

Freshwater–Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation

Date: April 28, 2010 Meeting: Annual General
Place: Glovertown Fire Hall Time: 7:30 PM

Present:

Scott Pritchett	Kevin Stroud	Fred Holloway
Steve Way	John Baird	Larry Spracklin
Lisa Gosse	John Gosse	Trevor Chaulk
Barbara Linehan		

Moved by Scott Pritchett Seconded by Fred Holloway
Adopt the agenda as discussed. Carried

Moved by Steve Way Seconded by Trevor Chaulk
Adopt the Minutes of the 2009 AGM held on April 29, 2009 Carried

Business

President's Annual Report

Kevin Stroud presented the report on activities since the last AGM on April 29, 2009. FABEC highlights for the year included:

- (1) FABEC contracted with DFO in 2009 to operate three salmon counting fences on Terra Nova River, Middle Brook, and Salmon Brook. This employed 3 fishway attendants and 3 student assistants. Negotiations are currently underway to undertake this contract again in 2010. We have asked for more money to cover insurance, higher wages, and other increased expenses. Applications have been submitted to hire up to 12 students as fishway assistants and river monitors.
- (2) FABEC and the Alexander Bay-Terra Nova Development Association employed three students between them as river monitors on the Terra Nova River.
- (3) FABEC stated its objection to the issuing of a cabin permit by the Crown Lands Division on Rodney Pond, where the Department of Environment and Conservation had made a commitment to put a freeze on cabin development. A letter was sent to Acting Minister Clyde Jackman but no response was ever received.
- (4) FABEC has had two meetings with the Department of Natural Resources regarding the plan to decommission the George's Pond access road. The Department asked if we would accept a partial decommissioning this year inside of George's Pond. Our position is that the entire road should be decommissioned as committed by the Department in the District 4 Forest Management Plan. The officials indicated they would provide a response to our request in the near future.
- (5) Kevin has discussed with Chuck Bourgeois of DFO the potential to reclassify Terra Nova River to increase the seasonal bag limit from 2 to 3 fish. Mr. Bourgeois responded that DFO would consider the request favourably but has to figure out how to do it logistically (i.e. how to issue tags for 3 fish).
- (6) The ongoing issue regarding the ongoing filling-in of the shoreline waters around Glovertown for development has been raised with DFO and the

Department of Environment and Conservation. No satisfactory response has been received. Considerable discussion ensued about the impacts of shoreline development in Glovertown, especially the destruction of rearing habitat in both saltwater and small brooks in the town. The members feel that DFO will listen if people make enough noise and there was consensus that an article should be submitted to the Beacon.

Moved by Scott Pritchett
To accept the Annual Report.

Seconded by Steve Way
Carried

Treasurer's Report

Kevin Stroud presented the Treasurer's Report.

Moved by Scott Pritchett
To accept the Treasurer's Report.

Seconded by Steve Way
Carried

River Watch Program

Lisa Gosse of DFO made a presentation on the River Watch program. The program is a response to the threat to salmon stocks due to the ongoing poaching problem in inland and coastal waters. The object of River watch is to support DFO's enforcement effort by reporting suspected violations to DFO and Provincial conservation staff. The Fisheries Act states that no person shall destroy fish or fish habitat. Suspected violations can be reported to Crime Stoppers and DFO. Calls can be made to the Glovertown DFO office during weekday office hours and to the Clarenville office 24 hours per day.

River Watch volunteers are given a notebook and a River Watch hat. If a suspected violation is observed, the volunteer should note the following: (1) date and time, (2) names and/or description of the person(s) involved, (3) description of the scene and suspected offence, and (4) description of any boat, vehicle, or other property being used. Essentially all information regarding who, what, where, why, and how should be noted. The noted information can be used for legal enforcement of infractions.

Terra Nova National Park Moose Management Program

John Gosse of Terra Nova National Park made a presentation on the proposed moose management program for the park. Moose are a non-native species in Newfoundland with few natural predators (e.g. wolves) or natural diseases (e.g. brain worm, ticks). Their resultant overpopulation is having a major impact on the forest ecology, particularly on forest succession processes particularly the decline of birch and other deciduous trees as well as balsam fir. Many forest areas are failing to regenerate due to excessive moose browsing of young trees.

Mr. Gosse outlined the options that the Park is considering to reduce moose population density.

Election of Officers

The election of officers resulted in the following:

President

Moved by John Baird Seconded by Scott Pritchett
To nominate Kevin Stroud as President.

No other nominations were heard. Kevin accepted the nomination.

Vice President

Moved by John Baird Seconded by Fred Holloway
To nominate Scott Pritchett as Vice President.

No other nominations were heard. Scott accepted the nomination

Secretary-Treasurer

Moved by Scott Pritchett Seconded by Fred Holloway
To nominate John Baird as Secretary-Treasurer.

No other nominations were heard. John accepted the nomination.

Director

Moved by Kevin Stroud Seconded by Scott Pritchett
To nominate Fred Holloway as Director.

No other nominations were heard. Fred accepted the nomination.

New Business

Need for a Staff Person

There was a discussion of the need by FABEC to hire a paid staff person if we are going to be effective in achieving our objectives. It was suggested that FABEC should approach other volunteer organizations to discuss the potential to cost-share a staff person through a coordinating body such as the Alexander Bay-Terra Nova Development Association. John Baird agreed to explore this further to (1) determine if there are government programs that might contribute to the cost of a full-time staff person, and (2) find out if there are other organizations that might be interested in this type of arrangement.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM

Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 26th at the R.E. Stroud Building, Glovertown. Starting 7:30PM.