

Ellen's Creek Watershed Group
Committee Room, West Royalty Community Centre
Monday, November 14th, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Emma Doucette (Watershed Coordinator), Isabel Correa (Intern), Doug Miller (Treasurer), David Kidd, Barry Maze (Webmaster; acting Chairperson), Betty Pryor, Norman Dewar

- 1) **Call to Order** – Barry Maze called the meeting to order.
- 2) **Approval of Agenda with Any Additions** – The Agenda was approved with no additions.
- 3) **Financial Report** – Doug Miller reported that finances are in order.
- 4) **Update – Emma Doucette, ECWG Watershed Coordinator & Norman Dewar** – Emma Doucette gave a summary of field activities that took place between June and November 2022.
- 5) **New Business**
 - Emma Doucette informed the board that an environmental consultant working on the Hidden Valley subdivision development had been in contact with ECWG regarding potential opportunities for collaboration in 2023 involving tree planting and trail building activities.
 - The Board collectively agreed this would be a good opportunity for community engagement and education.
 - David Kidd and Norman Dewar raised the subject of amending ECWG bylaws to account for the updated geographic boundaries of the watershed (as per the expansion that took place in 2020); the purpose of amending the bylaws would be to appoint new voting members, who reside in these areas, to the ECWG Board.
 - It was determined that more clarification on bylaw amendment processes is required before moving forward.
 - Doug Miller raised the question of damage to the watershed as a result of post-tropical storm Fiona in September.
 - Emma Doucette reported that, based on current assessments, no major damage has been found with the exception of downed trees. If damage is found at a later date, Emma Doucette will notify the ECWG Board for further advice.
 - Barry Maze put forward a motion to approve a list of ECWG Coordinator duties written by Emma Doucette. David Kidd seconded the motion. The ECWG Board unanimously voted in favour of the motion.
- 6) **Plans for the Future**
 - Emma Doucette put forward the idea that the 2023 field crew, in addition to regular stream work activities, place more emphasis on community education and engagement activities.

- Betty Pryor suggested ideas such as community tree planting, stream walks, and other similar events as potential ways to enhance community engagement.
- Doug Miller suggested educational campaigns focusing on riparian zone regulations targeted at landowners within riparian areas.
- As per Doug Miller's recommendation, Emma Doucette agreed to confirm with the PEI Watershed Alliance that trees from the provincial forestry nursery will be available to ECWG next year as demand rises in the wake of post-tropical storm Fiona.
- Emma Doucette will contact the landowner of ECWG's annual electrofishing site to determine if major storm damage occurred there and if ECWG can be of assistance in restoring the site.
- As per Norman Dewars recommendation, Emma Doucette will look into various funding programs and report back to the Board with findings when possible.
- Barry Maze put forward the idea of inviting a guest speaker to the ECWG AGM in early 2023 which received positive feedback from all present.
- Norman Dewar suggested a brainstorming session for 2023 ECWG projects be organized for in December with representatives from the City of Charlottetown and PEI Watershed Alliance, in addition to the ECWG Board. This idea received positive feedback and Emma Doucette agreed to reach out to potential representatives to gauge interest and availability.

7) **Adjournment/Next Meeting Date** – Next meeting on January 5th 2023, AGM in March 2023 – date TBD. Barry Maze adjourned the meeting at 8:07

Submitted by Emma Doucette, Watershed Coordinator