

## **ARA Annual General Meeting**

Aug.27, 6:00 pm

Zoom

Attendees: Tim Handforth, Gerry Doucet, Jim Lerikos, Sandy MacLeod, Mark Dort, Ken MacAulay, Don Westcott, David MacNeil

Meeting was called to order at 6:00.

**Motion to accept the agenda.** Moved by Ken MacAulay, seconded by Gerry Doucet. Motion carried

**Minutes** from previous AGM were not available. Tim explained that due to his taking the President position as a result of Nick MacInnis's conflict of interest due to work that there was some difficulty in finding the minutes. It was agreed to carry on and Tim will try to track the minutes.

**President's Report:** Tim presented the highlights of the 2019-2020 year

- Thanks to Gerry, Jim and Dave for the work on the Dinner Auction which has to be postponed due to Co-vid 19
- Thanks to Dave for a successful 2019 newsletter
- Thank you to NS Inland Fisheries for their ongoing support and work with our brood stock project. Darryl Murrant reported that due to water concerns at the Fraser's Mills Hatchery the remaining fry were disbursed to the West River tributaries early. A special thanks to Darryl and Al McNeill for the distribution.
- The Beaver River regulation discussion is ongoing and unfortunately co-vid 19 and some other issues affected the collection of fishery data this summer.
- The ARA purchased liability insurance for Directors.
- The ARA purchased project insurance for our stream work and summer workers
- Special thanks to Nick MacInnis for his leadership in the river restoration work and finding as well as managing the summer work crew. Tim said that he had visited the South River site and complimented the team for a great job.
- Nick is also heading a watershed planning effort for the South River
- The ARA has entered into a partnership with the Town of Antigonish to complete river stabilization projects.
- There was a push to increase memberships
- The ARA has also made the website a secured site
- The biannual dinner and auction has been postponed

**Treasurer's Report :** Sandy MacLeod

The Treasurer's report had been circulated via email. Sandy reviewed the process and key items. He also discussed the reimbursement process for work which the ARA did for NSSA Adopt-A-Stream.

Sandy asked that all claims be accompanied by an invoice or receipt for record keeping purposes.

Moved to accept the Treasurer's Report by Sandy MacLeod. Seconded by Ken MacAulay.

Motion carried

### **Activities**

**Dinner:** Gerry reported that the Dinner has been rescheduled for Oct. 16 2021. Jim has booked the venue.

Gerry is working on some interim fund raiser such as casting demonstrations by Neil Holding and a story evening featuring Charles Gaines and Bill Taylor. Gerry is exploring options within the co-vid regulations.

**Brood Stock Collection:** Darryl Murrant has informed the ARA that West River brood stock collection has been approved for 2020. With co-vid protocols it will be by angling. Gerry asked that everyone consider taking the time to participate and start as early as possible.

**Fly Tying;** Dave will explore options for this winter as co-vid protocols change

**Newsletter:** Dave has volunteered to do this year's newsletter.

**Hats:** Tim has the new ARA hats available for members, fund raisers and special volunteers

**Fishing Derby:** Darryl Murrant reported that given the co-vid 19 protocols it is not clear if any derbies will be approved.

**Accessibility Projects;** The two projects being considered at Cameron's Lake and Brierly Brook are on hold due to c0-vid 19 restrictions.

**New Directors:** Don Westcott volunteered and was approved as a new Director. Don has also agreed to do a preliminary look at identifying existing members and adding new members. Don will join Tim and Sandy in looking at the benefits of PayPal and e-transfer to facilitate membership renewals and additions as well as other items.

**Membership:** Mark suggested that in a new membership drive we could offer some prizes and hats as a promotion.

6:35 Gerry moved that the meeting adjourn

Submitted by David MacNeil