

ARA Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: April 21st, 2024

Time: 1pm-2:30pm

Location: Deverness Stables – 1851 Highway #4

In Attendance: Tim Handforth, Nick MacInnis, Charles MacInnis, Liam Fulmore, Darryl Murant, Sandy Horne, Sandy MacLeod, Christine Hanlan, Dave Mac Neil, Dan Doiron, Leo Callahan, Malorie Crispo, Allison White

1. Call to order at 1:10pm
2. Approval of agenda – approved
3. Minutes adopted from last meeting
4. Presidents Report:
 - I. Cameron Lake being well used
 - II. Five additional fishing line disposal units have been ordered for a total of ten
 - III. 2023 was first year ARA held a raffle, quite successful, thanks to Eskape Anglers for their donation. Prize went to an Ontario participant
 - IV. 2023 online auction very successful
 - V. Watershed restoration is ongoing with positive results and feedback. Excellent work from our restoration team of Allison White, Bailey Randall and Rory Adams
 - VI. ARA bylaws updated
5. Treasurers Report:
 - I. 2024 Operating budget
 - II. Most of ARA government funding is received after March 31. For accounting it might be advantageous to move our year end from Dec.31st to March 31. - Motioned by Dave MacNeil, seconded by Dan Doiron, motion approved.
6. Activities Reports:
 - I. Salmon Dinner will be held on October 19th. There will be 150 tickets available at \$100 per ticket. Venue will be the CACL Social Action Center. The St.F.X.U. option is too

expensive. Some adjustments will be made to bar services to better accommodate our needs. Dan is working on a floor plan. Jim Lerikos is looking after food issues, menu still undecided pending the outcome of production at Sustainable Blue. This year our money and efforts will be directed toward the dinner proper as the Columbus Field event was too expensive with little return. Our volunteer efforts can be better utilized elsewhere. We will be donating two tickets, box of flies and hats at the ASF dinner in Halifax, and hopefully raise our profile with ASF and NSSA. Our full dinner committee will begin meetings some time in August.

- II. Fishing Derby-is being planned for the weekend of June 1st, Saturday. Prizes, etc. are still in place from the last two derbies. Water and portables taken care of. Allison will be looking for lots of volunteers so please assist if possible. Expecting a fairly large crowd so 15 volunteers needed. Allison will be sending out emails later.
- III. Fly Tying - Thanks to A.H. Roy for providing their board room. Sessions were very well attended with a lot of newcomers. Thanks to Dave MacNeil for his time and efforts, instructions greatly appreciated by all.
- IV. Newsletter- Thanks to all who contributed photos and written articles. Many thanks to Dave MacNeil for a job well done.
- V. River Restoration
 - i. James River Project will continue downstream from last years project with spawning gravel and cobble, installation of fifteen new structures and some tree planting.
 - ii. North Rights- Installation of fifteen new instream structures upstream from last years project and some tree planting.
 - iii. Ohio River- Installation of twenty-five instream structures and some tree planting on gravel bars and river banks. Part of the West River management area.
 - iv. All new work sites with government funding must now be monitored
 - v. pre and post project restoration. Volunteers for restoration are welcome

7. New Business

- I. ARA now owns a utility trailer. A tool box has been donated by Bud Maclellan - Thanks Bud. Tim will look into getting trailer insurance.
- II. Dock and ramp now installed at Cameron Lake. Tim will be looking at getting
- III. some money from the county to cover installation and removal costs which
- IV. are around \$1500 per year.
- V. Executive Elections - President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer.
 - i. No one put their names forward for any of the positions. Present members have served two terms. A resolution is required for their continuance. Dave put forward a resolution that present members remain in place, all accepted and motion seconded by all in attendance!
- I. Other - Dave informed us that Dr. Hannah Harrison will be at the community room at the Antigonish Library, May 22nd at 6:00 pm with a presentation regarding the socio-economic impact of fish hatcheries on local communities. All are invited.

8. Meeting adjourned at 14:00.