

Minutes Friends of Covehead Brackley Bays Board Meeting July 4 2019

coveheadbrackley@gmail.com www.stanhopecovehead.pe.ca www.fcbbwatershed.ca

Present: Directors: Franklin MacDonald, Gordie MacCallum, Gerry Lajeunesse, Barry Cudmore, Verner Smitheram. **Coordinator:** Justin Walsh. **Associates:** Wanson Hemphill. Guest: Linda Casselman **Regrets:** Emily VanToever, Troy MacKenzie, Jim Jenkins, Robbie Shaw

1. Chair Verner called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

2. Opening remarks/updates: a) Vern noted that there has been **16 executive meetings** since December 2018. Most executive meetings dealt with the Cass's Pond project and plans for Summer 2019.

b) Justin and Verner hosted our FCBB booth at the **Canada Day Celebrations** at the North Shore Community Centre where attendees could view photos of our environmental activities. Minister of Agriculture, Bloyce Thompson attended. We updated him on the Cass's Pond project. MP Wayne Easter also visited our booth.

3. Minutes from the May 23rd meeting were reviewed and approved. Moved by Barry and seconded by Gordie. Motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report was presented by Gerry.

a) Funds from the Rural Job Initiative amounting to fourteen thousand have been received and will pay Justin's wages.

b) Thirteen thousand dollars have been received from the Water Conservation Fund to pay for the fish ladder renovations at Cass's pond.

c) Nine thousand dollars have been received from the Federal Jobs for Youth program.

d) Balance in the bank as of 2 July, 2019 was \$33,681.37.

Treasurer's Report was moved by Gerry and seconded by Gordie. Motion carried.

5. Update on FCBB activities by Coordinator Justin:

Cass's Pond

a) The last batch of **sediment soil samples** from **Cass's Pond** have been taken and submitted to test for hexavalent chromium. Results from the samples submitted so far have been quite encouraging so that we expect the sediment will meet standards for agricultural use.

b) An application will be made for a **permit to remove sediment from Cass's Pond**. This will allow Vanco Farms to use some sediment for testing on their fields.

c) An application has been made to the Department of Environment to **repair the cells of the fish ladder at Cass's Pond**.

d) **Staff:** To date two individuals have been hired to staff projects this summer.

Equipment:

e) The two **dissolved oxygen meters** have been tested with the provincial meters. One worked well. The other needs parts.

Youth Camp:

f) Justin will be offering **youth camp** program called Kids Fit – water week. He expects 15 kids to participate.

Riparian zone activities

g) **Shore erosion rates** will be compared with previous years.

h) He will **document when and where streams start and are going dry** over the summer. So far **water flow rates** have been higher than last year.

i) As in the past the crew will be walking the **streams** to identify any problems.

j) About 200 **trees have been planted** in riparian zones so far this year.

Partnerships:

k) FCBB is partnering with **UPEI to harvest and test sea lettuce for nutrients**.

l) A permit has been submitted to **DFO to assess green crab numbers** in the bay.

m) The **PEI Watershed Alliance** wants to work with Justin on **eel grass mapping**.

6. Gordie introduced his neighbour, Linda Casselman originally from Ontario, and now residing in Brackley Beach. She is passionate about improving the health of our watershed. She provided an information sheet on the ACER's Program and their tree planting activities in Ontario founded by her sister Alice Casselman. Visit their site www.acer-acre.ca Linda was invited to become an FCBB Associate and she graciously accepted.

7. Fund Raising: Gordie reported on his fund-raising activities regarding the raffling of two **\$500 gift certificates donated by each of the Dunes and the Stanhope Golf Club**. To date he has raised \$1200 in raffle ticket sales.

8. Major Donation: On his rounds Gordie received FCBB's **largest single donation ever from Judy Profit** of Brackley Beach **for \$5000 in memory of her husband, Ronald Hughes**. Board members expressed their gratitude for this donation which will have multiple beneficial effects in terms of assisting us with current projects, equipment maintenance and educational experiences for youth. (See Memorial Plaque at Appendix A.)

9. Eco-tours update: Wanson reported on his meeting with Experience PEI. They would be interested in promoting an oyster/mussel experience to island visitors. The Board will consider a trial run if the small wharf in the bay is repaired.

10. Ecological concern: Wanson expressed concern about human waste being spread on fields in one farm in this watershed. He has raised the issue with the Rural Municipality of North Shore where he is a Councillor.

Barry moved for adjournment at 7:58

Minutes prepared by Barry and Verner

Appendix A

**RONALD F. HUGHES
(1943-2014)
Memorial Plaque**

In loving memory of Ronald F. Hughes of Brackley Beach.

A donation of \$ 5,000 has been received by the "Friends of Covehead and Brackley Bay Watershed Association" from his wife, Judy Profit.

Ronnie grew up on Bayview Farm on the shores of Brackley Bay and enjoyed swimming, boating, fishing and hunting in his youth and admired the beautiful scenery in this area throughout his lifetime. It seems fitting that this gift of remembrance will help ensure the bays will be reclaimed, protected and enhanced for all to enjoy.

**"The Friends of Covehead & Brackley Bay Watershed Association"
July 2019**