

Columbia Lake Stewardship Society Meeting Notes

Date: March 28, 2016

Attendance:

Tracy Flynn	C	Ed Gillmor		Donna Wunderlich	R
Denise Lemaster, LWA Vice-president	G	Ken Croasdale		Wendy Booth, RDEK	G
Mrs. Rose Lemaster	G	Anne Murphy			
Tom Dance		Donna Rae		C- Chair, R-Recorder, G-Guest	
Harold Pfeiffer	G	Cathy Coombe			

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Recommended & Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start of Water Quality Monitoring 	<p>Date of ice off for 2015/16 was March 5, 2016 with first sampling on March 20, 2016. One sampling event was done thru ice over winter season on January 11th.</p>	<p>information</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Columbia Valley Economic Service fund: Monies are contributed to this fund by Invermere, Canal Flats and area F. CVESF provided 10,000 to LWA for operating expenses. Wendy Booth suggested that there may be an opportunity to request monies for CLSS in the future. Columbia Basin Watershed Network: An opportunity for funding re: Geo-mapping may be available. This would enable quantification and determination of changes over time. Only four projects will be considered for funding this year. The submission deadline is April 18th. Bill will apply for funding and is looking for anyone able to assist in submission. CVLCF: Tracy submitted a request for \$3800. \$2800 was granted. (a portion of our submission was not funded...part of our learning...as our request for open house prizes and refreshments was not covered) Columbia Basin Trust: Wendy provided background and details regarding the CBT submission and review process. Wendy also confirmed that she has requested the posting of 10kmph signage at each end of the lake. Tracy indicated that we submitted a request under the CBT- Community Initiative's program for \$1800 for a 2½ day watershed education program. Funds would cover the program coordinator fee, materials and field trip transportation. A funding request to the CBT Community Initiative's program has also been submitted for a "river rafting infrastructure and education project". The ask is for \$21,900 for picnic tables, garbage cans, toilets and signage at put in and take out locations as well as brochure printing. A verbal presentation to CBT is required on April 5th for both projects. 	<p>Tracy and Bill</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canal Flats Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided by Tracy on behalf of Marie Delorme. Canal Flats will proceed with the hiring of its own summer student. They declined the request to co-hire an additional student with CLSS. The CLSS hopes to provide training to the student(s) (through partnership with the East Kootenay Invasive Plants Council and the MOE Invasive Species program) in invasive species detection, monitoring and education. As stewards of the only public boat launch on CL, Canal Flats staff are instrumental in prevention of invasive species introduction to the lake. • Our grant request of \$500 is still sitting with the Canal Flats Council for decision. • A community workshop regarding Tilley memorial park planning was held in March. An open house is scheduled for April 6th to present outcomes of workshop. Discussions included marina (area shallow), increased launching, covered community gathering area, full service washrooms, etc. any changes to shoreline will need to go thru environmental assessment. User fee item was also brought up. (Wendy indicated that south area F residents (Coys and south) no longer pay taxes to Flats. Pay, instead to the valley amalgamated recreation.) • Signage - CF's council agreed to post the CL information sign recently produced by CLSS at Tilley Memorial park • The council is considering zoning changes to allow for private and community docks in the Eagles nest and Painted Ridge areas - New WR-3 and WR-4 zones. CLSS is concerned about ambiguity in the proposed bylaw wording that could potentially allow overnight moorage to buoys in WR1 zone, lack of consistency with RDEK zoning designations, lack of protection to the WMA the covers most of the S end of the lake (currently designated WR-1), WR-2 zone on the SW corner of the lake that is in close proximity or within the WMA (allows recreational docks, launching ramps, swimming raft, recreational water activities etc.), wording that allows non-conforming structures to remain, the potential for renting of spaces on community docks to non-community members, and unclear wording re dock specifications in WR-3 and WR-4 zones. The addition of the WR-3 and WR-4 zones will potentially increase overnight boat moorage on CL by 35-40 boats. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairmont Community and Provincial Park update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fairmont official community plan being updated. Tracy/Donna attended first meeting and sees an opportunity to embed watershed governance and shoreline/environmentally sensitive areas protection into policy as well as recognition of CLSS and clarity/conformity of lake zoning. The proposed OCP area has expanded to include Whiteswan and Whitetail lakes, increasing the plan area substantially. The next meeting re OCP will be held in April or May. • Provincial Park planning is now being led by Rob MacDonald. Parks is exploring 4 options - do nothing; eliminating vehicle access beyond Warspite Creek and having a walking trail to lake; vehicle access to parking lot 150 m from beach; or vehicle access to turnaround/drop off area near beach with parking at main road. First Nations impact (archeological) discussions are occurring. None of these options have direct lake access by vehicle for boat launching. 	Tracy/All
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016 AGMs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring AGMs have been scheduled. A discussion on what to share at AGM meetings is presently underway by email. Considerations include update on aquatic plant testing- not invasive milfoil- along with information on how to mitigate spread, that it is illegal to cut/dig/remove. All agreed that Anne's powerpoint with photos of the plant sample gathering would be interesting to share. All are highly encouraged to share creative ideas with Tracy. 	Tracy/All
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLSS newsletter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne agreed to work with Tracy on the production of a CLSS newsletter, using the Columere Community newsletter as a sample. 	Ann/Tracy

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four copies of our lake map have been produced by Invermere sign artists. Donna Rae is working with a local manufacturer to build durable metal stands. The signs will be positioned at Columere, Spirits Reach, Columbia Ridge and Canal Flats 	Donna/Tracy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLSS Sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion regarding sustainability of group/work of CLSS occurred. It is exciting to have Tom and Ed, with their technical background, joining our group. Bill and many others have contributed significant hours of work to support our mission. Tracy officially requested Executive assistance in the form of Treasurer. If anyone is interested and able to take on this take or knows someone who might be interested, please connect with Tracy as soon as able. 	Everyone!!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The balance sheet and income statement were shared and are available for distribution upon request and is appended to the minutes. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LWA update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A water quality sampling demo day will be scheduled in May for LWA and CLSS board members who are interested. Discussion re watershed governance and collaboration pro's and cons. 	Donna/Tracy

Upcoming additional events

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake Keepers Workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will run Thursday May 12th full day and Friday May 13th, ½ day. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizen Science and Beyond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday may 11th at noon 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wings over the Rockies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crazy about Columbia Lake- Tuesday May 10th. CLSS will tour the lake and lead a discussion about the current condition and the various pressures the lake is faced with. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next Meeting 	TBA- following Spring Community AGM meetings	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjournment 	Meeting adjourned with enjoyment of muffins compliments of Tom	