

MHPC General Meeting Minutes - Wed. Feb. 19, 2025

Silver Buckle Press Room

1. **OPENING**

- 1.1. **Quorum**- Yes - 15 /34 pd. members plus 2 guests
- 1.2. 7:06pm -Rob- **Call to Order**
Tribute to fellow paddler, Traci Gordon who passed away recently after a hard battle with cancer. Traci will be missed. Traci's Memorial service will be held Friday, Feb. 28 at 2:30pm at Pattison's Funeral Home.
- 1.3. **Agenda** - Rob introduced the club's proposed new website and clicked open the Agenda, hoping that in future meetings, we may be able to encourage meeting participants to utilize the meeting 'files' on the website.
 - 1.3.1. Additions to the Agenda? Yes, Add 'MH Massacre' under Events.
 - 1.3.2. **Motion to accept the Agenda** by Megan Seconded by: Cindy Carried.
- 1.4. **Minutes of last meeting:** Rob clicked open the 'Minutes' file from last meeting on the new proposed website and together, the group reviewed them for any corrections.
 - 1.4.1. No corrections, but Pat suggested we review last month's video again when the weather is warmer.
 - 1.4.2. **Motion to accept last meeting minutes** by Rick Seconded by Richard Carried.

2. **CLUB BUSINESS**

- 2.1. **Board Meeting Update** - Rob - new format for the Board this year with new Director roles which each Director will expand on later in this meeting.
- 2.2. **Financial Report** - Richard presented our current bank total of \$4,183.39 of which \$1,095 is from cumulated ticket sales for the upcoming Film Festival.
- 2.3. **Membership Report** - Tara absent - Rob reported we now have 31 paid members and during the meeting, 3 more attendees went on-line and purchased their memberships, bringing the total to 34. Pat asked how many we had last year - 82. People have 3 months to renew this year and until the end of March, they will receive correspondence (emails of Agendas and Minutes) after which time they will be dropped from Membership mailing lists if they have not renewed. It was discussed that people likely aren't thinking about kayaking/paddling just yet (-30 degrees and all!)
- 2.4. **Events** -
 - 2.4.1. **Film Festival** - Sun. April 13, 2025 - Laurie shared that, to date, 77 tickets have been sold and showed an example of the posters that arrived this week from Rapid Media. Very brightly colored and eye-catching, there are 20 small size (8.5 x 11), 10 medium size (11 x 17) and 5 large size (billboard poster). These will need to be strategically hung around the city closer to the event date. New 'ads' for our fb page will begin appearing soon - these excellent 'blurbs' were generated by MH Tourism for our use.
 - 2.4.2. **Insurance Issues** - Rob briefly reviewed some of the issues we have uncovered regarding holding events especially where Public is involved (ie. Fun and Safety on the Water and the Great Big Paddle).MH Tourism really wants us to take on the Great Big Paddle (originally started by

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them). For the city, there is a request to 'book' the ramps at Echodale and Strathcona for the Great Big Paddle- although there is no charge for this booking, any group doing this must demonstrate having adequate insurance coverage. Unfortunately, our group does not have this insurance. MH Tourism has offered up to \$2,500 to help us purchase insurance and Rob is currently exploring options with an insurance agent. This is slowing us down in terms of ADVERTISING these events until we know FOR SURE our roles in them and our insurance needs in order to be involved. Rob is in discussion with MH Tourism and the City on this. but progress has been slow.

- 2.4.3. **MH Massacre** - Pat Bradley and Dave Romanuck are the liaisons for linking Club volunteers to the event this year. They can be reached on the fb Messenger club chat page for more info. This year, it will be held on Elkwater Lake on Saturday, May 10 and club volunteers will need to plan to be there for a 10am start. Dave has already booked a camping site in the main campsite, to stay overnight and if others are interested, bookings can be made at the Elkwater website.

2.5. **NEW BUSINESS**

2.5.1. **Director Reports -**

- 2.5.1.1. **Newbie Program** - **Megan** shared that she has a couple of ladies who go to Echodale Pond on Sunday mornings quite regularly, and this would be a great time for Newbies (and others) to come out to the pond and have experienced people to welcome them and help them with tips for getting started. Megan's idea is to encourage watching videos that demo first steps of paddling and then meeting at the pond to 'try them out' together. Megan stressed that they are not teaching - just encouraging co-learning and practice in a safe setting. Potential 'newbies' will be identified as they sign up for a Membership and then flagged to Megan for follow-up. All Members are welcome to come out and get involved.
- 2.5.1.2. **Social** - **Cindy** shared that she is looking into organizing potential camping and paddling out at Elkwater and also various BBQ opportunities. Two ideas were brought forward at the meeting: a) Combine the Fun and Safety on the Water event held in June with a 'Meet n' Greet' potluck BBQ for Members at Echodale. b) A Wrap-up BBQ at the end of the McKay Hat Hat Regatta to be held at the Strathcona Cookhouse to celebrate the end of the season.
- 2.5.1.3. **Skills and Knowledge** - **Tom** discussed the idea of 'Co-Learning' opportunities (everyone watches a Youtube video first) then come to perhaps Tuesday night paddle and 'practice' together as well as increasing member knowledge of bigger trips like the Bow River or St. Mary's dam by helping members to plan trips (beyond our own river and regularly paddled lakes and creeks).
- 2.5.1.4. **Paddling Threads** - **Ivan** shared he will be organizing guest presenters and/or topics for our future general meetings.

