



Annual General Meeting 2022

Sunday, March 20, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

Estabrooks Community Hall

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes for 2021 AGM (pages: 2 – 8)
- Report from the Chair
- Treasurer's Report
- Nomination Committee's Report
- Special Guest: Kristen Noel, Project Lead, Nova Scotia Invasive Species Council – Project Update and boot brush station demo
- Adjournment

AGM 2021 - Meeting Minutes

Sunday, March 21, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

Estabrooks Community Hall

Harry Ward, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

1) Approval of the Agenda – Moved by Danny Daigle and seconded by Beth McGee. All were in favour. Motion carried.

2) Approval of the Minutes for 2020 AGM – Moved by Beth McGee and seconded by Bridget Adams. All were in favour. Motion carried.

3) Report of the Chair

Harry Ward welcomed the small gathering for the 20th annual general meeting of the Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust. He thanked everyone for attending and following all the COVID precautions with social distancing and mask wearing while on site. He also welcomed those joining online through Zoom. Everyone was encouraged to renew their annual Trust Membership for \$10 or \$15 for Families. In this way, we all show support for the Trust's activities and become eligible to vote at the AGM, and hold office on the Board of Trustees.

Harry explained that the volunteer Trust Board was pleased to share several project updates since the last AGM, hosted in September. Donating twenty thousand dollars to the Nova Scotia Nature Trust campaign to save the wild blue in the fall of 2020, was certainly a highlight. The donation was matched at that time, so the twenty thousand became one hundred thousand towards the purchase the Blue Mountain connector land that sits in the headwaters area of the Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area, making its health vitally important to the Trust.

Harry acknowledged everyone who participates in the Bay Treasure Chest as the funds for that donation were earned through the Bay Treasure Chest partnership. The NS Nature Trust was ultimately successful in raising the funds to purchase the connector lands and announced that purchase in December 2020. The lands stretch across 5,000 acres and will now be forever preserved as urban wilderness, one of the largest urban parks in North America.

Harry discussed the several partnerships, beyond the NS Nature Trust, the FBWHT is actively developing through Board involvement on committees, Boards etc. He thanked the Board volunteers who take on these roles to help our like-minded organizations.

Our HRM Alliance group with Peter Lund as our Board liaison. This is a coalition of over 60 organizations from environment, business, health and community sectors advocating for a sustainable future in HRM.

Sandy Lake, Sackville River Regional Park Coalition and NS Nature Trust are both groups Harry himself works with regularly and sits on the Advisory Board for the Sandy Lake group. It totals 25 groups working together to have an expanded Regional Park established.

The Canadian Council on Invasive Species serves as a national voice and hub to protect Canada from the impacts of invasive species. Ken Donnelly works with that group regularly, of which the FBWHT is now a member.

Imbert Allen reported on the success of the canoe route improvement project over the summer of 2020. Using a five-thousand-dollar grant received from Nature's Way Vitamin's and their 1% for the Planet membership, some of those funds were used to build a small bridge and improve gravel pathways on a section of the canoe route.

Imbert explained the route is in poor repair and needed brush cutting back and graveling to make it a safer passage for portaging canoes. The area is very beautiful and covers over 10 lakes and 9 portage trails in total. Just one northern section was tackled for repair and improvement, so far. Mike Lancaster was hired to lead the project and a summer student was assigned by DOE as well. This work will continue in 2021.

Imbert also shared an aerial view of the Estabrooks Hall and the walking trail the Trust is planning to work on this year from the Hall down to Birch Hill Lake nearby. It crosses crown land, so those involved will be working with the Nova Scotia government to approve the route etc. Since Estabrooks is used for so many activities and offers free parking, it will be another way for the community to access the wilderness area and the lovely beach and lake.

Ken Donnelly shared news about the Trust's first photo contest held in December. It was meant as a way to collect more photos from the wilderness area and also to encourage people to get out and take some photos for a chance to win some prizes. There were 23 entries and six were chosen as prize winners to receive a total of \$700 worth of prize money and swag gifts from the Trust. They were all displayed as part of an exhibition in February at the Tantallon Public Library and featured in an article in the local community newspaper, The Masthead News. All great promotion for the Trust. Ken thanked Joanne Ellis for running the photo contest and hopes we'll plan another one, maybe in the Fall. Many of the photos in the presentation today, on the website and social media are from the Trust's new collection of photo contest entries.

