

PEI Watershed Alliance Board Meeting
Wednesday August 4th, 2021
4pm – 6pm
Teleconference

Present: Mike Durant, Dale McIsaac, Andrew Lush, Nicolas Bergeron, Karen Rank, Johanna Kelly, Rebecca Ramos, Charlotte Large, Scott Roloson, Dale Cameron

Regrets: Jason Campbell

Meeting begins: 4:03pm

Approval of minutes, July 7th 2021

Andrew moves motion for approval, Dale M seconds

Project Manager Update:

See attached

- Charlotte suggests offering Quinn (Living Shorelines) a 40hr sub-contract (\$21-22/hr) for Climate Action and Awareness professional services this fall

Equipment Manager Update:

See attached

Discussion items

Charlotte Large has taken over Project Manager responsibilities

Holland College – Watershed Management

- Kate has suggested Mary sit on this board representing Gov't, along with PEIWA's three representatives:
 - o Jordon Condon, CQ
 - o Fred Cheverie, SAB
 - o Ron Gordon, BBEMA
- Karen moves to approve the three nominees, Johanna seconds

Admin process

- Mike received 22 applications for the position
- Mike, Dale M, and Johanna narrowed it down to 7, and Mike suggests interviewing the top 4
- Mike and Dale M will schedule interviews for late next week (plan for Thursday)

Office space

- Office to accommodate a minimum of 4 people as well as storage space

AgriWatershed Partnership

- Mike says 5 projects in the works this year (3 agreements signed and 2 currently underway)
- There is possibility to include 1 more project (possible demo project); a Bio filter / Tile drainage project in a location that has an existing oyster grow-op offshore, which could be examined to measure effects on water quality throughout project
 - o Dale M suggests this could be a good thesis topic for a Masters student

DFO meeting August 10th

- Alliance / other groups will be discussing possible routes to increase funding for additional work on salmon rivers
- Mike, Angela, Charlotte, and Mary to attend

Mike's meeting with Minister of Env

- \$1M funds, minister is looking into this for next fiscal
- Revisit and perhaps improve WMF evaluation of workplan and results

Richmond Bay

- Minister and/or deputy have not been contacted by Richmond
- Lynn Lund reached out to minister on behalf of Richmond regarding the WMF model to which the minister responded that the formula works for the majority of groups and Richmond should bring forward issues on WMF to the alliance
- Mike reached out to Cathy again – no response as of yet – Mike will reach out to Lynn if he does not hear back soon
- Johanna was speaking with Cathy, who expressed confusion in the fact there is no wording in either WMF, or alliance bylaws, stating that only alliance members can receive WMF dollars
 - o Johanna advises that these stipulations be documented
- Johanna (as secretary) does not have a copy of groups' membership forms, and doesn't remember the last time memberships were renewed, if at all
 - o Ideally these would be renewed every 3-5 years

Johanna resigning from KNWA

- Johanna is moving out of province and KNWA will be looking for a new coordinator
- Central groups will need to agree on a new representative

AGM

- Dale M offers Charlottetown Rural as an option for the meeting space

Meeting adjourned 5:11pm

Next Meeting penciled for September 1st 4PM

PM Update
August 4th, 2021

Climate Action and Awareness Fund:

Living shoreline installations at Tea Hill Park and QEH are complete. I am meeting with partners to finalize details regarding early site maintenance, bringing relevant operators in for site visits to help them buy in to the project, and some tree/shrub care training with Gary Schneider. A debrief meeting with the project team will be happening early next week to discuss how the installation went, reviewing the budget, and plan for the next phase in the project. This next phase involves long-term maintenance, monitoring, signage, and the broader communication and promotion strategies for the project.

A sub-contract to Quinn Howard (approximately 40 hours x \$22 = \$880) should be prepared to fulfil the following deliverables, as she is the most experienced and knowledgeable regarding the project installation:

1. Provide technical details on construction to be used later in SOP documents.
2. Provide a maintenance and monitoring plan for the QEH and Tea Hill site.
3. Provide technical details regarding signage for both sites.

There are significant funds remaining in the “management and professional services” category (\$21 000) that could be used for additional training workshops or site assessments with CBWES in the fall and spring. Kirsten with CBWES expressed willingness to do site assessments in the fall and spring as part of site maintenance. I will be getting back to her with a proposed budget and scope of work. These site assessments would be crucial to ensuring damage to the sites is noted and can be addressed through further maintenance. Quinn Howard has also indicated that she is available to train city operators/watershed crews how to conduct living shoreline repairs needed after weather events. This could be good training to plan for in the fall months.

