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Steering Committee Meeting #1 (2006-07)

Location: Room 220, Pavillon P. A. Landry, Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB
Date: Friday, June 9, 2006
Time: 10:00am

The Attending Members:

Claudette LeBlanc, ACZISC	Nadine Gauvin, Coalition Coordinator
David Boyce, SEA	John Legault, DFO
Jenny Guignard, Coalition Staff	Julie Turcotte, Coalition Staff
Marianne Janowicz, NBDELG	Jean Goguen, Kent Planning Commission
Alice Power, Friends of the Pugwash Estuary	P.Nagarajan, UPEI
Allister Marshall, Po'tlo'tek Fish and Wildlife Assoc	

Guests:

Douglas Deacon
Peter Dysart
Odette Landry-Godin



1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05. Allister delivered the opening prayer.

2. Approval of agenda

Approval of agenda was moved by D.Boyce and seconded by A.Power. Introductions of meeting participants were made around the table.

3. Approval of previous minutes (February 24th, 2006)

The minutes of the last meeting were distributed. A 'typo' correction in the minutes under item 5 with the word 'constitution' was identified. Approval of the minutes, as amended, was moved by D. Boyce and seconded by J. Legault.

4. Matters arising from minutes

Nadine covered the five action items from the February 24th minutes. It was suggested that Nadine should contact the newly formed NB Coastal Joint Action Group to learn of their mandate and to invite them to provide a presentation at a future Steering Committee meeting.

Action Item 01: Nadine to invite Sue Farquharson of the NB Coastal JAG as indicated above.

5. Financial Report

As treasurer, D. Boyce presented the Coalition financial report. J. Legault suggested that we modify the report to better identify the revenues as to which are proposed and which are committed. David moved that the financial report be accepted as presented and J.Goguen seconded the motion.

Action Item 02: David and Nadine to redesign the financial report as stated above.

6. Working Group updates

AGM 2007 WG – It was reported that the 'Finding the Power to Prosper' workshop was a big success! The workshop, which was video-recorded, is being compiled onto a DVD. The presentations will soon be available on the Energy website and the Coalition-SGSL's website. Funding is being sought to carryout the legacy portion of the workshop (bringing it to communities). Discussion revolved around a potential 2007 AGM topic. It was again suggested that we focus on 'social or human' ecology and to determine the socio-economics objectives within the market (carrying capacity) of the environment.



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Possible locations in Nova Scotia include Mabou and Tatamagouche. It was recommended that we involve Justin and Irene with planning the next AGM. Alice also agreed to assist as well as P.Nagarajan.

Action Item 03: John and Nadine to follow up on funding opportunities with EcoAction and ACOA.

Action Item 04: To organize an initial 2007 AGM planning meeting for late summer and invite other Nova Scotia NGOs to participate.

Coastal Erosion WG – Nadine reported that Julie Turcotte had completed the annotated bibliography project. After translation by Environment Canada, the bibliography will be posted on the Coalition’s website. Marianne remarked the importance of crediting the National Program of Action (NPA) in the report. Claudette asked Nadine to send her the project once it’s translated so that she can publicize it via ACZISC.

Action Item 05: Send the bibliography to Claudette for publication on the ACZISC website.

Communications & Education WG – Nadine reported that the WG produced an energy conservation bookmark and provided valuable input with the Coalition’s first-ever Annual Report. Copies were circulated during the meeting and members provided positive feedback. Nadine also announced Audrey Lapenna as the working group’s new chairperson.

Funding/Development WG – this is an ad-hoc committee and no report was provided.

Science, Research & Habitat WG –Marianne reported that Julie began phase 2 of the indicators project and that the project received funding from EcoAction for \$17,000 and EcoCanada for \$6,593. Eight community groups are participating in the project by adopting two indicators each. As part of the project, Julie produced a ‘Sustainability Indicators’ fact sheet. There’s also an international component to the project since there’s ongoing correspondence with other groups in the US. Marianne reported that 5 members make up the advisory committee of the project: herself, Patricia Griffith of StatsCan, John, Irene and Nadine. Steps are underway to move into phase three of the project.

Technical Advisory – John presented CIPA (La Collectivité ingénieuse de la Péninsule acadienne) as an opportunity for comprehensive data sharing experiences between community groups. A future partnership opportunity with CIPA and the Coalition should be forthcoming this summer. Also, funding was approved by the Federal Government’s SCP program to hire a student to create a metadata database by conducting a survey with community groups to determine their data holdings. A question arose on the status of the Coalition with taking over CAMP. John responded that this was temporarily on hold. David suggested we need to be prepared should the Coalition be offered the reins of this important program, ie equipment needs, training costs, etc.

Action Item 06: The Coalition will prepare a short document as to what would be required to take over CAMP by inquiring with Roland Cormier and Jim Weldon of DFO.

Traditional Ecological Knowledge WG – The group had a conference call meeting on June 8 to discuss project ideas with respect to adapting to climate change in First Nation communities. Nadine expressed her enthusiasm with the project’s potential and announced that Steven Augustine, a Curator of Ethnology for the Eastern Maritimes, is the WG’s newest member. Chantal Gagnon is working on a proposal for funding up to \$40 000 from ANCAP. Nadine and Julie will attend a workshop on salt marsh restoration as a strategy to climate change, in Sackville, NB next week. Lessons learned could be useful for the project.

Action Item 07: The Coalition to invite Stephen to present his work at a future SC meeting.

7. Elections of the executive

Only one seat was presented as vacant with the Executive – the President’s position. Omer Chouinard was nominated to fill the vacant seat of President. All positions of the Executive were approved by acclamation. The Executive positions are as follows:

President	Omer Chouinard
Vice-President	Claudette LeBlanc
Past-President	Harry Collins
Treasurer	David Boyce
Secretary	Allister Marshall



Christian Fraser was nominated for a seat on the Steering Committee as representing an NGO group from the Québec region. D.Boyce moved that Christian be accepted to the Steering Cttee and M.Janowicz seconded the motion; which was approved unanimously. Marianne also proposed that a list of the present SC vacancies be made available to the members of the Steering Committee so that we try to fill them.

Action Item 08: Nadine to circulate SC vacancies amongst the Steering Committee.

8. Coordinator's Report

Nadine provided the coordinator's report.

9. Northumberland Strait Ecosystem Working Group Update

Nadine reported a meeting was held for the entire WG on March 10 to determine the terms of reference with AMEC Consultants on the ecosystem overview assessment report. She also reported of her involvement with the 'Physical Environment Sub cttee' and that a first meeting via conference call was held on June 1st.

10. Other Business:

Further discussion on the 2007 AGM took place. It was suggested we investigate opportunities with the Tatamagouche Centre.

Action Item 09: Nadine to investigate the capacity of the Tatamagouche Centre and its availability for next May 2007.

11. Afternoon mini-forum: Palanisamy Nagarajan provided a presentation on 'Economics Growth, Social Metabolism, and Sustainability of the Ecosystems' and Omer Chouinard provided a second presentation on the 'Social Economy and Sustainability' project. Both initiated valuable discussion on these very important and timely topics.

13. Adjournment

Future Steering Committee meetings dates for 2006-07 were decided as follows:

Friday, **September 15, 2006** - at the Gulf Fisheries Centre, Moncton, NB

Friday, **November 17, 2006** – at the P.A.Landry building on campus of Université de Moncton.

Friday, **February 23, 2007** - at the Gulf Fisheries Centre, Moncton, NB

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.