Ken also acknowledged the great partnership the Trust enjoys with the Bay Treasure Chest. For six years, the Trust has been organizing monthly toonie Counts run by volunteers. Due to the pandemic, the Counts were suspended for two periods in 2020, so the Trust's funding went down significantly. However, BTC went ahead with a new online version of the 50/50 lottery that supports 8 not-for-

profit groups representing 14 volunteer organizations. Almost everything the Trust does, is funded by funds earned from the BTC partnership.

Ken thanked all our committed volunteers who show up and help us at Counts. The Trust could not manage without them.

That concluded the Report from the Chair, which was shared by the Board volunteers. Motion to approve the report was made by Beth McGee and seconded by Mike Marriott. All were in favour. Motion carried.

4) Treasurer's Report –

Bridget Adams, the Trust's Treasurer, explained the Trust has three sources of funding: the main one being the Bay Treasure Chest partnership, donations, and memberships. Income was affected by the pandemic year 2020, but spending was also reduced as there were no public events etc.

FIVE BRIDGES WILDERNESS HERITAGE TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Bank - Credit Union Atlantic (chequing and equity share)	\$ 29,658.06	\$ 23,159.37
Amounts receivable	5,300.00	4,500.00
GST/HST rebate recoverable	893.12	7,575.49
Inventory	1,339.26	2,022.61
Prepaid expense	972.87	689.21
	<u>38,163.31</u>	<u>37,946.68</u>
CASH AND BANK - RESTRICTED		
Bank - Credit Union Atlantic - savings account	7,027.58	7,021.68
Scotia Wealth Management - investment account	31,449.18	31,306.00
	<u>38,476.76</u>	<u>38,327.68</u>
LAND - SILVER BIRCH DRIVE	<u>78,001.71</u>	<u>78,001.71</u>
	\$ 154,641.78	\$ 154,276.07
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 2,173.05	\$ 1,935.41
Grant holdbacks payable	1,350.00	1,350.00
	<u>3,523.05</u>	<u>3,285.41</u>
NET ASSETS AND UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		
Land - Silver Birch Drive	\$ 76,840.00	\$ 76,840
Excess revenue over expenditures	74,278.73	74,150.66
	<u>151,118.73</u>	<u>150,990.66</u>
	\$ 154,641.78	\$ 77,436.07

Signed on behalf of the Board:

Director

Director

FIVE BRIDGES WILDERNESS HERITAGE TRUST
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020
(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Revenue		
Bay Treasure Chest funds	\$ 37,125.00	\$ 51,800.00
Membership fees	147.01	250.00
Tax receipted gifts	-	1,590.00
Non-receipted gifts	19.20	20.00
Nature's Way (1% Planet)	5,000.00	-
Interest income	162.07	87.68
Dividend income	-	740.00
Promotional sales	-	25.00
	<u>42,453.28</u>	<u>54,512.68</u>
Expenditures		
Project expenditures:		
Canoe Trail Planning	1,586.84	-
Boat Brush station program	393.33	-
Water sampling	2,059.08	-
Roots and Boots Forest	-	300.00
	<u>4,039.25</u>	<u>300.00</u>
Community event expenditures:		
Nova Scotia Nature Trust donation	25,120.00	20,000.00
AGM, BTC and related promotions	1,204.62	4,251.78
Other community events	-	7,251.33
	<u>26,324.62</u>	<u>31,503.11</u>
Administration expenditures:		
Advertising and promotion	840.00	925.00
Bookkeeping	240.00	1,640.00
Communications	5,681.72	3,468.83
Dues and fees	861.15	1,233.32
Honouraria	-	100.00
Insurance	1,323.44	876.62
Interest and bank charges	-	11.89
Land expenditures - Silver Birch	339.48	517.92
Legal and accounting fees	1,300.00	5,257.50
Office supplies	54.69	368.85
Rental expense	706.85	377.37
Travel	-	211.70
Web hosting and social media	614.01	25.20
Website and media maintenance	-	169.31
	<u>11,961.34</u>	<u>15,183.51</u>
	<u>42,325.21</u>	<u>46,986.62</u>
Excess of revenue over expenditures	128.07	7,526.06
Excess of revenues over expenditures, beginning of year	<u>74,150.66</u>	<u>66,624.60</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures, end of year	<u>\$ 74,278.73</u>	<u>\$ 74,150.66</u>

Motion was made by Mike Marriott to approve the Treasurer's Report and Danny was a seconder. All were in favour. The motion carried.

