

PEI Watershed Alliance Board Meeting
December 7th, 2022
4- 6 pm via Zoom

Board Members in Attendance: Juliana Granzoti, Andrew Lush, Nic Bergeron, Sherry Pelkey, Kris Hunter-Late, Dale McIsaac

Staff Members in Attendance: Heather Laiskonis, Nathan LaCroix, Rebecca Ramos

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:05

2) Approval of Agenda

- *Motioned by Sherry Pelkey and seconded by Andrew Lush*
- *Passed unanimously*

3) Approval of Minutes from November 2nd, 2022

- *Motioned by Juliana Granzoti and seconded by Andrew Lush*
- *Passed unanimously*

Business arising from the minutes

4) Discussion items:

- a) Staffing: welcome to the new admin-** The board is happy to welcome Nathan Lacroix as the new Administrative and Marketing Coordinator
- b) Supplemental WMF (2M Project Funding): Update**
 - i) Do the groups need to send projects to tender?
- Dale mentioned that they do not have to tender. There has never been a discussion with the forest, fish, and wildlife or the ministry about this. What groups will need to do specifically for the bigger projects is get a project manager in place so the project manager can do negotiations for them.
- Heather sent a sheet to groups involved in 2M funding to fill out names of contractors, time frames, etc, which will help with coordination as many groups may be using the same contractors/ other resources and would like to prevent overlapping.
- c) Confirm the chain of command with Rebecca and Charlotte**
- Motion to confirm the **chain of command** Charlotte, Rebecca and Nathan will report to Heather.
- *Motioned by Juliana Granzoti and seconded by Andrew Lush*
- *Passed unanimously.*

- d) Should the Alliance apply for [ACOA](#) hurricane relief on behalf of all the groups?**
- Juliana brought into question how the metrics systems will be created to allocate money fairly, as some areas may be more affected than others. Maybe it would be easier for groups to apply individually. The alliance could help facilitate applications for groups.

- Andrew mentioned that he does not see much of an issue, as some groups are able to get Salmon Funding, some CRF, employees like Gaige and Sarah's assistance, etc. Groups could submit their outline to the alliance as they did for other projects.
- Kris: Possibly better functioning as a coalition.
- Dale said to send the application to groups for feedback; see how many may need help.

e) Role of the Alliance

- i) Is a consulting group necessary?

-The board is in favour. Board executives will add to their agenda and get quotes from possible consultants. Heather will create a doodle poll for an in-person executive meeting before the Holidays.

- ii) Advocacy

f) John Lane requests:

- i) that the board meeting agenda goes out to the groups one week prior
- Heather and Nathan will create a watershed group mailing list to complete this request.
- ii) Wants last month's minutes up the next day for all groups
- The previous month's update will continue to be posted the day after the board meeting by the admin and marketing coordinator.

g) Riparian App decision

- Kris Advised that it would be to wrap up this project so we can meet our deliverables and give the app to another developer to improve it.
- Andrew: Simon's advice was to find a new developer in the next 4 months. Will own the coding for the app in May. Developers are also okay with walking away without any money, and we walk away without an app.
- Kris would like to get something from them as we made a promise to funders.
- Heather spoke to funders, and they're flexible on deliverables.
- Andrew questioned whether it is practical/possible to find another developer to work with this code.
- Heather mentioned that funders recommended "Survey123", the same developer Andrew has recommended in the past.
- *Dale Motioned to walk away from the developers, which was seconded by Andrew Lush - Passed unanimously.*
- Andrew questioned - will alliance still get coding ownership from developers?
- Dale mentioned that the alliance would try to negotiate a deal, but the board should know that Heather may walk away with nothing.
- Andrew stated that the alliance will need to find an alternative in the next 4 months and should reach out to Simon or find someone else to assist with creating a new app.

h) Change of address for the Alliance for watershed groups: still, the Souris PO box should change to Farm Centre.

- Motioned by Sherry Pelkey and seconded by Andrew Lush
- Passed unanimously
 - i) Potential future collaboration with WCF funding through Wayne Gairns-any background information/conflict?
- Andrew: The application changed this year - TREC has some feedback. Might be a good call to put out a feedback survey in the weekly email update for groups to fill out.

- Kris, who is on the WCF board n gave some context - Wayne is answering the WCF board, and they just had a board meeting the other day to discuss this. If groups have feedback in the meantime, they should reach out to Wayne or the WCF board of directors, as they're always interested in hearing opinions.
- Heather will wait for an update from Wayne regarding the WCF board meeting and will forward his suggestions to the PEIWA board via email.
- Kris mentioned that equitability is important to WCF, and they are trying to improve the application process to highlight that. A heads up there will be a new version of the application again this time around. Groups will be notified in the near future and will be encouraged to provide feedback.
- Andrew mentioned that historically WCF is used to fund top-ups for staff wages.
- Kris: WCF is looking to eliminate that option and focus primarily on project-based funding, which could include wages to carry out a specific project.
- Andrew stated that funding was significantly lower this year than the ask (less than 80%).
- Kris: WCF tries to fund everyone and very rarely turns down projects. This means funds are allocated in smaller portions - though the intention was never to make it harder for groups to carry out projects, and if this is the reality, WCF needs to be informed.
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5) Financial Update

- See folder for full update

6) Project Manager/ED Update

- See folder for full update

7) Equipment Manager Update

- See folder for full update

8) Review Forward Agenda

9) Other

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 pm