

Winter River – Tracadie Bay Watershed Association (WRTBWA)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the WRTBWA
Held on February 19, 2020, 7:00 pm at the WRTBWA office at 13977 St. Peters Road, Marshfield, PE

Present: John Hughes, Sarah Wheatley, Clare Martin, Lowell Vessey, George Coade, Scott Stevens, Dwayne McNeill

Absent: Sarah Donald, Ryan Winters, Jean-Paul Arsenault, Matt Steeves, Jeff Bysterveldt

Clare called the meeting called to order at 7:00PM

1. Minutes from the Jan 15, 2020 meeting

Minutes from the Jan 15, 2020 meeting were circulated by Ryan prior to the meeting. John motioned to accept the minutes. Lowell seconded. All were in favour, none opposed. Minutes were approved.

2. Chairperson's Report – Clare Martin

- Thank you to Cathy for providing the chili.
- Hike was a success with 50 people attending.
- Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is in May. Sarah D will not run for another term. This leaves two vacancies on the Board. People to contact to gauge interest in joining Board for 2020-21:
 - Alan Robinson
 - Roger Townshend
 - Deanna Corrigan
 - Bruce Smith
- Shawn Schofield, Team lead for the agriculture and environment unit, has accepted to be guest speaker.
- Water committee meeting to set up between City, Province, Watershed.
- Fishway design. Shawn Landsman sent some research information. Sarah W: evaluation tool suggestion from Bill Annable, PhD/P.Eng, instructor of river management course held recently by Watershed Alliance. Angela to contact a company in Souris for an estimate of construction.
- Frank Johnston and Ducks Unlimited are still concerned with building fishway.
- Discussed scheduling of work that needs to be done (e.g., Tim's Creek, other projects, or the Alaskan fishway). We need to revisit this at the next meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report – Lowell Vessey

	<i>Chequing account</i>	<i>Savings Account</i>
Opening Balance: Jan 1, 2020	\$19,312.90	\$70,844.65
Less o/s cheques clearing	\$2,934.32	-
Plus deposits	\$1,832.29	\$60.20
Less expenses	\$7,415.21	-
Plus o/s cheques	\$3,794.03	-
Closing balance: Jan 31, 2020	\$14,589.64	\$70,944.85

4. Committees: Field Committee – Vacant (Committee Chair)

- No updates to report. Committee Chair still needs to be elected.

5. Water Committee – Clare Martin (Committee Chair)

- The next meeting will be scheduled shortly.

6. Communications Committee

- No updates to report.

7. WRTBWA Property Committee

- No updates to report.

8. Coordinator's Report – Sarah Wheatley reported (see report)

- Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk: joined Watershed Alliance's project on bat monitoring.
- Wildlife Conservation Fund rule change: won't fund culvert projects because don't already have permit. Request \$8,000 for other activities.

- Jobs for Youth program reorganized, so may apply again.
- Discussed best candidate for field supervisor role.

9. **Dairy & Beef Farmers Meeting – Feb 26, 2020**

- Discussed attendees and final preparations.
- Meeting with fruit growers and vegetables farmers to be scheduled next, possibly March 25, 2020

10. **Savage Harbour Watershed**

- Lowell motioned to withdraw any further efforts to incorporate Savage Harbour watershed into WRTBWA due to the process of allocating this land without any community input, which we find unsuitable. Scott seconded the motion. All were in favour. Motion was carried.
- Follow-up letters required.

11. **Microplastics in Mussels**

- Sarah contacted Peter Warris from the PEI Aquaculture Alliance to request his opinion on our microplastics in mussels project. He is going to forward project information to their Board for comments and approval in the form of a letter of support.
- It would be a 3-year project through the Atlantic Ecosystems Initiatives program.
- Discussed the need to inform lease owners in Tracadie Bay regarding the results of the study.

12. **Next Meeting**

Meeting adjourned at 9:00

Next meeting: Mar 18, 2020

Signature – Clare Martin, Chair of WRTBWA	Date
Signature – Ryan Winters, Secretary of WRTBWA	Date