

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

Field trip and York Community Center
July 22, 2014, 7:00 – 9:35 P.M.

Present:

Ben Hoteling
Bernie Fitzpatrick
Bruce Smith
Dominic Johnson
George Coade
Jean-Paul Arsenault

John Hughes
Lowell Vessey
Meghan McCarthy
Sarah Wheatley
Scott Stevens

1. Field Trip

The first hour of our evening was spent on a field trip led by John Hughes around the Union Road pumping station property, and the Hardy Mill Pond. We viewed some of the work that the crews have done over the years and new board members got some background information about these areas.

2. Board meeting welcome

The meeting was convened with a majority of members present.

3. Review of Minutes from last board meeting

The minutes from June 11 meeting were read and accepted with minor changes.

4. Business arising from minutes

- Bruce had a meeting with Tanya Chung Tiam Fook, who is trying to organize community based workshops related to climate change and coastal issues. He thought she would need longer than 15 minutes to really discuss her project with the board, and due to time constraints this evening, it was thought that we should try to meet with her another time.
- The UPEI Climate Lab is giving a “CLIVE” presentation at Beaconsfield tomorrow night.
- The aquaculture alliance cleanup wasn’t as well planned as it should have been. If this event is held again next year, we should meet with them to help plan, a month or two in advance. We should also collaborate a better working relationship with the aquaculture operators in our area.

5. Report from Chair

George thanked John for leading the field trip this evening. We have a lot of experienced people on our board and George would like to harness all of that power by getting everyone to join at least one committee. A new proposed committee structure was included in the agenda for the meeting.

6. Coordinator’s Report

The coordinator’s report was distributed to board members prior to the meeting. Due to time constraints we briefly heard about habitat enhancement projects such as floating cover for fish, deflector logs, digger logs, and artificial spawning.

7. Treasurer’s Report

- George is still currently acting treasurer until Lowell has a chance to get up to speed.
- Expenses to date \$36,500 and revenue of \$80,000 so far this year. There is a Project fund of \$23,600, to be used partly for communications projects.

- Discussed how we should inform the board about financial situations. Current budgeting spreadsheet will be updated to track the percentage of money spent in each budget line compared to the percentage of work completed for that budget line. George and Sarah will put together an updated spreadsheet.
- Discussed paying a bookkeeper, but it might not be worthwhile.
- Students are paid biweekly for the actual number of hours they work. They make up missed hours at the end of the season.

8. Committee Reports

a. Communications

Sarah distributed current versions of all brochures to be used in the watershed-wide door-to-door campaign. The board accepted these documents for use and distribution.

We discussed using students to make some of these visits to residents and how that would fit in with our other stream enhancement projects and communications projects that are still planned. The board decided to forgo entering a float in the Gold Cup parade since our students will soon be finished for the season, and still have stream projects to finish.

We will do a CBC PSA to increase community awareness of this campaign and distribute flyers promoting the campaign around the area.

We extended the timeframe for the campaign, so it will finish by September 30. This should allow more visits to be made, students can visit some summer cottages in August, some board members have more time to volunteer on this project in September, and more homeowners might be around in September. We might also have funds to hire one or two people to work part time to make more visits after the student summer contracts end. After the campaign gets started we will have a better idea how long each visit will take and thus better estimates for the whole project.

9. Other Business

a. Squatter on local farm

Someone built a cabin on a farm and the land owners wanted him to leave. Bruce called the conservation officer who then evicted the individual. It is now up to the land owner to remove the cabin.

b. Model Watershed Project

We decided to withdraw our Expression of Interest for this project due to previous project commitments and general concerns over the administration of the project. An email will be sent to Sean Ledgerwood informing him of our decision.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday August 12, 7 pm at Corran Ban Parish House.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Approval of Minutes

George Coade	_____	Chair	_____
	Signature	Position with WRTBWA	Date

ORIGINAL COPIES SIGNED

Sarah Wheatley	_____	Secretary	_____
	Signature	Position with WRTBWA	Date