

MHPC General Meeting Minutes - Wed. Mar. 19, 2025
Silver Buckle Press Room 7pm

1. OPENING

1.1. **Quorum**- Yes - 23/45pd. members plus 2 guests (sign up sheet attached)

1.2. 7:08pm -Rob- **Call to Order**

Special Announcement by Ivan Shukster re: Dana - sad to report that Dana suffered a fall resulting in some very risky surgery this past weekend. Dana is recovering in hospital and working on healing. Ivan is concerned their involvement in the club this season may need to be withdrawn, depending on how things go. Many expressions of Well Wishes were extended for Ivan to take to her next time he visits!

1.3. **Agenda-**

1.3.1. No additions or changes -

Motion to accept the Agenda by Stan 2nd: Alan Carried

1.4. **Minutes of last meeting- Feb. 19:**

1.4.1. No corrections

Motion to accept last meeting minutes by Stan 2nd by Laurelle Carried.

2. CLUB BUSINESS

2.1. **Financial Report** - Richard absent. Laurie shared the current bank balance of \$4,284.86.

2.2. **Website Report** - Rob shared that he is continuing to upload information and welcomes Member ideas and/or input - just text him on the fb page or email him to share your thoughts! rovinrobby@gmail.com Rob is currently exploring how to put a 'private / members only' aspect to the website.

2.3. **Events -**

2.3.1. **Insurance & Grant Update** - Rob informed everyone that the grant from MH Tourism for \$2,500 is a 'go' and we are in the process of purchasing \$2 million in liability insurance for the club. This insurance allows us to continue to partner and/or lead the events we do throughout the year. It was clarified that the insurance through AWA is extremely limited and the \$5 we contribute when purchasing our membership includes a fee to be a Member of the Provincial organization working on behalf of paddling groups across Alberta while also maintaining our member database and sending us payments and statements quarterly.

2.3.2. **Film Festival** - Sun. April 13, 2025 - Membership Report - Tara absent - Laurie reported we now have 45 paid members (last year was 35 at this time and 1.1k followers on the fb page, last year was 846 at this time! Laurie called for volunteers on the DAY OF the event - a couple of Ushers, Box Office people, door prize runners...Pat, Brent & Don K., Ken, Laurelle and Stan have all volunteered! Thank you and see you at the Theatre at 6 so we can get organized before doors open at 6:30pm. Tom shared how he's getting posters distributed but still has more and is looking for volunteers. Large posters have been taken to Monarch Theatre, but we have yet to see them posted outside! Tom will be following up. Tom, Rob, Laurelle & Andy assured us all that this year's

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line-up is FANTASTIC (even better than last year!) Tom advised that this year's format will have TWO intermissions and will run a bit longer than last year (with 2 extra movies in the mix!).

- 2.3.3. **MH Massacre** - Dave reported: This triathlon Adventure Race of running, biking and paddling will be held on Elkwater Lake on Saturday, May 10 and club volunteers will need to plan to be there for a 10am start. Rob & Laurie asked to be added to the list of volunteers. FYI, 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. More next month when Del Hope is guest speaking.
- 2.3.4. **Fun & Safety on the Water** - in partnership with the City of MH will be on Saturday, May 31 at Echodale Boat Pond - volunteers are asked to arrive at 10 for a noon start. More info next month. High Level Canoe and Kayaks from Lethbridge will be bring boats for people to try AND will have a certified instructor along as the City will not permit us to instruct or coach people if we're not certified. (regulations now)

2.4. NEW BUSINESS

2.4.1. Director Reports -

- 2.4.1.1. **Membership Report** - Tara absent - Laurie reported we now have 45 paid members (last year was 35 at this time and 1.1k followers on the fb page, last year was 846 at this time!
- 2.4.1.2. **Newbie Program - Megan** absent. Marie mentioned that she is going to be helping Megan out at Echodale Pond (once it's open) to help support new members who have limited or no kayak experience to feel supported as they 'try out their boats' on the pond. Newbies will be encouraged to watch skill videos on YouTube, then come to the pond on Sunday mornings to 'try things out' in a shared, cooperative learning environment. Members are welcome to come out and get involved in supporting and welcoming new members.
- 2.4.1.3. **Social - Cindy** shared that she is still exploring and researching Elkwater offerings. She is looking for opportunities for 'social' activities, and will be keen to hear what comes forward today during 'Paddling Threads'. Also, new member, Kathy G. volunteered to help Cindy with planning and organizing!
- 2.4.1.4. **Skills and Knowledge - Tom** shared his findings on potential Level1 and Level 2 lessons this summer out at Elkwater Lake and offered through High Level Kayak out of Lethbridge. We need to find at least 10 people who will register for the course - one level for \$85 OR both levels (AM-PM) for \$160.
- 2.4.1.5. **Paddling Threads - Ivan** reminded everyone that Del Hope of SEASAR is coming next month to talk about SEASAR, our club's involvement in their annual Massacre triathlon event held in Elkwater, and cold water safety. Also, Ivan will be asking him to

