

## Minutes of the SW Chapter meeting held on May 18, 2016

- Bill opened the meeting at 7 p.m. welcoming the attendees (22). He introduced SGDS's new intern, Jaleesa Spor.
- Discussed were the Minutes of the previous meeting Elisabeth had e-mailed to all the chapter members a week earlier. There were no corrections offered, so they were voted on, seconded, and approved, to be posted on our website a.s.a.p.
- There was a deposit of \$15 made by a new member in May, bringing the balance of our chapter account to \$1,249.88.
- The field trip planned for April 30 was postponed due to rain.
- Discussion of our next annual conference to be held in April 2017 here in St. George. Committees will start working on it in September, more information will be available thereafter.
- The BLM would like our cooperation with a new program "Respect and Protect" to protect the rich paleontology around this area; they will give its first of four Open Houses in the lobby of the SDGS museum on July 16th. Bill distributed fliers on this project and encouraged the members to visit the Museum on that day.

[UTAH's BLM State Office has partnered up with another well-known organization called "TreadLightly!" which promotes recreation through stewardship, communication, and education. Its focus is on supporting and encouraging stewardship on America's lands and waterways, and totally in line with UFOP's motto.]

- Our chapter advisor, Andrew, mentioned some news about the goings-on at the SGDS Museum: mural paintings, moving (or not) of swimtrack blocks behind the museum, in connection with the ongoing construction site of a Smith's supermarket abutting the hill.

He also mentioned planned field work in the Indian Creek area, incl. Newspaper Rock, during the last week of August. Volunteers were welcome.

This evening's guest speaker was SARAH GIBSON, who worked at the SGDS Museum for 2 years as an intern.

She is currently a PhD Candidate in the Department of Geology and Biodiversity Institute at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas, currently being advised by Dr. Hans-Peter Schultze.

Sarah earned a Master's Degree in Geology from the University of Kansas in 2012, a Bachelor's Degree in Geology from Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah in 2006, and an Associate's Degree in Geology from the College of Eastern Utah in Price, Utah, in 2004. After working at SGDS from 2006–2008, she also worked as a volunteer coordinator for the KU Natural History Museum Fossil Preparation

lab, as a curatorial assistant in the alcohol-preserved specimens at the KU Natural History Museum, as well as six months as a contracted fossil preparator at the Field Museum in Chicago.

In addition to finishing up her dissertation, she is an editor and writer for the PLOS Paleontology Community website.

The title of her presentation was:

*Just Keep Swimming: A Look at the Fossil Fishes of the Triassic Southwest*

After crediting Andrew for starting her on fishes from the Upper Lisbon Valley in 2008, she gave us an interesting and very detailed overview of her work on semionotiform fishes even finding new species. She also showed how fossils, when bathed in fluorescent green light, showed much more detail.

The meeting was adjourned at around 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Elisabeth Nipperus, Secr. UFOP SW Chapter

October 12, 2016