

Minutes Friends of Covehead Brackley Bays Board Meeting Thursday 20 September 2018

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Present: Directors: Emily Van Toever, Gordie MacCallum, Troy MacKenzie, Gerry Lajeunesse, Jim Jenkins, Verner Smitheram. Associates: Tracey Allan, Wanson Hemphill, Franklin MacDonald. Coordinator Justin Walsh. Regrets: Michael Hewitt, Tom Hinsperger, Robbie Shaw, Barry Cudmore

1. Chair Verner called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

2. Opening remarks/updates:

***Verner** reported on the 21 June Forum on Climate Change held at NSCC. It was attended by 50 people and found to be an informative session. Our newsletter was published online via NSCC.

***Troy** reviewed our Facebook page highlighting our latest post (Fox) and others, commented on views likes, etc. with regards to the highly increased activity on our page due to many contributions by Nancy.

***Emily** reviewed her project sponsored by a grant from Canada Youth Services Board. She described her presentations to Kids Fit and a kid's group associated with the Sierra Club. One more presentation will be offered at Central Queens School later this month. Emily's Screenshot of the creatures in the Bay was viewed by over 600 on Facebook. **She will also be featured on CBC Radio Spin Time between 4 and 5 on September 28.**

***Wanson** led a discussion on the **Stanhope Wharf** by the golf club and the reasons why it needed significant upgrades. He described ownership, condition, stakeholders and which stake holders should be sent letters showing our support.

***Justin** talked about our work with UPEI and Mike Cassidy in harvesting seaweed for experimental research on new uses. We helped them on two occasions. We look forward to results.

***Jim** led a discussion on the fees charged for returnables on PEI. It was all about getting the PEI Watershed Alliance to petition government to increase the deposit from 10 to 15 cents. With the increase being shared by the person returning the container and the Watershed Alliance. Discussion touched on fee not high enough, how it might affect sales for the distributor and the need for public education.

***Youngest-ever Associate: Violet Van Toever (present at this meeting) who is only 4 years old has attended several environmental events about forests and bays taught by her mother Emily. Motion by Verner, seconded by Justin that she be approved as an FCBB Associate. Carried with a cheer! (See her on our Facebook page.)**

3. Minutes of June 14 meeting were reviewed. There were no discussions. Verner pointed out that no action had been taken on the proposed letter to government about increasing deposit on returnables. Moved by Jim, seconded by Troy that we proceed. Motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report. Gerry reported on the revenues and expenses projected till December 31, 2018. We will finish the year with a \$9701.82 surplus. Moved by Gerry, seconded by Jim. Motion carried.

5. NSCC Covehead Bay Review follow-up: Following completion of the Review by Tracey Allen, NSCCouncil has hired Maria Sanderson of MRSB Consulting to coordinate two key projects raised in the Review on 1) a scientific/environmental study of Covehead Bay and 2) a marine use planning project. Maria interviewed the FCBB Executive on 18 September using a prepared questionnaire which we submitted in writing. The questionnaire solicited advice about how to conduct various aspects of the two projects.

-Justin described MRSB plan for meeting with the many stakeholders.

6. Report on FCBB Summer Work Completed: Justin reviewed work completed this summer. A slide with more than 20 specific areas, including many pictures, was shown in Powerpoint format which is available on request. He noted that the crew was smaller this summer as was the case with most watershed groups, but productivity was good. A **Daily Log** of work completed was maintained and reviewed by the Chair weekly.

In addition to supervising the crew and doing field work, Justin maintained office administration, prepared funding applications, attended many meetings of our Executive and effected liaison with other watersheds, CLE officials and local landowners, etc.

7. Financial Report: Jim and Justin reviewed both special projects and potential funding areas and sources for 2019. Jim reported on DFO's Coastal Restoration Fund and the PEI Watershed Alliance funding proposal for a scientific study of Covehead Bay.

8. Cass's Pond project: The hold up at this time is funding. A meeting was held with Robert Vessey (Premier's Office) and John Jamieson (Agriculture) to describe the phases and required funding for each phase. They have written us back with suggestions to access various funding sources which the Executive will explore.

9. Eco-tours: Gerry reported on the pilots held this summer with Parks Canada. Parks' rep and our rep, Wanson, held two tours with a total of 6 participants. Both Shaws and Dalvay were involved in these tours. Future tours with the hotels, AIRBandB, cruise ships will be explored.

10. Photo Contest: Verner reviewed the results of the contest, showing the winning picture and prize presentation at the Stanhope Golf Club. Vern expressed our appreciation for Gordie and the golf club's support for this project. A strong letter of thanks has been delivered to the Stanhope Golf Club Board.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 Minutes by Gerry and Verner