Mike Marriott discussed the project list for 2021 including an update on the trailhead entry in Glen Margaret where a land dispute regarding the trail entry has been underway for a few months. Working with the N. S. government, the SMATV association and the Trust, Mike reported that a proper survey of the area is being conducted to confirm land ownership. This is expected to be completed in a few weeks. He also explained that work to improve the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road trail from Goodwood to the Nine Mile River, (6.4 miles) will begin this year. The work will include cutting brush, improving gravel on the trail and the installation of at least one new large bridge.

New signage for the trail system was also displayed, as a sample. It is lightweight, reflective, and durable for tough outdoor conditions, so Mike explained it is a very flexible and affordable option. As well as location messages, the new signage will also report KM points to help with safe navigation within the area.

Mike discussed the other projects for the Trust this year include installing new boot brush stations to help stop the spread of invasive species, creating the new trail from Estabrooks Hall, continuing improvements to the canoe route through the wilderness area and another photo contest likely in the fall.

A question was asked by Beth McGee about whether the Board would consider making improvements to signage and wayfinding to reach the eight cemeteries in the wilderness area as they have not been properly cleared and signed for a very long time. Mike agreed to add those to the sign list if Beth could provide the information with proper names etc. Beth agreed to work with Mike on this.

5) Report of the Nominating Committee:

Imbert Allen reviewed the Board of Trustees volunteer list and how many year's they have been serving. Board volunteers are usually assigned for a three-year term.

Two years Remaining:

Bridget Adams

Peter Lund

Mike Marriott

Harry Ward

One Year Remaining:

Ken Donnelly

Re-Offering

Imbert Allen

He thanked all the Board members for volunteering and helping the Trust in all the ways they do. He opened the floor to new nominations or new volunteers who may wish to step forward. No one did at the time.

Motion was made by Bridget Adams to accept the report. Motion was seconded by Mike Marriott. All were in favour. Motion was carried.

6) Water Sampling Project Update:

Bridget Adams shared an update on the fall 2020 water sampling project conducted by herself and Peter Lund. She explained where the water samples were taken in Timberlea around Governor's Lake, for example which is near to many industrial operations and residential developments. The water in the sampled areas are all part of the headwaters of the Nine Mile River area.

The good news for 2020 results is that there was nothing of concern. The plan is to continue conducting water sampling every two years to stay watchful for any concerning changes.

Harry thanked Bridget and Peter for their work.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Ellis

Recording Secretary



Report of the Nominating Committee – AGM 2022

The bylaws of the FBWHT provide for Trustee volunteers to be elected for a period of three years. They must be a member in good standing with the Trust and be over the age of 18. The following volunteer terms remain to be served by the following six volunteers.

Two Years Remaining: Imbert Allen

One Year Remaining: Bridget Adams, Peter Lund, Mike Marriott, Harry Ward

Re-Offering: Ken Donnelly

The bylaws provide for a minimum of five and a maximum of 15 Trustees.

If all vacant Trustee positions are not filled in the election, the Board may appoint interested persons to fill the remaining positions.

If we receive fewer nominations than required to fill our compliment, those nominated will be acclaimed. If we receive more nominations than the vacancies available, we will hold a secret ballot. Only members are eligible to hold office and vote. If a ballot is required, we will vote, registered members will write the names of their choices on the ballot. Only the first five names will be counted, ballots with fewer than five names will be considered valid.

The Chair of the meeting will now accept nominations from the floor.

The Chair will appoint two individuals to count the ballots. Following the announcement of the results we will move that the ballots be destroyed.

There being no nominations from the floor, nominees are acclaimed to the Board for a term of three years.

Imbert Allen

Nominating Committee AGM 2022