

**Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers Society Board Meeting
October 12th, 2017 - 9:30 in the Qualicum Foods Boardroom**

Present: David James (Chair), Louella Hollington, Don Lyster, Gord Almond, John Phillips, Peter Drummond, Mike Shannon, Neil Worboys, Pat Jacobson
Guest: Michael Jessen

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am.

Items of Business:

1. Minutes of August 9th, 2017 Meeting - Moved by Neil and seconded by Peter that the minutes be accepted. Carried.
2. Financial Update - Louella reported \$1776. in the chequing account, \$4613. in the savings account, and \$18,285 in the Faye Memorial Account. There have been no significant expenses since the last meeting, or anticipated in the near term.
3. Project Activity

Grandon Creek

- We will continue with the fish count in 2018, and revisit early in the year as to design.
- Still early for coho to appear

Beach Creek

- John reports little activity on the Town Advisory Committee relative to the creek, most of the current focus is on the green shores aspect.
- Peter reports the pond dam is in ruins, thanks to a busy beaver. Metal may be a preferred option and should be included in the Town plan.
- The reservoir was drained for silt removal, and Streamkeepers helped remove the fish, which included sticklebacks and 19 coho. The communication between the GC and QBSS continues to need improvement.
- Peter will dust off the Beach Creek Management Plan and review with Terry, the new Greenskeeper. Other suggestions include inviting them to one of our meetings, or us to one of theirs, and giving key people a tour of the creek and explaining our plans.

Little Qualicum River

- John advises work complete at the estuary for this year, some good growth from plantings., Garry Oaks are prospering. Gord to store the "shade cloth" from BCCF to use next summer. David to contact BCCF to clarify the longer term plan for plantings.

Fish in the Creek Mapping Project with MVIHES

- waiting on finalization of technology from MVIHES and greater flow in the creeks. Good opportunity to involve our member/volunteer community. Anticipate start in the next month or two.

Faye Memorial Update

- We got approval to proceed from the Town at a Committee of the Whole Meeting on September 11th, where we presented a conceptual plan for the viewing structure and interpretive signage as well as parking, vegetation, and seating on the surrounding land.

Peter has been working with retired architect Bill Lipsey who has volunteered his time, as well as volunteer Phylli Drummond who has completed the working drawings for the structure. Walter Hoogland, Peter, Lynne Brookes and Pat are working with a team from the Town and their suppliers to get their input and expertise. A budget of \$90,000 was developed for the structure and signage. David reports a funding request of \$45,000 has been submitted to the Gaming Commission (with help from Howie Hambleton), and a \$20,000 request will be submitted to PSF. We will not know the status until late in the year.

Peter has submitted 2 funding requests to the RDN. We thank the Arrowsmith Naturalists for their donation. In the meantime, we will ramp up our efforts in getting broader community support and donations including in-kind donations.

Mick McDonald, CA and QBSS member, is managing the finance and accounting for this project.

Motion Moved by Peter, seconded by Gord, that our society donate \$1000. to the Faye Memorial Project, Carried unanimously. Louella to transfer the funds.

Water Monitoring Fall Flush

- Gord advises start of October 24th, he is getting good interest from volunteers. Island Timberlands has had some safety training. Thanks to Gord for spearheading this important work!

First-Aid Training/Protocol

- John has developed a list of our working sites with GPS co-ordinates should we have a 911 emergency. This will be in our first aid kit which should be on hand for all activities.

Mike asked about a cell phone app that we all might use for getting co-ordinates. Gord to check with Lauren.

Salmon Toss, Mid-November

- We agreed that we would like to continue with this activity.

- David to check with DFO re projected timing and supply of carcasses, as well as options for placement of the carcasses.

- Neil suggested one day may be more appropriate.

- Decision to proceed will be made after further investigation.

4. Outreach and Communication

- President's Message Update pending

- Don Lyster is working with a KSS outdoor class to collaborate on a Beach Creek project, potentially invasive plant id, and removal in the Heritage Forest.

5. Policy

- Qualicum Beach Official Community Plan - We agreed to do a consultation session specific to OCP topics affecting fish and fish habitat. We would invite all of our membership and volunteers. The time selected was 1:00pm on Monday October 30th. Pat to make arrangements for the materials and space.

- John commented on positive Quality of Life Survey results relative to Services provided by Streamkeepers, which showed an over 95% satisfied or very satisfied for those who had an opinion.

6. Website

- Don reports that our website is largely updated. He would like all board members to go through the site and forward any comments or suggestions to him.
- Pat to work with Don to change the home page to a Faye Project theme to be used for the next couple of months to increase awareness and garner contributions.

7. Upcoming Events

- Pat noted that the Friends of French Creek - Hamilton Marsh will be presenting a great new video to the QB Committee of the Whole on Wednesday, October 18th at 10:00pm in the Council Chambers. This is an important part of our watersheds!
- David noted an invitation to a PSF consultation with Brian Riddell in Courtenay on Saturday, November 4th. David to attend and co-ordinate other attendees.
- Pat noted a Watershed Visioning and planning exercise on November 3rd sponsored by Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region, details will be forwarded to Board Members.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30am

Next scheduled meeting : Wednesday, November, 8th, location TBA.

Prepared by Pat Jacobson, Secretary - October 12th, 2017