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Del Hope, President of SEASAR (SouthEastern Search and Rescue) is booked to come to our April meeting to share more about SEASAR, discuss dangers of cold water and share a bit about volunteering for his group's MH Massacre event in May. Ivan is looking for suggestions for next month's meeting (March)- any Member adventures to share?

- 2.5.2. **New Website** - Rob shared the site development so far and explained WHY a website? Basically, many people have complained about not being able to find things related to the club when we are using fb pages. The website enables us to have everything 'club' in one spot - easy to find stuff AND he will be working on building links to other groups/orgs we are affiliated with in order to bring SEARCH engines to us and help us 'pop up' when people search 'paddling' or 'kayaking' in Medicine Hat. Rob reviewed the main areas generated so far including: Trip Maps; Film Festival; Membership; Video clips; and more! Rob is exploring how to build a 'members only' section. Access codes are being placed in a location EASY to FIND for successors (no more lost access codes!) Send Rob your ideas and he'll see what he can do (keeping in mind his website skills are a bit dated now!)

Host: IONUS (Holland)

Domain: www.paddlemedhat.ca

Costs: special start-up deal \$51.45 for 1st year (for domain name and hosting) \$102 per year after that

Domain Guard: \$1.05 for 1st year - then \$15/yr after that.

MOTION by Rob to accept the expenses as presented involved in setting up a Club website, to be reviewed by the Membership after one year.

Seconded by Tom Carried.

3. **Paddling Threads** - Ivan shared his idea for tonight's small group discussion: Sharing your Goals and Dreams for this year! Using a prompt from the Agenda, participants spent about 20 minutes discussing things they'd be interested in pursuing this year. Results can be seen in the images on the next page. (appendix)
4. **NEXT MEETING** - Wednesday, March 19, 2025 7pm Silver Buckle Press Room
5. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** by Stan Wiens 8:15pm

Respectfully submitted by Laurie Benn, Secretary

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APPENDIX - images of small group discussion results "Goals and Dreams 2025"

<p>PADDLE RED DEER RIVER AT DRUMHELLER OUTFITTER THERE!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GRASSLANDS National Park - Saskatchewan. - Swift Current Creek - Eastend. SK. - Pumphouse to Strathcona (weather permitting - wind) - Frenchman River - SK. <p>Rick Frankie Linda Tom</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Longer river trip (not overnight) eg - Suffield pump house to town. - Spruce Coulee day trip - Friendly "obstacle course Skills competition" - Echo Dale - Multi day trips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - here to Sandy Point Bridge - Grassy Lake to Hat. - Bow Island to Hat - Tolman Bridge to Drumheller - Highway 36 to Dinosaur Park Earth Day Creek Clean-Up <p>IAN, RICHARD, STAN, & ALAN</p>
<p>Can't more to Banff</p> <p>Harvie Passage NW CALGARY to Fish Creek Park (July-Aug)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creek - Always - - Moonlight CRUZ <p>→ Creek & River Update</p> <p>Pat Laurelle Amy Cynthia</p>	<p>Get more informed as upcoming events - Explain Input</p> <p>Bow River - Calgary</p> <p>See us up.</p> <p>11th Strathcona to 11th Ave.</p> <p>Full Moon light Paddle. July Full Moon.</p> <p>Two day evening paddle</p> <p>Roll a kayak Bow River.</p> <p>Get to Island.</p> <p>Cindy Laurie Kathy Megan Ross</p> <p>Guilt Ross Cindy</p>

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Medicine Hat Paddle Club
General Meeting Sign-in Sheet

Date: Wednesday, ~~January 15~~, 2025 7pm
Silver Buckle Press Room
Feb. 19, 2025

Please Print!

#	Name	Member? ✓	#	Name	Member? ✓
1	Cindy Sampson	✓	20		
2	Megan Robertson	✓	21		
3	Laurie Benn	✓	22		
4	Rob Benn	✓	23		
5	Ira Shl ^{Ivan S.}	✓	24		
6	Ross Buttar	XXXX X	25		
7	Stan WIENS	✓	26		
8	Alan Matisz	✓	27		
9	Dinda Klauett	✓	28		
10	Lynden Patten	✓	29		
11	Rick MacFarlane	✓	30		
12	Tom Coulon	✓	31		
13	KEV MURPHY	✓	32		
14	Laurelle Hommy	Bought @ mtg.	33		
15	Andy Hommy	Bought @ mtg.	34		
16	Brent Mack	X	35		
17	Pat Bradley	✓	36		
18	Cynthia Krassman	Bought @ mtg.	37		
19	Richard Pierson	✓	38		