

ARA Annual General Meeting March 21, 14:30

Attendees: Tim Handforth, Sandy MacLeod, Sandy Horne, Nick MacInnis, Mark Dort, Allison White, Gerry Doucet, Jim Larekos, Malorie's Crispo, Don Wescott

Attending by Zoom were Mike Crosby, Daniel Muise, Rob Kanchuk

Call to order at 14:00

Motion to accept agenda. Moved by Gerry Doucet, seconded by Sandy MacLeod. motion carried.

Motion to adopt minutes from last meeting . moved by Jim Larekos, seconded by Don Wescott

Presidents Report: Tim presented the highlights of 2020-2021

. Tim progressing with Cameron lake project, going well . Thanks to Nick for his leadership in river restoration , summer crew hiring and management .Thanks to Allison for her work on Gulf Priority River Project . Thanks to Gerry, Dave, and James for work on web site . Thanks to all those who worked on the online auction.

. Special thanks to all those who so generously donated to the cause

Treasurers Report: Has been emailed by Sandy . \$21,500 in the bank, auction monies not included.

. Motion to accept report moved by Sandy MacLeod, seconded by Gerry Doucet, motion . . carried

Activities Report:

.Salmon Dinner- the venue booked, Mackay room at St. F.X. , October 16th .Still uncertain because of Covid .Could be held with lesser capacity?

Auction: On line auction very successful . Many thanks to all workers, donors, and those who participated in bidding . Very successful platform with financial goals significantly exceeded . It was recommended we forward a letter of thanks to all doners

River Projects/ brood stock collection.

. Nick hoping we will receive money from Highways Division . Proposing a significant habitat restoration along Brierly Brook . Waiting on conditional approval .If monies don't come through, project will be deferred until 2022 . Three or four sites along South being considered as well as repair work . on several tributaries to the South.

. Probably have the same crews working this summer as last .Nick and Allison are working on watershed plan . Baileys report later

Brood stock:

. Eggs doing well

. Darryl Murrant will be retiring this year . Gerry will check to see if there will be another order for brood-stock this fall.

Web Page:

. Gerry, Dave , and James Smeaton working on that project . High end web site with a lot of new features . Hope to be fully operational by early April

Fly Tying:

. Going well, limited to ten participants due to Covid . Last session will be March 29th

Newsletter:

. Parked until the fall, possibility of mini newsletter . Mike Crosby commented on the fantastic newsletters from Dave and expressed . his appreciation.

New Business:

. Membership drive very successful
. Thanks to Don for his hard work
. \$300 for lifetime membership agreed on . Still working on criteria for honorary membership
. Mike Crosby thanked all of those who have become NSSA members and stressed the
. importance of a larger membership base when the NSSA is in discussions on
. environmental issues, restoration projects, financial application processes, etc.
. Mike also thanked ARA for our support and for the impressive work we do.

Cameron Lake accessibility project:

. Tim working on this
. Estimate of about \$40,000
. Applications for financial assistance made to Inland Fisheries, County of Antigonish, . and one to Kinsmen for \$2500 . Depending on monies, project may be done in stages

Youth Group:

. It was agreed we should start a youth group of some sort . Mark Dort agreed to spearhead this initiative . We can make room on the website for youth group education and participation

Women's Group:

. Malorie will spearhead this group
. Web space will be made available on the web site for information, . education and participation.

Species at Risk:

. ARA has forwarded a letter to DFO voicing our opinion and concerns . Personal letters have been sent as well.
. Thanks to all who participated

Other:

. Should we address the Bill 4 Biodiversity Act?
. How does the act speak to problems affecting our rivers?
. Bill needs definite refinement
. The more letters of concern to MLA the better . Allison White presented her report on her work on the the Gulf Priority River Project . and this report will be available on ARA website

Call for nominations:

. By Gerry Doucet to maintain the present Executive for another two year term, seconded . by Sandy MacLeod . Call three times, Executive will remain the same, approved

.President- Tim Handforth

- . Vice President- Malorie Crispo
- .Treasurer - Sandy MacLeod
- . Secretary- Leo Callahan

Next Meeting:

- . April 25th at 2:00 pm
- . Motion to adjourn by Gerry Doucet, seconded by Don Wescott.
- . Meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.