

Winter River – Tracadie Bay Watershed Association (WRTBWA)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the WRTBWA

Held on January 15, 2020, 7:00 pm at the WRTBWA office at 13977 St. Peters Road, Marshfield, PE

Present: John Hughes, Sarah Wheatley, Clare Martin, Ryan Winters, Matt Steeves, Jean-Paul Arsenault, Lowell Vessey, George Coade, Jeff Bysterveldt

Absent: Sarah Donald, Scott Stevens, Dwayne McNeill

Clare called the meeting called to order at 7:00PM

1. Minutes from the Nov 20, 2019 meeting

Minutes from the Nov 20, 2019 meeting were circulated by Ryan prior to the meeting. George motioned to accept the minutes. John seconded. All were in favour, none opposed. Minutes were approved.

2. Follow-up: Presentation by Paul Strain

- Sarah emailed Paul Strain from the PEI Department of Transportation. He did not have an update yet but will have something by February.

3. Chairperson's Report – Clare Martin

- Sarah and Clare wrote a letter to the City requesting funding for 2020. The letter highlighted the many ways our activities create value.
- Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is in May so Clare wanted to get an idea of who wants to remain on the Board. Clare also asked for some new ideas about different areas of the watershed we should get more involved in. For example, Clare mentioned aquaculture in our bays. Clare asked the Board to think about these ideas as we move forward.
- Clare asked if Shawn Schofield could be a possible guest speaker for the AGM. He belongs to the agriculture environment unit. His focus is on education, but his unit's scope also includes enforcement. Inviting a representative from the CLIVE program from the Climate Lab at UPEI is another idea we could consider.

4. Treasurer's Report – Lowell Vessey

	<i>Chequing account</i>	<i>Savings Account</i>
Opening Balance: Nov 1, 2019	\$44,257.02	\$70,765.50
Less o/s cheques clearing	\$448.16	-
Less unauthorized debit	\$38.21	-
Plus deposits	\$6,819.76	\$119.15
Less expenses	\$34,211.82	-
Plus o/s cheques	\$2,934.32	-
Closing balance: Dec 31, 2019	\$19,312.91	\$70,884.65

5. Committees: Field Committee – Vacant (Committee Chair)

- Brainstorming meeting was held Nov 28. Next meeting will be held once the request for proposals for federal grants come out. Committee Chair still needs to be elected.

6. Water Committee – Clare Martin (Committee Chair)

- The next meeting has been proposed for February. George handed over to Clare.

7. Communications Committee

- No updates to report.

8. WRTBWA Property Committee

- No updates to report.

9. Coordinator's Report – Sarah Wheatley reported (see report)

- Agriculture Canada money still needs to come in.
- Sarah is working on grants for next year and recently submitted one for Agriculture Canada.
- Cleaning up water quality data and getting it ready to go into the reports.
- Stream work: Hilary wanted more information about water flows over winter. Sarah installed some rebar to support the safe collection of measurements. Hilary sent us a staff member to help us do the survey.

- Sarah went to the Watershed Alliance meeting and a living shoreline tour.
- Sarah and Brittany went to the UPEI climate sense workshop that was tailored for watershed groups

10. Savage Harbour

- JP motioned that we write a letter to Kate McQuarrie asking her to organize a public meeting to solicit feedback from residents of the Savage Harbour watershed area.
 - The following stakeholder groups should also be invited:
 - Abegweit Conservation Society
 - WRTBWA
 - Morell
 - Hillsborough River Association
 - Pisquid River Enhancement
 - Lowell seconded the motion. All were in favour. None opposed. Motion passed.

11. Meeting with farmers

- The potato farmers meeting was well attended, with four of the six invited farmers present. Ryan Barrett represented the Potato Board. Everyone asked good questions and made relevant comments. Several farmers stayed afterward to speak with the WRTBWA Board. The fact that they came was a measure of acceptance and interest.
- Clare thanked Lowell for chairing the meeting.
- Next, we need to talk about follow-up meetings with other farming groups (e.g., beef, dairy, fruit). The Board decided to proceed with dairy farmers next (targeting late-February). Fruit growers will likely be the final group we meet with.

12. Winter Hike

- Winter Hike will be scheduled for Feb 1st, with a backup date of Feb 22nd.
- The hike will start at 10:00 am at the trailhead.
- We need to line up someone to bring chili, biscuits, bread, cookies, hot chocolate, apple cider, etc.
- Sarah and a staff member will go in early and start a fire.
- Firewood should be delivered in advance, George and John will handle this task.

13. Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 9:04

Next meeting: Feb 19, 2020

Signature – Clare Martin, Chair of WRTBWA	Date
Signature – Ryan Winters, Secretary of WRTBWA	Date