**COCO Meeting Notes – March 27, 2018**

**Present:**

**Beth Mcgee** – Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust (FBWHT)

**Jill** – Beechville-Lakeside-Timberlea Rails-to-Trails (BLTR2T)

**Mike Lancaster** – St. Margaret’s Bay Stewardship Association (SMBSA), Woodens River Watershed Environmental Association (WRWEO)/Bluff Trail Stewardship Program (BTSP), Healthy Forest Coalition (HFC)

The Host group for the evening ‘s meeting was BLT Rails to Trails and the Chair of the meeting was Jill Campbell-Miller.

Since we were a smaller group than usual we had opportunity to share updates and brainstorm a bit about possible helpful ideas to address issues.

**Jill Campbell-Miller**– BLTR2T

* “We need someone to take over our maintenance portfolio. Our ideal candidate is someone who is recently retired, certified in chainsaw safety, able to work and identify where our work should be directed, attend board meetings
* We have three new board members – Jill will be putting her name forward for Chair
* Karren Sullivan will be our vice chair
* We have lined-up a treasurer and believe that we have enough interest in the position of secretary
* Tom Musial has been working on a manual for incoming board members
* AGM is April 11th – 7 p.m. at the Lakeside Community Centre – Vanda Jackson as guest speaker
* Looking to recruit a real estate agent for their board

**Mike Lancaster** – SMBSA, WRWEO/BTSP, HFC

SMBSA

* We recently removed over 900 lbs of treated wood and Styrofoam from Micou’s Island – lots of the wood is usable and is currently piled at the entrance to the island.
* The next Micou’s Island Stewardship Day is on Saturday, March 31st
* Saturday, April 12 – Micou’s day
* Troop Island Stewardship Day – May 12
* IRWA –

WRWEO/BTSP

* Beth – Are you able to get funding from the Chebucto West Health Board?
* The BTSP has secured $10,000 in grants from the FBWHT and hopes to get a further $10,000 from Nova Scotia Environment
* The next upcoming Steward Training sessions will be on April 22nd and May 26th

HFC

* HFC members have been participating in the provincial review into forestry practices and has been advocating for reform of policies, the pre-treatment assessment system, a re-structuring of the Department of Natural Resources and incorporating both NTFPs and carbon credits into our public forest portfolio

**Beth McGee –** FBWHT,

* FBWHT had their AGM on March 18
* Great AGM! Guest speaker of Butch Galvez – DNR Wildlife biologist
* Beth regales the tale of the coyote-dog attack that occurred on the SMB Rails to Trails
* Beth would love to see the lichen survey of 2008 be redone and retooled – go back to the spots and see if the same lichens are there/how they have changed -
* FBWHT has made available again this year Stewardship Grants – applications are now online
* June 23rd – celebration for 9 Mile River bridge – additional organization is needed

Thanks to Jill for chairing the meeting and to Mike L for his concise notes of the meeting

Next Meeting date in May was not available at the time of the March COCO meeting.

It was to be posted at the end of these notes.

The May COCO Meeting will be held from 7-9-p.m. on Wednesday May 30,2018 at the Prospect Road Community Centre(PRCC), 2141 Prospect Road, Hatchet Lake. Shirley Jollimore, Executive Director of the PRCC will be the Chair of the May COCO meeting. All Welcome!!