). Henry agreed and said we join local clubs, there may be few points of interest, but that is as far as the site need go. Tony agreed. Jeff reaffirmed. Tony mentioned there were a few that joined through the AFRC at May Daze..

Tony reiterated the action items (see above).

7.3 Zoom account purchase

Tony reiterated the carried motion that "AFRC purchase a Zoom account" and that Henry and Jonathan were going to look into it.

Henry said mentioned there is really just the one Zoom site available for us (about \$100) for number of people,

Tony asked about what is needed from John C. John C – send information on cost on the site to him by email and cheque can be sent.

Karen asked about who administrators would be. Henry said usually the President, Treasurer or Secretary.

Tony will get it and send the bill to John C.

Jonathan recommended you have more than one administrator.

Dale asked about whether some others like Teams or Google Meet are good too. Henry said there are others like Google Meet and Teams that has some technicalities and software difficulties, whereas Zoom is cleaner, and you can just send a link. Jonathan agreed and added points about these are usually issues with freeware.

Dale asked if it could be used by clubs for meetings. Henry confirmed this. Karen-Anne expressed hope that it could be used for presentations that could be shared across clubs. Henry confirmed this could be done (including with recording, with copyright permission or deleting after).

8. Correspondence

John C got an email from Alberta Societies Registries, he will send in forms.

9. Committee Reports:

9.1. Treasurer's Report: John Cherwonogrodzky (MHRLC)

Some fees came in for AFRC and the bill for cards

Sent by report by email:

John C recommends:

- For clubs to send in Membership dues.
- Send in financial needs for May Daze: Hall rentals needs. AFRC will cover coffee, tea, and juice as a courtesy. Or burgers will cover losses AFRC will cover losses; gains the club would get. Brett mentioned the hall should be cheap so it should be good finances. Other silent auction items as needed.

Dale said she will need more cards by March from John C. John said he could get them to her.

Action items: John C will get more cards to Dale as she requests and needs.

9.2. Custodian/Librarian Report: Doug Schatz (LHLG)

Tony said the library is still at the Lacombe club.

Dale mentioned that the previous request to discuss the addition of books to their club, there is nothing to report (yet), as the person working on it, hasn't been available yet to discuss progress.

9.3. GMFC Report: Brett Jensen (SARHA)

Brett mentioned the family of Ed Gilchrist (lifetime members) wanting to put things into auction; that the AFRC auction consignment lots are spoken (but would ask and put them on a waiting list – they qualify as Olive is still a member); and that the best sales are through auction and that we could do an auction for them. He is going to go out and look at how much material is there at the farm. John C said he put Olive on the waiting list and that the May Daze lots are getting better as there are a limited amounts of lots so people choose the better stuff. Brett said that is good and if possible to pick out good material for it. John agreed and also said it could also be machinery.

One of the Calgary members (Isaac) bought a large lot (44,000 lbs) from an Arizona dealer (Alex Smith) and possibly plans to do a "rock pick".

Karen-Anne asked how the local club would be doing the auctions. Brett said the live auction for rocks, and the silent auction for other local items

John C also mentioned we may start the May Daze auction at 9 maybe; that we need recorders, it was good to have an excel page, but we also need to keep a record for legal reasons. Henry suggested that John C could print off the excel page to annotate on for currency. Brett recommended we do both manual and digital with help from the local club.

Karen-Anne asked, "Are we having an GMFC and AFRC meeting?" Brett said yes.

Brett also discussed he will be at the BCLS's Rendezvous (Quesnell, BC, on June 9-11) where he wishes to discuss GMFC status with BC clubs then; and that Laurie is holding GMFC together, we will see if it continues or ceases to exist after those meetings. Tony thanked him for his work on that.

9.4. AFRC Website: Tony Cave

Tony mentioned we had already discussed this, so we would move on.

