



## **DRAFT COPY**

**MINUTES CAN NOT BE ADOPTED UNTIL 2017 AGM**

### Meeting Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

7:00 – 9:00pm on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Corran Ban Hall

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by George Coade, chair of the WRTBWA. George welcomed the attendees and introduced current board members in attendance. 22 people in attendance.

Meghan McCarthy	Dianne Flood	Cathy Corrigan	Noreen Hughes
George Coade	Phil Arbing	Catherine Hughes	K. Scott Stevens
John Hughes	Vera Hughes	Jackie Olafson	John J. Rowe
Ben Hoteling	Joe Doran	Will Horne	Bernie Fitzpatrick
Lowell Vessey	Charles MacKay	Joanne MacRae	
Sarah Wheatley	John te Raa	Don Mazer	

2. Reading of Minutes from 2015 AGM by secretary, Bernie Fitzpatrick. Matt Steeves moved adoption of the minutes, seconded by Scott Stephens. Motion carried.
3. Reports:
  - a) Chairperson's Report

George Coade welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the board members. He warmly thanked the board members and credited the success of the year to everyone working together. He acknowledged the hard work that our coordinator, Sarah Wheatley, has done and recognized that she had a heavy schedule. We provided her with extra staff this year. The focus this year was stream rehabilitation. We monitored the river for waterflow, depth, silt and temperature. We completed our funding requirements and sent detailed reports to enable the watershed to access available funding. The PEI Watershed Alliance, of which WRTBWA is a member, announced the hiring of Mary Finch, watershed ecologist. She is a great asset for the watersheds on PEI. We are pleased to work with her. The Watershed Management Fund has moved to the Department of Forestry, Fish and Wildlife under the directive of Kate McQuarrie. Ross Bernard is the coordinator for PEI. Miltonvale Pumping Station is scheduled to become functional in 2017. There are challenges such as unsustainable water extraction, especially when the water levels are low, land management and funding. Each year it is difficult to plan your work as funding commitments come at various times throughout the first six months, and when you have a major user not wanting to support the watershed where they get their water from. You would have to wonder why? We made a presentation to the Environmental Advisory Council on the upcoming Water Act. Our presentation reflected the goals from our watershed management plan.

- Improve and protect quality of both surface water and groundwater.
- Protect the quantity of ground water-ensure extraction rate is sustainable.
- Enhance public understanding of water.
- Protect and enhance the health of bays and estuaries
- Protect and enhance freshwater ecosystems
- Enhance forest management
- Improve the management of shale pits/storage pits and associated activities
- Improve agricultural practices to minimize negative impacts on the environment



- Enhance recreational opportunities and promote active living
- Incorporate sustainability as a guiding principal in our approach to environmental, economic and social issues

We are a hardworking association continually striving to meet these goals.

b) Treasurer – Lowell Vessey

The Opening Balance- April 1 ,2015 - \$25,400.00                      The Closing Balance- March 31,2016-\$22,000.00

Statements were prepared by BDO. The report is available on our website ([WinterTracadie.ca/documents](http://WinterTracadie.ca/documents)). Moved adoption by Lowell Vessey, seconded by Scott Stephens. Motion carried.

c) Watershed Coordinator Sarah Wheatley

The Coordinator’s Report is included as part of the minutes.

4. Election of Board for 2016-17 – Matt Steeves.

Members are elected for 1-year term. The bylaws call for a minimum of 6, maximum of 12 people. Returning members:

- Bernie Fitzpatrick, Pleasant Grove
- George Coade, Suffolk
- Jean-Paul Arsenault, Charlottetown
- John Hughes, Corran Ban
- Lowell Vessey, York
- Matt Steeves, Charlottetown
- Meghan McCarthy, Suffolk
- Scott Stevens, Charlottetown
- Will Horne, Charlottetown

New Member: Cathy Corrigan, Blooming Point

Moved for adoption by Ben Hoteling and seconded by Don Mazer. Motion carried

5. Other Business:

Meghan McCarthy presented the proposed amendments to our bylaws. Refer to document attached Summary of Bylaw changes at 2016 AGM. The adoption was moved by Meghan McCarthy and seconded by John Hughes. A vote was held and the majority voted to accept the amendments.

6. Announcements:

- June 4: Annual Spring Hike (Lady Slipper Hike) 10am-12pm
- May 30, June 2, and June 3: Elementary School Trips (adult supervisors needed).
- Shoreline cleanup TBA

7. Guest Speaker: Michael R van den Heuvel “From Springs to Ocean: Issues for watershed management on P.E.I.”

8. Adjournment

Moved by George Coade and seconded by Meghan McCarthy. A social was held followed the meeting.