

Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers Society - Board Meeting Minutes

August 30th - start at 1 pm, adjourned at 3:30

Meeting took place at David James' Residence

Present: David James, Ray Woroniak, Sacha Woroniak, Ed Wasiuk, Louella MacVicar, Tom Whitfield, Gord Almond., Pat Jacobson, Neil Worboys, Neil Carruthers, Linnea Saltel, Daryl Erickson, Peter Drummond

1) Approval of Agenda

2) Approval of May 31st, 2023 minutes

- Moved by Neil, seconded by Daryl.

3) Financial, Membership, and Insurance Updates

- We are up \$164; we currently have \$5000 from Raymond James foundation, \$7-8000 of our total dedicated to specific projects; we currently have 43 paid members (see financial summary for more details).
- Board discussed insurance for QBSK members - we are awaiting the official insurance policy to be provided by PSF; Daryl will confirm the coverage and cost in the near future.

4) Project Activity

Beach Creek Spawning gravel project

- The board discussed details for the September 12th outing; organizers to meet at clubhouse parking lot at 7:30 am, and volunteers to meet at 8:30 am. Board agreed that some prep work needs to be done by QBSK before Sept. 12th.
- Ray to email callout for volunteers.
- Ray and Sacha - will photo document silt in Beach Creek to keep track for the town.
- Pat and Louella arranging for food and coffee to be provided for volunteers.

Little Qualicum River Estuary

- Board to contact area G director Lehann Wallace; invite Lehann to come to AGM as well as Haley.
- QBSK is one of the members for RDN; include Qualicum First Nations - they should be involved.
- David stated that this project is not moving ahead quickly due to many interests involved.
- QBSK need to make sure this project makes sense to keep moving forward.
- Board discussed whether we should continue to plant trees at site since many have died.

Memorial Golf Club QBSK Joint Planning

- Peter discussed pond on number 8 - we could put in aerator through organization in Alberta; during discussion with Dave Clough, Dave said no to aerator as it could contribute to algae bloom; his advice is to not go with aeration system; QBSK would like to learn about risks and benefits.

- Discussed high temperature as main factor in fish deaths.
- Board discussed whether there's anything else we can do for pond such as planting trees.
- If QBSK obtains evidence of pollution in creek, we can take to DFO.
- We are still waiting for the Golf Course Board review (including Council Liaison Anne Skipsey) of the updated Beach Creek Management Plan.

Faye Smith Pavillion Weeding/Thinning

- QBSK discussed strategy for this project, specifically around renewing signage; plans to replant trees that are not doing well.
- Pat will liaise with Scott Signs to get an estimate of what is required to reprint and re-skin the faded Panorama signs, the few in the Pavilion which have wrinkled- and with Lanarc Consultants for an estimate on a refreshed planting plan, given that some areas are overplanted and overrun with weeds and don't coincide with the plant signage.

MABRI Tire Chemical Monitoring

- May do studies before and after rain garden; other similar studies found evidence of change.

Level Logger and Water Flow Monitoring

- Ed stated that Grandon creek staff gauge has consistent monitoring; Allie Badger at BCEF on August 14th finalized security of new staff gauge; we will explore possibilities for different types of housing for staff gauge.
- Recent flow rate using bucket method had good reliability co-efficient.
- Grandon creek still very low right now due to dry conditions.

Forage Fish Monitoring

- Nothing to report; we haven't been able to get ahold of Alanna.

Three Year Smolt Count

- Plan to do smolt count this fall.

5) Outreach and Communications

Family Day

- Ray stated that it may not be worth coming out in the future as not many people were interested this time. The board agreed we will not participate in 2024.

Beach Day

- QBSK interested in doing this event next year.

Museum Day

- Ray stated this event was very busy as it was more of a learning day; there was a turnout of 460 people

Brant Geese Festival 2024

- QBSK will volunteer for children's festival again this year on April 5th 2024.

Watershed Safety, VIU elder college Oct. 3rd

- QBSK to decide if we want to have a display table there; it would be 2-3 hours on site and about watershed protection.

6) Policy

Stream Mapping Proposal - Weaver Technical, RDN

- Not something we need to act on this year; will be getting funding for it.
- Mapping Beach Creek and school creek most important.
- We were quoted \$21 000 for flow tracker.

October AGM

- Board members were asked to let David know of their plans whether to continue to stand.
- Pat to check on availability of St. Stephen's Church for October or November.
- Speaker will be sought to discuss watershed planning and/or supply challenges.

Yellow Fish Display at town hall

- Berwick presentation - people interested in decorating; someone decorated fish with pull tabs.
- Ray wrote a letter to QB town asking for them to take water usage pledge if they're going to display the fish.

7) Guest Speaker - Peter Drummond (see golf course notes).

8) Website, Mailchimp, Facebook

- Website will be updated with museum day and upcoming events.
- On Facebook - other SK groups have been interacting quite a bit with us online.
- Ray will create a new QBSK google account for more storage - can continue to use same email.