10. On-Going Business:

10.1. May Daze 2023

Jonathan summarized that in the last SARHA monthly meeting it was mainly to discuss what May Daze is and get some of the members on board – they are in the early stages of organizing. And mentioned if there were any May Daze items that are urgently needed, to send them to him. Tony mentioned (and Brett confirmed) the critical things are the:

- Accommodations
- Camping
- Agenda

Brett also mentioned the following and input needed:

- Field trips, display cases, demos and classes Saturday Afternoon– Please volunteer.
 - Tony will bring down his 3D printer and do some 3D Printing.
 - Display cases (club or individual):
 - John C noted we need one display for AFRC Auction precious items.
 - Tony Cave said Carolyn Cave would like a Display case.
 - Dale asked if Brett was the head of signing people up for the display cases. Brett responded that he may but it was being sorted out [who]. Jonathan confirmed that who is responsible for what is being sorted out currently (and hopefully in a month or so), and to direct questions to Jonathan for the time being.
 - John C mentioned that last year we had spare display cases and Brett confirmed we would.
 - Dale noted that they would have to ask their members of these items in their March or April meetings and Karen confirmed this for her club too. Brett said this was fine, Dale also noted that there is also typically at least a couple interested. John C also mentioned that he often will contact people in April by email on this.
- **Action Item: Jonathan to add these items to SARHA club's list of May Daze to do's.**

Jonathan gave his number for contact (403-894-4475) for texting him for directing AFRC reps and their associated members to the right person for these items and read off the categories of organization for the May Daze:

1. Registration, Welcome Package, Guest Book and Signup (for field trips)
2. Food
3. Displays, Workshops and Demos

4. Fundraising Events and Doorprizes (including both auctions, Tailgate, draws, etc.)
5. Speaking and Directing (MC, Guest Speaker, AFRC meeting)
6. Maintenance and Security (opening & closing the hall, setting and cleaning things up, etc.)
 - **Action Item: All club member to contact Jonathan or Brett with any urgent needs or signups for any of these items**

Karen-Ann asked about the binder MHRLC had created that had Samples of Programs, costs and how much spent that was sent from the Medicine Hat club to Lacombe club, and whether they passed it on to Lethbridge. Tony said they did see it. Michelle Morin said as Edmonton is planning on doing May Daze 2024, it would be greatly appreciated.

- **Action item: Lacombe club (Ron Biele) said they would check and will send it to Lethbridge.**
- John C mentioned the cluster groups (mentioned above) were well-organized.
- Tony thanked the SARHA for current and future organization.

10.2. AFRC Lifetime Achievement Award nominations

John and Maureen Dowler (John posthumously) and Marilyn and Adam Jetter receiving these Lifetime Achievement Awards at May Daze

Karen-Anne asked about who makes up these awards and who has a template for making these up. Brett said he has a template and has done it in the past.

- **Action Item: Brett (SARHA) will create the Lifetime Achievement Awards for Maureen Dowler and Marilyn and Allen Jetter (and will contact the clubs to get the correct names and whether they want combined or separate certificates).**

Karen asked when they would receive it, to notify them. Brett said they can be given the option of having it presented to them either Saturday night (after the demos, etc. at the AGM) or Sunday (at the auction), they can choose. Tony also mentioned that as there are two different groups, they can do it on different days as well.

- **Action Item: Karen-Anne (MHRLC) will ask Maureen Dowler and Marilyn and Allen Jetter when they would like to receive their Lifetime Achievement Awards on either the Saturday night (after the demos, etc. at the AGM) or Sunday (at the auction), and whether they would like combined or separate certificates and tell Brett or Jonathan.**

10.3. Announcement of Club events

Dale (CRLC):

- Calgary had their club auction last Friday with 130 lots - 30 of which were club lots; the rest were club member lots; 44 signed in – and it went a bit long with a new good auctioneer, Dave Fong, but it went well.
- May Show is set for May 5-7 in the Vivo Center. Most vendors have already signed up. It looks like it is going to be good to go. Karen-Anne asked about the cost. Dale said she would confirm.

