

**WRWEO Annual General Meeting
March 12, 2014
Tantallon Public Library from 7 pm – 9 pm**

AGENDA

1. General welcome and introductions – 5 minutes
2. Approval of the March 13, 2013 Minutes (circulated; see below) – 2 minutes
3. Approval of Reports (previously circulated) – 15 minutes
 - A. Chairs' report – Richmond Campbell and Nanci Lee (below)
 - B. Treasurer's report – Rob McMahon (to be circulated at the meeting)
4. Election of New Board – 8 minutes (see partial list of nominations below)
5. Youth and Family Engagement led by Nanci Lee
6. AOB
7. Adjournment

**Woodens River Watershed Environmental Organization
2013 Annual General Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2013
Tantallon Public Library**

Present: Richmond Campbell & David Patriquin (Co-Chairs), Barbara Klass (Secretary), Robert McMahon (Treasurer), Hildi Konok, Jim Muir, Nanci Lee, and some 46 others (list available on request).
Regrets: Paul Berry, Daniel Allaire, Mark Reed

Agenda:

- 1) General welcome and introductions (Richmond Campbell)
- 2) Approval Agenda
- 3) Approval of March 6, 2012 AGM minutes
- 4) Approval of Reports (previously circulated):
 - a. Co-Chairs' Report – Richmond Campbell & David Patriquin
 - b. Trail Report – Richmond Campbell for Paul Berry
 - c. Water Quality & Aquatic Habitat report – Richmond Campbell for Tim McGee
 - d. Treasurer's Report – Robert McMahon
- 5) Election of New Board
- 6) Discover & Dream: An Appreciative Inquiry led by Nanci Lee
- 7) AOB
- 8) Adjournment

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

- 1) **Welcome:** Co-Chair Richmond Campbell welcomed Dep. Mayor Reg Rankin, Peter Bush (Protected Areas Branch, NSE), guests and members. Also, Rich mentioned that the AGM will be video-taped by Keya Gameda on behalf of WRWEO and asked if there were any objections or concerns.
- 2) **Approval of Agenda:** *Sue Sherwin moved the approval of the agenda, seconded by Jim Muir. CARRIED*
- 3) **Approval of 2012 AGM Minutes**
Dave Patriquin moved that the 2012 AGM Minutes be approved as read, seconded by Rob McMahon. CARRIED.
- 4) **Reports (See attachments – omitted here to conserve space):**
 1. **Co-Chairs' Report** (Richmond Campbell). Rich highlighted two items in particular: a) WRWEO joined with FBWHT, SMBSA, BLTRTA and SMATVA in a taskforce to create a community structure through which to collaborate with NS Dept of Environment in the stewardship of the newly protected Chebucto lands; b) WRWEO would like to thank: MLA Bill Estabrooks for his work and support over the years; HRM Dep. Mayor Reg Rankin who has also supported WRWEO for many years; Dep. Of Environment's Peter Labor, Oliver Mass, Helen Smith and Peter Bush; also the Ecology Action Centre; HRM, and all WRWEO members and the board.

Geoff LeBoutillier moved that the Co-Chairs' Report be accepted as presented, seconded by Beth McGee. CARRIED.

2. **Trails Report** (Richmond Campbell for Paul Berry). Rich noted several achievements: maintenance work such as brush cutting and deadfall removal was carried out by Jeff Schnurr, Community Forests Canada; capital work replacing 123 metres of boardwalk was carried out by Garnet McLaughlin, Cobequid Trail Consulting; and, among trail events were "Poetry in the Bluff" led by Nanci Lee, a Young Field Naturalists Field trip prepared by Dave Patriquin and led by Nanci Lee, and two trail building workshops led by Garnet McLaughlin on which 21 volunteers built 40 metres of trail.
Hildi Konok moved that the report be accepted as read, seconded by Jim Muir. CARRIED.
3. **Water Quality & Aquatic Habitat Report** (Richmond Campbell for Tim McGee) Richmond drew attention to the fact that there are 11 identified watersheds in the St. Margaret's Bay area, and WRWEO has joined forces with SMBSA and other watershed groups to undertake collaborative planning, management and stewardship of these watersheds. The specific goals are listed in the report. This is a large undertaking and volunteers will be needed to help with water sampling and other tasks. Jim Carwardine spoke to the importance of protecting water sources not only in our community, but provincially and nationally.
Jim Carwardine moved the report be accepted as read, seconded by Rob McMahan. CARRIED
4. **Treasurer's Report** (Robert McMahan) Rob reviewed the highlights in the report and stated the net asset balance at the end of the year is \$9,635. Funding for the past year was received from Halifax Regional Trails Association (74.5%), NS Department of Health and Wellness (23.1%), and membership and donations totaled 2.4% of funding. WRWEO appreciates all the support and funding received in 2012.
Rob moved that the Financial Statements be accepted as read, seconded by Susan Parker. CARRIED.
5. **Election of New Board** (chaired by Jim Carwardine). Rich noted that two of our board members are moving away (Mark Reed and Daniel Allaire), and new board members would be very welcome. There are 15 board positions available in total. David Patriquin is stepping down as Co-Chair, and will continue to serve on the board. Nanci Lee has offered to replace Dave as Co-Chair. Rich asked Jim Carwardine to chair the election of the new board. Slate of nominations: Richmond Campbell and Nanci Lee – Co-Chairs; Robert Mahon – Treasurer; Barbara Klass – Secretary; David Patriquin; Tim McGee; Hildi Konok; Jim Muir; Paul Berry; Lynne Kovan; Diana Jeliakova; Jessir Fillmore; Linda Moxsom-Skinner

Nominations were closed with no more nominations made after three calls for further nominations. The above incumbents and nominees were declared elected by acclamation. Rich thanked and welcomed the 2013 board members.

