

## **Minutes of UFOP SW Chapter Meeting on January 17, 2018**

Bill welcomed the 24 attendees and made sure the sign-up sheet was circulating. He reminded us that Alan Titus was giving a lecture in Springdale the following day at the Canyon Community Center, titled: *"Phoenix from the Ashes."* Andrew remarked that he would give the same talk to us in the near future.

Bill proceeded with news pertaining to the SGDS Museum: The DinosaurAh!Foundation decided to have the interior walkway redone with paving stones, also installing wires instead of ropes and poles set in cement. It was offering the chance to have people donate paving stones. He made a motion that we as a UFOP Chapter donate \$500 for the pavers. He said: "SGDS has always been supportive of UFOP: it hosted our social hour for the conference last year, it provides information about our organization to interested visitors, and it gives many of us a place to explore our fascinations with paleontology." He added that we should note that he was a member of the board of the Foundation.

This motion was voted on favorably.

Joanna indicated that there was a balance of \$2,129.07 in the kitty.

Elisabeth asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of December's meeting she sent out by email. They were voted on, approved, seconded and as such entered into the record, to be posted on our website.

Bill then introduced our speaker for the evening: Maria Rodriguez, a graduate of California State University Dominguez Hills in Earth Science. Her paleontology experience started when she interned as a student assistant with the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles county in the department of Invertebrate Paleontology. In May 2016 she was hired as a paleontology Assistant for Glen Canyon National Recreation Area under the program Geoscientists-in-the-Parks. It was there that she worked with Andrew Milner on ichnofossils found throughout the park. In September 2017 she was promoted to Museum Curator for Glen Canyon NRA where she currently works in their Museum Collection.

Maria gave us a very animated presentation titled "My Paleo Adventures in Glen Canyon NRA" accompanied by pertinent images on the screen. By the end of her talk I think we were all impressed by the many different facets of the work a paleoscientist has to go through when collecting fossils: photographing, cleaning, washing, drying, cataloguing, labeling, numbering, digitizing, and of course always studying and keeping up with the newest findings of other scientists in your field. She did remark that she "fell in love with paleontology", a reminder that in order to be a paleontologist you really have to love the work that you do.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by Elisabeth Nipperus, Secr. UFOP SW Chapter  
February 18, 2018