

Minutes of the Southwest Chapter of Utah Friends of Paleontology Meeting — March 19, 2014

Opening:

Melinda called this meeting to order at 7 p.m., welcoming the 15 attendees.

She noted that several members followed up on our suggestion and went to Silver Reef on February 22nd to hear Marc Deshowitz talk about "The Tectonic History of the SW USA - An explanation for our breathtaking landscapes and how it may have impacted the presence of ore deposits in the Leeds, UT area."

It was very well attended to the delight of the sponsor, the Silver Reef Foundation, promising more talks in the future.

Minutes:

Elisabeth read her Minutes of the January 15 meeting. They were voted on, approved, and entered as such into the record.

She reminded the attendees that minutes are immediately posted on the UFOP website

(www.utahpaleo.org/archives) after their approval.

Treasurer's report:

As Sandra could not attend the meeting, Melinda read her report. The beginning balance of December 31, 2013 was \$1,146.44. There were expenses made for two dinners in January for the amount of \$64.95, and a total of deposits for memberships in the amount of \$425, bringing the balance up to \$1,506.49 as of February 28, 2014.

SGDS Museum news:

Andrew gave a status update on "The Wall" at SGDS and thanked the UFOP volunteers, who have been working on the erected scaffold. A nice picture of them was put on Facebook.

Announcements / Reminders:

- * Dino Days at SGDS
- * 7th Annual Preparators and Collections Conference in SLC, Apr 4-7
- * 2014 UFOP Annual conference in Vernal, May 30th - June 1st
- * Vice-president vacancy
- * Membership dues payable after the meeting

Speaker:

Our speaker was Rob Gay, presenting a talk titled, *The Paleoecology of the early Jurassic Kayenta Formation*.

Rob attended Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff and is currently a Masters student in Biology at the University of AZ in Tucson, as well as a Science teacher in Page, AZ since 2009, running the first HS paleontology program in the nation. He is currently working with Andrew Milner on the first armored archosaur found in the Kayenta of SW Utah. Results of this study will be published this year. Rob is also working on a big project to try and reconstruct the trophic interactions between organisms in the Kayenta Formation in Arizona.

Basically, his talk was about a hypothetical theory he put forward concerning the interaction of flora and fauna in the Kayenta Formation, his thorough examination of all the relevant sites of available fossils, and coming to the conclusion that his hypothesis was not correct and thus disproved.

Adjournment: 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Elisabeth Nipperus, Secr. SW UFOP Chapter April 16, 2014