

**FRIENDS OF COVEHEAD AND BRACKLEY BAYS INC.**

[www.stanhopecovehead.pe.ca](http://www.stanhopecovehead.pe.ca) [www.fcbbwatershed.ca](http://www.fcbbwatershed.ca)

[coveheadbrackley@gmail.com](mailto:coveheadbrackley@gmail.com)

**Minutes of AGM Meeting of 21 October 2015**

- 1) **Present: Directors:** Chairman Verner Smitheram. Gerry Lajeunesse, Gordie MacCallum, Barry Cudmore, Debbie Buchanan, Jim Jenkins and John Baird  
-Coordinator Justin Walsh and Consultant Wanson Hemphill  
-Regrets: Troy Mackenzie, Peter McLean, Ken Savage

**NS Councillors present :** Gordon Ellis (Council Chair), Kent Maclean, Connie Egan, Eric Ellsworth, Gerard Watts, NS Administrator Tracey Allen.

**Other residents present:** Louis Watts, Andy Morrow, M. Kelly, Michael Hewitt

- 2) **Welcome:** Chair Verner Smitheram warmly welcomed all present and outlined the evening agenda. Each person present was invited to introduce themselves along with a little background.

- 3) **Minutes AGM 18 November 2014** were circulated by Secretary John Baird. Moved by Gordie MacCallum, seconded by Debbie Buchannan. Approved.

- 4) **Treasurer's Report** was presented by Gerry Lajeunesse. He reported on finances from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015: Revenue: \$78,326.13. Expenditures \$76,833.44. Net income \$1, 492.69. Questions were raised and answered about professional fees which included payment to a Nutrient Management Consultant working with farmers on nitrate use... Moved by Gerry Lajeunesse, seconded by Jim Jenkins. Approved.

- 5) **Chair Verner Smitheram** introduced a preview and dress rehearsal of the FCBB presentation to be made by Justin Walsh to the Environmental Advisory Committee on the Water Act on 5 November 2015 at the Farm Centre in Charlottetown.

**The Chair stated that the purpose** of the presentation is gather local views on issues and determine if those present agreed or wished to amend the content and priorities of the FCBB Board draft. *After the presentation each person present will be asked to first comment and then designate the next speaker at random until all have spoken.*

**Key points:**

1. We declare that the FCBB Watershed Management Group strongly supports the development of a Water Act for PEI especially since PEI is the only province in Canada that is completely dependent on groundwater for its source of drinking water.

2. The goal as stated in the white paper on the Water Act is to protect the quality and quantity of Island water and ensure that our water supply is healthy and sustainable now and into the future.
3. Our goal differs from the white paper and agrees with environmentalist objections to treating water as a resource or commodity to be bought and sold. ----- It is our view that Water is a basic necessity for all living beings... not just a commodity to be bartered. **Thus we recommend that the priority goal of the Water Act should be to protect and ensure the health of ALL aquatic ecosystems and it must serve the needs of ALL human AND non- human beings for ALL generations.**
4. We also strongly affirm the priority of the **Precautionary Principle** –a duty to prevent harm when it is within our power to do so even when all the evidence is not in...

**6) Coordinator Justin Walsh** proceeded with the remainder of the presentation which included a map of our watershed, a description of our area, an view of our tourism-based local economy centred around the bays, slides before and after watershed enhancements and factors that must be considered in the water act. He also spoke about sedimentation and the effect it is having on the bays including slides of spring runoff and normal flow, and the berm build up and tidal flushing of Brackley Bay. He recommended, that current conditions of PEI Bays be acknowledged and collaboration between Federal and Provincial Governments and policies require improvement in order for PEI to save our valuable water courses.

Nitrate enrichment, and anoxic events were discussed and data collected from oxygen sensors indicating at times there was insufficient oxygen for fish to live. Also, he mentioned harvesting of sea lettuce and composting trials were unfortunately not successful.

**Recommendations were presented after each main topic.**

**7) The Chairman** invited those in attendance to suggest what they would like removed or inserted and he recorded same for consideration in the final presentation.

**NOTE: THE PRESENTATION ON 5 NOVEMBER 2015 WILL BE FOUND ON THE WATER ACT WEBSITE AT <http://www.gov.pe.ca/wateract> AND ON OUR WEBSITE [www.fcbbwatershed.ca](http://www.fcbbwatershed.ca)**

**8) Election of Directors:** The Chair reviewed the terms of elections in our Letters Patent and presented the slate. There being no further nominations, the slate for 2016 was acclaimed.

**Directors elected** as follows: Eight of ten seats were filled by.....**Barry Cudmore, Michael Hewitt, Jim Jenkins, Gerry Lajeunesse, Gordon MacCallum, Troy MacKenzie, Ken Savage, Verner Smitheram.**

At the next meeting the Directors will choose the Executive for 2016.

**9) Adjournment moved by** Gordie MacCallum, seconded by Jim Jenkins. Approved.

**Submitted by John Baird, Secretary FCBB**

Directors:

Article VI, 1 The Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of no less than Six (6) and no more than Ten (10). The directors will be elected at the annual general meetings.

Article VI, 7 The directors are elected for a one (1) year term.

Article VI, 8 A quorum of 4 directors must be present for any business to be conducted.

Article VI, 4 The Board of Directors shall choose from its members an Executive Committee consisting of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson or two Co-Chairpersons, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

#### PROCESS FOR SELECTING EXECUTIVE

Volunteer to conduct process:

Nomination for each post –Chair , Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer

- Ask if any other nominations three times for each post

- If more than one candidate for any post–vote (open or closed)



