

# ARA Annual General Meeting Minutes

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Deverness Stables  
1pm – 2:30pm

In Attendance: Tim Handforth, Leo Callahan, Dave MacNeil, Ken MacAulay, Darryl Murrant, Charles MacInnis, Sandy MacLeod, Don Wescott, Jack Adams, Greg Shields, Liam

Virtual Attendance: Chris Chisholm, Nick MacInnis, Malorie Crispo, Roger Porter, Bruce Wheaton

1. Call to order 1:00 p.m.
2. Agenda approved
3. Minutes from Feb. 12th meeting and the March 3, 2022 AGM, adopted by Tim Handforth
4. Presidents Report:
  - Cameron Lake Project complete
  - First year to receive funding from the Salmon Conservation Fund, monies used for work on the Pinevale Brook Project
  - Major work completed on the South River with funding from the NSSA and from the Northumberland Strait River Fund (Federal)
  - On line auction for the first year was very successful
  - 2022 Salmon Dinner very successful.
5. Treasurers Report: Christine back on April 1st. ARA is in a good financial position. Tim, Nick, and Christine will meet in April to set a budget for the coming year for board approval.
6. Call three times for resolutions as required for the AGM. None brought forward.
7. Activities Report
  - On line auction just started and proved very successful since the AGM.
  - Fishing Derby- Nick suggested he will look into it and possibly use the permanent work crews to assist. He will keep us updated. Numbers could prove to be overwhelming.
  - River Projects- ARA has secured \$20-25,000 from Adopt a Stream Program, \$ 32,800 from Salmon Conservation Fund, and \$10,000 from the town of Antigonish for work on the James River, which will primarily be the introduction of spawning habitat below the James River dam. This project as well as annual stream maintenance and monitoring will necessitate using some

internal funding. We expect to maintain a permanent crew of three, with four on a part time basis.

- Nick, Bruce, and Bailey have compiled a monitoring report for the restoration work done on the Pinevale Brook in 2022. The report also includes the results of electro fishing, and the report is on the ARA website.
- Dave MacNeil commented that he is on a couple of the funding boards and that the reports have received great reviews and all are impressed by the amount of work being done by such a small group. Thanks to Nick and employees for a fantastic job, well done!
- Fly Tying - Very successful this year, well attended, some new faces.
- Many thanks to Dave MacNeil for all the instruction and to AH Roy for providing an excellent facility.
- Newsletter- Dave will continue
- Brood stock- 2023 on South River

#### 8. New Business

- Membership drive going well, Don handling well.
- Call for nominations for directors? Jim Larekos nominated Liam - Nomination accepted.
- Current Board: Gerry Doucet, Don Wescott, Dave MacNeil, Ken MacAulay, Sandy Horne, Jim Larekos, Chris Chisholm.
- Bi-law updates: Language has been changed on numerous bi-laws. The changes have been sent out to members and are updated on the ARA web site. The updates were reviewed, opened for discussion and/or suggestions. Dave moved that the changes be adopted, seconded by Chris Chisholm.  
Note: Article 47 will remain unchanged.  
Also, attendance at meetings clarified to be virtual or in person.

9. Update to the website to reflect companies that actually support ARA, duly noted

10. Other: Deidre Greene (ASF), Nick (NSSA), Dave MacNeil ARA met with Ernie Porter regarding the Town Point oyster farm. At this time, we will not favour nor oppose the project but would appreciate being kept informed.

11. Next meeting scheduled for April 30th, 1:00 pm.