

PEI Watershed Alliance Board Meeting
November 2nd, 2022
4- 6pm via Zoom

In Attendance:

Board: Kris Hunter, Andrew Lush, Nic Bergeron, Sherry Pelkey, Juliana Granzoti, Dale McIsaac
Staff: Charlotte Large, Heather Laiskonis, Rebecca Ramos
Observer: Dawn McInnis

Called to order at 4:06pm

1) Approval of Agenda

- Motion to add WMF discussion to agenda by Juliana, seconded by Kris

2) Approval of Minutes from October 5th, 2022

- Motion to approve by Sherry, seconded by Andrew

3) Business arising from the minutes

A. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre letter to Kate

- Andrew: Kate has stated the data is not complete and will need to be finalized before it is able to be used
- Andrew: Can use quote from minister - we've lost 20% of forests in last 20 years
- Kris: Will need to give government a nudge, committee members will send a follow-up email to gov't (Brad) within three weeks time

B. New Executive meeting

- Executives have met one-on-one

C. Indigenous representation onto the committee

- Andrew: Have sent an invitation to island indigenous groups and waiting for a response
- Kris: If an elder is to join an honorarium is imperative
- Dale: Best to extend the offer to the community as opposed to an individual

D. New admin assistant

- Heather has conducted a few interviews and has found a suitable candidate, but would require part-time if the board is open to that
- Charlotte: 25 hrs/week would be the lowest we could offer

4) Discussion items:

A. Supplemental Watershed Management Fund (\$2M Project Funding): Update

- Dale received email from Brad and the funding has had approval to go ahead, notifications will be sent to groups shortly

B. Involvement in COP15 PR Event and other types of PR events

- Heather: Species at risk themed-tour bus passing through Charlottetown (~Dec 3rd) - PEIWA to be representative?
- Kris in support as long as the opportunity is extended to watershed groups to participate, Sherry agrees
- Heather to research PR protocols in other regions and draft one for PEIWA to help guide future events like this one

C. ASF Conservation Strategy

- New consultations separate from ones discussed in the past

D. Board roles and direction of PEIWA

- Would be beneficial to define roles now that we have Heather and present that outline to groups at the next AGM
- Juliana is open to meeting with executives in a separate meeting to sort out roles between individuals
- Sherry would like to have more clarification for groups and what their position is under the umbrella of PEIWA
- Dale: Heather's role is to be the manager of PEIWA staff, face of franchise and will grow with board to define roles of executive and alliance

E. Staffing: Update (Charlotte & Heather)

- Already covered - refer to section 3) D.

F. Second WMF payments

- Unacceptable that funds have not been released yet, this is the longest groups have waited to receive funding
 - For reference, funding was received from previous two years in July (2020) and August (2021)
- Kris: Spoke to groups that have had to borrow money from banks to complete payroll, and other necessary funds, which is affecting their mandates
- Heather: Can draft letter to Brad, Kate and minister
- Dale: Will meet with Brad before letter is sent to clarify who exactly should be approached regarding this issue
- Groups have not gotten feedback after first payment, Mary and Rosie completed assessments quite a while back
- Sherry: Lack of funding is affecting groups' performance for this funding round and in turn will affect next year's success/funding

5) Financial Update

A. Financial review update

- Smoothing process out for executives

6) Project Manager Update

Refer to Update

- App development is way behind expected deliverables and groups are in urgent need of a working app to simplify monitoring in-stream

- Sherry, Andrew, Charlotte and Heather will meet to discuss next steps and draft a letter to app developer

7) Equipment Manager Update

Refer to Update

8) Review Forward Agenda

Meeting adjourned 5:34pm