

Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers Society - Board Minutes

January 23rd, 2023, start at 2:08 pm, end at 4 pm, Boardroom at MLA Adam Walker's office

Present: David James, Jenny Hall, Tom Whitfield, Neil Worboys, Neil Carruthers, Pat Jacobsen, Daryl Erickson, Linnea Saltel

Items of Business:

1. **Approval of Agenda** - moved by Neil W., seconded by Tom
2. **Approval of November 9th minutes** -
3. **Financial/Membership Update:**
 - Membership - we have 69 paid members as of January 7th, 2023
 - Daryl advised change for fiscal year 2022 is -\$1069; current equity \$6524
4. **Project Activity**

Little Qualicum River

- Blackberry removal planned for January 28th, 1 pm to 3 pm
- Need to plant species that are salt-tolerant and drought-tolerant (advised by Tom) as many of species planted have not survived
- Daryl suggested wild rose to be planted to help mitigate erosion
- Trees lost due to extreme summer temps last two years
- RDN to look at plan for LQR area, so we can operate within a shared planning framework with them

Memorial golf/streamkeeper joint planning

- Pat contacted golf club and has not heard from them yet
- Neil C. suggested a contact for follow-up

Faye Smith Pavillion

- Pat spoke with Lynette - both agree that area needs to be weeded
- Lynette to call Streamkeepers and set up meeting
- Plan to have plants match signage and thin out weeds
- Trees are growing well

MABRI Wetland Monitoring

- Next outing planned for Spring (per November 2022 meeting)
- Engage volunteers/get people out for next outing

MABRI tire chemical monitoring

-Awaiting decision from VIU on next phase, including the location

Level logger and water flow monitoring - Beach and Grandon Creeks

- Monitoring on hold due to high water levels; plan to wait until water levels decrease
- Data on water flow useful for our knowledge and for the town
- Action item: David to send note to Thea asking for update

Equipment and Gear

- Had allowed volunteers to purchase chest waders; we haven't heard anything from volunteers regarding purchase
- Action item: David to follow-up with volunteers re: purchasing

Forage Fish Monitoring

- Monitoring will happen this week despite high water levels
- No fish eggs have been found on beaches for a long time

Beach Creek gravel project

- Tom, Neil C., David, Ray, and Sacha visited Beach Creek - found three good spots on lower end for remedial work to provide shelter for spawning salmon; each of three areas are quite small
- Ray preparing proposal for funding to PSF; QBSB need permission from the town, golf club, DFO, and Ministry of the Environment for the project
- Bio logs could be used to create shelter - difficulty finding these (or supplies to make bio logs)
- Will need permission so we can have access to Beach Creek
- Red Osier suitable to be planted in Fall; PSF to provide funding for trees
- Gravel will be laid in Summer

5. Outreach and Communication

General

- Idea (Tom) to split up volunteers into dedicated groups for each project to lessen emails; may not be ideal as other volunteers may not have access to information about projects
- May be worthwhile to spend more time educating volunteers to increase interest
- Grandon Creek - Pat to ask Lynette if we can remove invasive species

VIU Presentation

- David presented to VIU Resource Management on January 9th; class was interested in how our organization makes decisions

Brant Geese Festival

- We are signed up with Arrowsmith Elementary School to have a display in April
- Idea to have tours in Heritage Forest, educating people that Heritage Forest is a sanctuary; would want to do small tours to manage traffic in forest
- Brown Property Preservation Society (Tom) has agreed to lead a few small groups on tours of Heritage Forest

RDN Water Testing Event

- Completed November 2022; was successful

Seedy Saturday

- Happening February 4th from 10 am to 3:30
- Neil W. to find out where we are in venue
- Pat to send out call for volunteers along with LQR blackberry removal event
- Idea to display panel with plants, including weeds and “good” plants

Beach Day

- July 16th - get speaker from UVic? Discussed potential high financial cost of doing so

6. Policy

Raymond James Meeting

- Will happen January 26th with RJ reps
- Daryl and David will report outcomes to board

Website/Facebook

- MailChimp set up by Patrick
- Benefits of MailChimp no fee and good features