**Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership**

**2021 Annual General Meeting**

**Minutes (FINAL)**

October 20, 2021

Online/Zoom hosted by FORCE

18:30-20:30

**In attendance:** Chief Hugh Akagi, Karel Allard, Heather Breeze, Ree Brennin-Huston, Sean Brillant , Mike Butler, Levi Cliche, Sandra Currie, Graham Daborn, Sondra Eger, Jack Fife, Jerry Lockett, Bertrum MacDonald, Joshua McNeely, Jon Percy, Beth Peterkin, Susan Rolston, Katie Schleit, Brontë Thomas, Peter Wells

Regrets: Art MacKay, Jeff Ollerhead, Tim Webster, John Calder, John Brownlie

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1. Welcome and Introductions

Peter Wells, BoFEP Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and welcomed all to the 2021 BoFEP Annual General Meeting.

Sandra Currie asks permission to record today’s meeting – no objections raised

2. Review of the Agenda

**Motion to approve the agenda**

**Motion: Graham Daborn**

**Second: Jon Percy**

**Motion Carried.**

**3. Approval of Minutes of the 2020 AGM Meeting**

**Motion: Sandra Currie**

**Second: Mike Butler**

Motion Carried.

**4. Chairman’s Report (Peter Wells)**

Peter presented his report highlighting the activities of BoFEP activities over the past year. He noted that Management Committee manages monthly via zoom to keep BoFEP items moving. The 25th anniversary is coming up for BoFEP. He noted new and upcoming projects, notably the video project, and continuing engagement with other groups, including the Gulf of Maine Council. A joint workshop is anticipated with ACCESS in May 2022. He also discussed long-term needs for the organization including finding a new treasurer and financial arrangements (i.e., changing banks), and volunteers to keep the organization running and implement the strategic plan. He noted in particular the need for more engagement from Steering Committee and paid members.

**5. Financial Report (Susan Rolston)**

The Comparative Income Statement and Comparative Balance Sheet reports for FY 2020-21 were presented by the Treasurer. Expenses for the FY were minimal with the delay of the Workshop.

**Approve to approve the financial reports:**

**Motion: Graham Daborn**

**Second: Mike Butler**

**Motion Carried.**

Motion to thank Susan for all her years of work

**Motion: Graham Daborn**

**Second: Mike Butler**

**Motion Carried.**

**6. Membership Report (Chief Hugh Akagi, Bronte Thomas)**

Hugh and Bronte presented their report noting the need for more paying members and, to encourage this, the ability to accept digital payments. They recommended the option of gifting for memberships. It was suggested that BoFEP send out invoices annually to paid members to facilitate renewals and that BoFEP undertake a membership drive, identifying relevant organizations around the Bay of Fundy.

**7. Communications Report (Jon Percy)**

Jon presented his report noting that the *Fundy Tidings* newsletter continues to go out every two months to 426 subscribers. Planning for the Fundy video project is underway with videos- highlighting activity, life, and science around the Bay of Fundy- Interview style. Several attendees suggested possible video footage or contacts for potential interviewees.

**8. Workshop report (Joshua McNeely, Peter Wells)**

A short report follows. A logistics committee is needed. As well, there is a need to decide if it will be in an in person, online or both. We need to consider the ACCESS group as a potential partner for the workshop. The Dalhousie University agricultural campus in Truro can be considered for the location if the meeting will be in person. Finally, there is the suggestion for stewardship award to be reinstated.

**9. Working Group Reports**

**Ocean Literacy Report (Mike Butler)**

Mike reported on various ocean literacy initiatives in the region, including the Nova Scotia Institute of Science proposal to have ocean literacy as a focus for a second year and the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Ocean Literacy working group. He noted the need for members of the Steering Committee to participate in the Working Group to facilitate identification of organizations to collaborate with and locally relevant ocean literacy material. He highlighted the need to educate education students in ocean literacy and to get district and curriculum specialists in public education engaged with ocean literacy.

Sondra Eger and others wonderful Fundy colouring book, which is scientifically accurate and has been administered by Oceans North, is organized by ecosystems and habitats in the upper Bay of Fundy.

**Strategic Plan Report (discussion led by Peter Wells)**

The revised strategic plan was approved as a working document to guide BoFEP at last year’s AGM. In operationalizing the plan, funds have been set aside to hire a BoFEP coordinator for November­-March this fiscal year. BoFEP will continue to publish its newsletter and undertake other communication and social media initiatives. It was noted again that 2022 is officially the 25 year anniversary for BoFEP. The need for more partnerships and engagement of Steering Committee members was highlighted, as was the need for a fund raising committee or initiatives for on-the-ground projects.

**Motion to approve the continued work outlined in the strategic plan**

**Motion: Levi Cliche**

**Second: Sandra Currie**

**Motion Carried**

**10. Other Business** (discussion)

A number of items were brought forward by AGM particpants:

How to connect students- Bay of Fundy theme for science fair e.g. a BoFEP science fair? Or a theme proposal to those who hold science fairs. Ther could be a digital science fair around Bay of Fundy- Finalist level at the BoFEP workshop .

BoFEP used to be the well of science for the Bay of Fundy- BoFEP needs to be the authority (the expert) on the changing Bay, all the things its occurring. BoFEP cannot just be about promotion. With a basis in science and knowledge, BoFEP can be this authority of knowledge and protection, issues etc. We want people to turn to BoFEP to find out what’s going on with and in the BoF (Sean Brillant).

Reinstate working groups- e.g. Minas Basin working group (Graham Daborn).

