

Minutes
Winter River - Tracadie Bay Watershed Association
Board of Directors Meeting

Brackley Commons, Brackley
May 27, 2010, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Present:

George Coade
Cathy Corrigan
John Dalziel
Rod Dempsey

John Hughes
Neil Maclsaac
Bruce Smith (Association Coordinator)

1. Welcome

The meeting was convened with a majority of Board members present. New member Neil Maclsaac was welcomed to the Board.

2. Business

- a) The Evaluation Committee for Environment Canada's EcoAction Community Funding Program did not recommend our project "Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed Assessment and Management Plan" for funding. The Committee did not support hiring a consultant to do a portion of the work described in the project and felt that restoration activities would be better undertaken once identified in a watershed management plan rather than on a "piece-meal" basis.
- b) Coordinator Bruce Smith reported to the Board. A summary of his report, in point form, is provided below.
 - Bruce and Rod had an excellent meeting with Craig Walker (City of Charlottetown) on May 20. The City has offered to provide up to \$5,000 of extra funding if needed. For the work they will fund this season, they will require three invoices over three months, each one for one third of the total funding amount. It is okay for us to proceed with stream enhancement and/or watershed management planning activities. They are interested in building a long-term relationship with our Association.
 - Bruce and John H. have met with the Cudmore family who resides in the watershed and has allowed a student crew funded by the Province to plant 500 trees in the riparian zone. All that remains to be done is to have landscape fabric installed around the trees to suppress the growth of weeds.
 - Bruce and John H. have also walked a portion of the river to assess work requirements.
 - Bruce has contacted the Department of Fisheries and Oceans regarding the location of silt traps. It is likely that one or two will be installed in the Union Road area.
 - Christopher Mutch begins next week as our work crew supervisor.

- Bruce will meet with Lowell Vessey as a means to satisfy the Province's condition that we must solicit comments from the agricultural community before our Watershed Management Funds can be released for this work season. It may also be an appropriate to solicit input from farmers through closed meetings held within the watershed or through the Federation of Agriculture.
 - Bruce mentioned that future support from the Province's Watershed Management Fund may be contingent on our entering into some form of amalgamation with a neighboring watershed association.
- c) Discussion occurred on the level of communication and permission required from landowners in the watershed for different types of work (e.g., property access, debris removal, tree planting, construction of brush mats).
- d) On May 25, Bruce and John met with MLA Robert Vessey. We are still unsure as to the number and identity of summer staff.
- e) Bruce has prepared a general statement of our 2010 funding (approximately \$64,000) and expenditures (approximately \$36,000).
- f) We are in need of a treasurer and it would be appreciated if anyone knowing of someone who might be interested in the position would contact them.
- g) The yard sale was a great success with lots of positive feedback. Between 40 and 50 people registered their yard sales with us and about 300 maps were printed and distributed. For next year, we will require more maps, bigger signs, and more sponsors.
- h) John H. mentioned that we may be able to use the Abegweit First Nation's workers after June 15 (but before the students come on for the summer).
- i) John H. has developed an information sheet for the June 5 trail walk. Bruce will provide some chowder for a fund raiser (free-will contribution).
- j) Neil mentioned that the Haviland Club is interested in helping the Association in any what it can and that specific members may be able to contribute to the efforts of our Association.

3. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 8, at 7:00 p.m. at the Brackley Commons (located at the junction of the Brackley Pt. and Union Roads). Association members and the public are welcome to attend.

4. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.