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advise us on First Aid Kit contents best suited for on the water or on trips. Ivan asked for ideas for May's Paddling Threads. It was suggested perhaps Cynthia, Pat, Brent and Dave might like to share some slides of their recent paddling trip to Mexico?

3. **Paddling Threads - Ivan** opened tonight's conversation by inviting people to share about possible river and/or lake trips that we could think about doing this year. Lots of info came forward and lots of people shared. (see notes below)

Three dates were agreed on by the group (weather permitting of course!) as dates to 'aim for' this summer and try and get lots of club members out!

- a) June 14 **or** 15 at **Spruce Coulee** in Elkwater (people might choose to camp OR just come out for the day) **if the 14th is poor weather, then we go with the 15th* Everyone brings a picnic lunch.
- b) June 27 **or** 28 at **Spruce Coulee** (in Elkwater people might choose to camp OR just come out for the day) **if the 27th is poor weather, then we go with the 28th* Everyone brings a picnic lunch.
- c) July 19 **or** 20 on the river from the **Pump House to Echodale or Redcliff or Strathcona?** (take out still to be decided) with a few 'stops' along the way suggested at 'Fossil Island' and at 'Gault Island. **if the 19th is poor weather, then we go with the 20th* Everyone brings a picnic lunch. Note: Cell Service can be very patchy on this section of the river.

Other 'trips' suggested: (be thinking about WHEN...)

- i) **From Medicine Hat (Fertilizer Plant?) to Sandy Point** - 2.5 days duration - expect weather changes. Must get permission from the Base (Laurelle has a connection for this)
- ii) **Banff to Canmore** -begin just below Bow Falls- fast water - Bow River - NOT for beginners! -do river in day - overnight at motel in Canmore. High Level staff are interested in doing things with us - please let them know. (Talk to Cynthia?)
- iii) **Possible Camping overnight and paddling in Rolling Hills**

Remember: July 27 - Level 1 and Level 2 kayak lessons being offered by High Level Kayaks out on Elkwater - \$160 combo price - certificate - register with 'COOPER' at High Level 403-327-4506. Tell him you're with the Med Hat Paddling Club and you were told this price for a class with them in Elkwater on July 27. They will be collecting 10 - 12 names in order for the course to run. Get your name on the list today!

**** Members can organize trips on fb messenger - set up 'trip' chat groups and stay connected**

- 4. **NEXT MEETING** - Wednesday, April 16, 2025 7pm Silver Buckle Press Room
- 5. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** by Pat Bradley at 8:10pm

Respectfully submitted by Laurie Benn, Secretary

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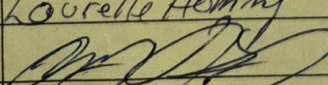
Medicine Hat Paddle Club

General Meeting Sign-in Sheet

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

March 19, 2025

Please Print!

#	Name	Member? ✓	#	Name	Member? ✓
1	Laurie Benn	✓	20	Sharon Sep	✓
2	Rob Benn	✓	21	Steven Sathre	✓
3	Alan Matisz	✓	22	Rick Macdonald	✓
4	Tracy Haupt	✓	23	STAN SWAN	✓
5	Ross Butten		24	Tom Gordon	✓
6	Maria Johnston	✓	25	KEVIN MURPHY	✓
7	Philip Buisseret	✓	26		
8	Ivan Shukla	✓	27		
9	Steve Wrenn	✓	28		
10	Cindy Sampson		29		
11	Kathy Gannet	✓	30		
12	Dave Ronauk	✓	31		
13	Pat Bradley	✓	32		
14	Brent Mack		33		
15	Laurelle Hemmy	✓	34		
16		✓	35		
17	Corla Prentice	✓	36		
18	Cynthia Krassman	✓	37		
19	Shawnee Day	✓	38		