**11. Nominations Report (Mike Butler)**

Mike Butler presented the report of the Nominations Committee.

The following slate of candidates was presented:

Hugh Akagi

Karel Allard

Heather Breeze

Sean Brillant

Michael Butler (Claudette LeBlanc alternate)

Levie Cliche (Katie McLean alternate)

Sandra Currie

Graham Daborn

Sondra Eger

Jack Fife

Marianne Janowicz

Joseph Kerekes

Bertrum MacDonald

Joshua McNeely

Jon Percy

Susan Rolston

Bronte Thomas

Peter Wells

Approval of the slate as offered.

**Motion: Graham Daborn**

**Second: Jon Percy**

**Motion Carried.**

It was noted that Oceans North may have someone available to serve as Treasurer or Member-at-large on the Management Committee.

**12. Motion to approve the closure of the AGM at 20:15 pm.**

**Motion: Jack Fife**

**Second: Graham Daborn**

**Motion Carried.**

**Appendix 1:**

**AGENDA**

**BoFEP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**1830-2030hr, October 20th, 2021**

**On-Line ZOOM call (please see attached details)**

1. Introductions - Chair (PW)
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of October 2020 AGM
4. Chairperson’s Report (PW)
5. Financial reports (SR)
6. Membership Report (HA, BT)
7. Communications report (JP, SC)
8. 2022 BoFEP/ACCESS Bay of Fundy Workshop - status report (JM/PW)
9. Working Groups reports (MB, BM)
10. BoFEP Strategic Plan Report – brief discussion (SC/PW)
    1. BoFEP Work Plan 2021-2022 (PW)
11. Other business
12. Nominations report
13. Election of 2021-2022 Steering Committee
14. Close of AGM
15. Convening of 2021-2022 Steering Committee – election of Management Committee and Directors (financial)
16. Closure of Meeting\*.

**Appendix 2:**

**BoFEP SC/MC List 2021-2022 [MC MEMBERS IN RED]**

Hugh Akagi, Passamaquoddy Nation, akagih@nb.aibn.com, 506-529-3402/4657. (MC)

Karel Allard, CWS-ECCC, Karel.allard@canada.ca, 506-364-5188

Heather Breeze, DFO, Heather.Breeze@dfo-mpo.gc.ca, 902-403-6119.

Sean Brillant, CWF (Can. Wildlife Fed.), seanb@cwf-fcf.org, 902-237-9692

Michael Butler, IOI-Canada, michael.butler@dal.ca, 902-494-1977

Levi Cliché, CARP, levicliche@annapolisriver.ca, 902-532-7533

Sandra Currie, Fundy FORCE, visitor.centre@fundyforce.ca, 902-254-2510 (MC)

Graham Daborn, Acadia Univ., graham.daborn@acadiau.ca, 902-585-1118

Sondra Eger, Univ. Waterloo, seger@uwaterloo.ca, 519-998-2973

Jack Fife, SABS, St.Andrews, jack.fife@dfo-mpo.gc.ca, 506-529-5902.

Marianne Janowicz, BoFEP, Mjanowicz@hotmail.com, 902-621-0575.

Joseph Kerekes, CWS-EC ret., JKerekes@ns.sympatico.ca, 902-443-3197. (MC)

Claudette LeBlanc,⃰ ACZISC ret., leblancc@ca.inter.net, 902-667-3087.

Bertrum MacDonald, SIM, Dalh.U., bertrum.macdonald@dal.ca, 902-494-2792.

Katie McLean⃰, CARP, katiemclean@annapolisriver.ca, 902-532-7533 Ext. 6 (cell 613-857-2530)

Joshua McNeely, MAPC, jmcneely@mapcorg.ca, 902-895-2982. (MC)

Jon Percy, BoFEP/SeaPen, jon-percy@ns.sympatico.ca, 902-532-5129, (cell 955-0251) (MC)

Susan Rolston, Seawinds Cons./BoFEP, seawindscs@eastlink.ca, 902-823-2191. (MC tempt.)

Bronte Thomas, Peskotomuhkati, nomehs@qonaskamkuk.com, 506-440-0452. (MC)

Peter Wells, Dalh.Univ./IOI/BoFEP, Oceans2@ns.sympatico.ca, 902-237-0600 cell/home 902-477-3674. (MC)

(\*Note that some persons are alternates)

**MC Committee 2021-2022**

Chair – Peter Wells

Vice-Chair – Sandra Currie

Past Chair- open

Treasurer – Susan Rolston (temporary) [MAJOR PRIORITY IS FINDING A REPLACEMENT]

Secretariat- Bronte Thomas

Directors (4) – Hugh Akagi, Joshua McNeely, Joseph Kerekes, [ONE POSITION OPEN]

Member, ex-officio – Jon Percy

NOTE: WE DID NOT HEAR FROM SEVERAL PREVIOUS SC MEMBERS. THEY NEED TO BE RECONTACTED, TOLD OF THEIR STATUS, AND INVITED TO JOIN THE SC NEXT YEAR, OR AT THE NEXT SC MEETING, IF INTERESTED. I (PGW) also assumed Joe K and M. Janowicz wished to remain on the SC; this needs confirmation. We now have an SC of 20 people, two being alternates, so we have room for several more people, but only those who wish to contribute in meaningful ways to the organization.

Note: I (PGW) have subsequently heard from Dr. Joe Kerekes and he wishes to remain on the SC, but not on the MC. That leaves two vacancies for members at large.