Climate Challenge Fund PEI

I received word from Danika van Proosdij that TransCoastal, CBWES, and PEIWA had been collectively awarded funding for the *PEI Shoreline Assessment and Ecosystem Services Tool for Nature-Based Climate Change Adaptation* project. She will be following up with me later in the week to plan the process of moving forward. This could tie in well with our CAAF shoreline installations with regards to monitoring of the sites.

Coastal Restoration Fund:

Living Shoreline Projects: Both the HNH site in Stratford and the oyster reef site in Lennox Island are complete. Dalhousie team led by Kiera Dolan are coming for a site visit to the oyster reef to move sensors and do some additional surveying. HNH has half-day workshops available on “storm prep and winter protection” for the fall and “spring clean up and phase 2 planting” in the spring for \$5000-7000 each if we are interested in providing additional living shoreline training. Funds could possibly be taken from the CAAF “management and professional services” category.

KNWA: The dredging company has not confirmed that they are coming to PEI to dredge Malpeque Harbour and are too costly to bring over just for this project alone. It's possible dredging will go forward

independently without the help of the dredging company. Johanna is looking into what exactly needs to go into the salt marsh creation to fulfil commitments to funding partners.

HSP Round 2:

Will be sending out emails tomorrow to all eight watershed groups involved to introduce myself, as well as get an update on individual projects and needs going forward.

Training:

Green Shores 2: Met with Caytlyn McFadden and Peter Nishimura to finalize details for Green Shores 2 training occurring August 30th – September 2nd. Space has been booked with Stratford Center to remain close to the living shoreline demonstration sites. Training is divided into two sessions, with Watershed Alliance members who have completed level 1 able to register for the Sept 1st-2nd session. Registration has gone out and we have 7/10 available spaces filled. Ross Dwyer is responsible for the Aug 30th-31st session registration.

Geomorphic Assessment Course with Ron Jenkins: Everything is set up for training to go forward Sept 13th-17th, with classroom space (Cornwall Town Hall) and field sites (CAWG) confirmed. Registration is capped at 15 and invites will be going out to watershed coordinators early next week.

TSERA Training: I will be reaching out to Michael Farrelly to see about possibly setting up a workshop on how to most effectively use the TSERA app.

Meetings:

- Met with Angela, Mary, and Rebecca regarding PM duties and projects.
- Attended Helping Nature Heal's living shoreline seminar via Zoom.
- Met with Quinn Howard and Mary Finch to discuss initial thoughts on a sub-contract for Quinn to fulfil the above deliverables.
- Met with Caytlyn and Peter to finalize Green Shores 2 training details.
- Will be meeting with Maddy, Ramona, and Quinn tomorrow regarding living shoreline site tours for relevant operators, tree care training, and future maintenance responsibilities.
- Will be having a project debrief meeting next week to discuss living shoreline site installation and next steps.
- Will be attending a meeting with Terry, Lori, and Tracey (DFO) to have an initial broad discussion regarding possible long-term initiatives for wild Atlantic salmon.

Equipment Manager Update

August 4, 2021

Habitat Stewardship Program – Bats:

- NA Bat monitoring completed - 51 stationary sites, 7 mobile transects
- Monitors are now being placed at potential roosting/swarming sites
 - Participating groups: SAB, BAWG, MPMC, PREP, HCWG, TREC, SSWA, BBEMA, Lot 11, Harmony, TUPCC, Tignish
- Bat technician, Ben has completed Acoustic monitor training and is working on manual IDs for 2021 data
- Acoustic files are being processed and most have been sent to bat technician for analysis - summary of Auto IDs can be found here:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OUUn0E7_YCgblxXJLpZi7FA3te6eDZ-RD/edit#gid=705061954
 - Will be meeting with Ben tomorrow to transfer the remaining data
 - I will continue IDs for 2020 data
 - Will forward data reports to the groups when their GRT is completed

DataStream data upload:

- AWN has an online data analysis workshop scheduled for August 18th, will send a notification out to groups shortly
- Analyzed Roseville/Miminegash's Winter temperature data
 - Formatted winter data into DataStream template

Equipment Bank:

- Calibration training with Lot 11 and Tignish, and BAWG
- Have been loaning out / calibrating the alliance's YSIs weekly
- Outreach materials are in use regularly
- Troubleshoot HCWG's & Lot 11's YSIs
- All of the alliance's water loggers have been loaned out for the season and I have now started a waiting list
- Electrofisher is booked every week until the end of August
 - Participating groups: CAWG, HCWG, KNWA, PREP, SEA, BAWG

- Electrofisher training with Mary and Matt Sheidow
- Attended Helping Nature Heal training and webinar
- Met with Mary, Angela and Charlotte to discuss PM duties