6. Discover and Dream: An Appreciative Inquiry led by Nanci Lee

Nanci spoke of being inspired by WRWEO's role in the protection of lands, and the overseeing of trails which help people understand, share and enjoy those lands. She went on to explain that Appreciative Inquiry (AI) focuses on what is working for an organization, the achievements, and then look at the future. There are four stages to AI: 1) Discover; 2) Dream; 3) Design; and, 4) Do. Nanci covered the first two stages at this meeting, with the last two stages being completed at a future meeting. Members spoke of many achievements, and then contributed lots of ideas and dreams of what WRWEO might want to focus on and achieve in the future. Nanci led a very informative and inspiring process that will be continued to the Design and Do stages at a future meeting.

Any Other Business none; **Adjournment** Rich Campbell moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

WRWEO Co-Chairs' Annual Report for 2013-2014

Richmond Campbell and Nanci Lee

First Strategic Priority: Wilderness Preservation; The Bluff Trail Stewardship

- A. The Bluff Wilderness Hiking Trail and Parking Lot Stewardship
 - 1. Maintenance: revising maintenance plan; brush-cutting loops 1 & 2; filling potholes & snow removal in the parking lot; enhancing safety signage on trail and parking lot; applying preservative to 4 wooden boardwalks; repainting trail markers; removing deadfall & graffiti.
 - 2. 2013 trail events: June 1 international trail day meet & greet; Sept. 8 trail build (21 persons; 12 m. of stone tread); Nov. 1-3 Trail Camp; Nov 4 Michael Haynes hike (> 100 persons); Nov. 18 hosted HRTA.
- B. Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Stewardship Coalition: founding member
 - 1. Participation in forming the Charter and Coalition/Council roles
 - 2. [Letter to Mayor from WRWEO re Otter Lake](#) (Sept. 20) re the impact of extending the life of the landfill on The Bluff Trail and FBLWA.

Second Strategic Priority: Collaboration with Other Groups on the Community-Driven Model of Environmental Stewardship – documents at: wrweo.ca

- A. Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area Stewardship Coalition – see B above
- B. Our HRM Alliance - see [Summary Report on Regional Plan Stakeholder Consultation](#) (June 3, 2013) and on [Urban Reserve](#) (Oct. 21, 2013)
- C. “Buy Back the Mersey” Coalition – see WRWEO’s submission in response to the proposal by Province: [Our Parks and Protected Areas](#) (Apr. 30, 2013) and [letter to Premier](#) (Feb. 12, 2014) on need for transparent and objective assessment of our forests potential to meet demands for fibre and biomass
- D. Opposition to Otter Lake landfill changes - [letter to Mayor](#) (Sept. 20, 2013)
- E. Consultation with Rankin & HRM re Western Commons (Nov. 14, 2013)
- F. Joined the [Backlands Coalition](#) re Purcell’s Cove (Feb. 13, 2014)
- G. Coordination of HRTA feedback for online Outdoor network
- H. Halifax Regional Trails Association (HRTA) & N.S. Trails Federation (NSTF)
- I. Council of Community Organizations (COCO) – bimonthly meetings

Third Strategic Priority: Woodens River Watershed—Studies and Actions

- A. Water quality studies in cooperation with SMBSA – visit wrweo.ca
- B. [Position letter to Province](#) re catch & release on Woodens R. (Nov 12, ‘13)

Four Strategic Priority: Youth Engagement, Education, Science

- A. Recruitment of youth to Board of Directors
- B. Young Field Naturalists hike (fall 2013), Boy Scouts (Mar. 5, 2013)
- C. Draft Strategy for Youth Engagement with commitment to mainstreaming family and youth engagement throughout other goals

We are deeply grateful for the moral and financial support from HRM, NSTF, HRTA, N.S. Health and Wellness, Councilors Reg Rankin and Matt Whitman, former MLA Bill Estabrooks, MLA Iain Rankin, WRWEO board & membership, sister associations (BLT Rails-Trails; FBHWTrust; SMBay Stewardship; Safety-Minded ATV, Ecology Action Centre, Our HRM Alliance), and the general public.

TREASURER'S REPORT TO BE DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY AT THE AGM**Nominations for 2014-15 Board of Directors**

Nominations received to date:

Nanci Lee – Co-chair
David Patriquin – Co-chair
Lynne Kovan – Secretary
Joan Richdale – Treasurer
Kimberly Berry – member
Paul Berry – member
Richmond Campbell – member
Jessi Fillmore – member
Diana Jeliakova – member
Hildi Konok – member
Tim McGee – member
Jim Muir – member
Linda Moxsom Skinner – member

Further nominations can be made from the floor by anyone. Up to 15 persons may be elected to the 2013-14 Board.

Some key acronyms: NSE = Nova Scotia Department of Environment; DNR = Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources; FBLWA = Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area; FBWHT = Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust; SMBSA = St. Margaret's Bay Stewardship Association; BLTRTA = Beechville, Lakeside, Timberlea Rails-to-Trails Association; SMATVA = Safety Minded All Terrain Vehicle Association; HRTA = Halifax Regional Trails Association; SMB = St. Margaret's Bay; HRTA = Halifax Regional Trails Association; NSTF = Nova Scotia Trails Federation.