Tony stated Mike said it is \$7/day. Dale will send out signs out created for the event (or it may be up on the website).

Karen-Anne (MHRLC):

- Has taken over club presidency and working on rejuvenation.
- Brought in tools of the trade like a microscope, diamond tester, testing how many carats in a rock, classes in wire wrapping. She hopes to have one class a month, coffee sessions of experienced members to share knowledge like on tumbling, where to buy supplies, what works and doesn't, to gain more interest.

Michelle (ETLC):

- Working with the Leduc Arts Foundry (a municipally funded organization at the Leduc Recreation Centre with a mandate to foster collaboration with artists or artisans in the community) to promote the club through a set of showcases set up there. On March 24 will add more showcases through an interactive "Bring your rocks for identification" day event with the community, at the centre on Saturday, for anyone interested.
- Promoting a large George Koshman Estate auction – April 21-23 (Friday silent auction and small finished cabochons, Saturday rough rock and large finished supplies, and Sunday equipment, books and things). Promotion on FaceBook ads, accommodations, and how the auction will be split up, etc. will be coming soon.

Jonathan (SARHA):

- Silver Cove sale in May
- Local rock shows like the Hand Made market.
- Fundraising for the club:
 - Possibly online Auction
 - Possibly equipment
 - Will let AFRC members know once this is clearer.

Other items:

Dale asked about what the policy is in other clubs about members visiting other clubs (i.e. there was a member that asked about using the Calgary equipment, but was told they could visit and see it but not use the equipment). Karen-Anne said it would be the same, John C said the public or friends of club members, without the member, may want to use equipment, but can't.

Dale also asked about insurance and what is needed (she has also asked their board to make sure we have everything they need). Asked if for a future meeting we could discuss what everyone has and see that we are properly covered.

- John C clarified the AFRC director's insurance that is to cover issues for directors (i.e., if a director is criticized or being sued on behalf of doing duties for AFRC to not say anything but let the insurance handle that). In addition, at May Daze John C will designate that all volunteers are part of AFRC auction committee so that directors and volunteers are covered by insurance. This was said to clarify the scope of that and the GMFC insurance. Brett said no it's not needed.

Dale asked about members from other clubs joining other club's Field trips – do we need specific club memberships. Karen-Anne mentioned this is one of the benefits of AFRC.

11. Next AFRC meeting (April 2023 and/or May Daze, May 2023)

(discussed in relation to agenda item 7.1 (see it) date in relation to next meeting) Dale asked when she will get the information about May Daze (things that are needed first are a agenda/schedule of events, information on campgrounds and hotels, and map). Brett asked if she wanted it before the April meeting. Dale said especially the calendar/agenda as people are wanting to book hotels based on what events they can do. Brett mentioned that he had sent a calendar and set of events to the SARHA club without details of field trips, demos and classes, map or accommodations. Jonathan described that he had summarized the information from Brett into clusters of 6 main areas for the club to work on (including some of the details mentioned), that teams are just starting to be organized, and that it would be helpful to know what is more urgently needed from other clubs so it can be prioritized. Dale was hoping to get a list of campgrounds for camping and when the hall is open for washrooms. Brett said it is limited for camping, and should find what is, but that we would have control of the hall to make it available for washrooms.

Karen would like to have an April meeting. It was discussed. Decision to do it on a Zoom. Meeting on April 2nd, 2023.

Dale said that would be good to get the [May Daze] information to her club the following week. Brett asked if the info could be digital. Karen-Anne asked if Tony could post it on AFRC website for everyone to use. He agreed.

Action Items:

- **Members of the SARHA club (Brett, Jonathan, Henry) to get the information on May Daze (agenda/schedule of events, information on campgrounds and hotels & availability of washrooms, map) as soon as possible, but at least by the April 2 meeting, sent out to the clubs and to Tony**
- **Tony will put the information up on the AFRC website.**

12. Adjournment

Tony adjourned meeting.