

Today's meeting opened at 9:58 am with 55 members in attendance and VP Warren Gregg chairing the meeting.

Warren Gregg introduced today's guests: Ron Bairstow, Ezio Di Emanuel, Bent Andersen, Harry Braun, Ron Galbraith, and Bryan Florence.

Announcements

Activities/Events – Ken Marchant

Ken began by thanking everyone who supported him during the period of his wife, Pat Jackson's passing.

- Upcoming events:

- Performance of *Jersey Boy's* on April 13th at Hamilton Theatre in Cambridge;
- Guelph Little Theatre production of *"Five Alarm Fire"*
- Tour of the Sikh Temple;
- Tour of the Guelph Steam Heritage Museum.

Doug Davidson announced some upcoming speakers:

- Brian Skerrett on Urban Park Guelph: The Solution We've Been Looking For
- Karen Van Ooteghem on Balance: How Important it is to our Health & And What We Can Do About It

Richard Rivkin introduced his daughter, Dr. Ruth Rivkin, today's guest presenter.

Bio:

Dr. Ruth Rivkin is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Manitoba, working jointly with Polar Bears International, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance. She has completed her PhD in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Toronto in 2021 where she studied the role that cities play in shaping biodiversity. Originally from Newfoundland, she now lives in Guelph, where she enjoys walking her dogs in Preservation Park and baking sourdough bread.

Presentation:

The Arctic is warming at an unprecedented rate, threatening the persistence of polar bears. She studies the genetic basis of evolution in polar bears to understand their capacity for survival and adaptation to climate warming. She uses cutting-edge research methods to guide conservation and management strategies that can promote polar bear survival.

(Dr. Ruth Rivkin's presentation can be found on the Club website for March 28th, 2024 under Speaker's Notes)

Following her presentation there was a Q&A.

Doug Davidson thanked Dr. Rivkin for her presentation and gave her a token of appreciation on behalf of the Club.

Next Meeting: April 11th, 2024 with Brian Skerrett on *Urban Park Guelph: The Solution We've Been Looking For*

Adjournment @ 10:59 am

Recording Secretary: Kerry Gennings