

# Medway River Salmon Association

*www.medwayriversalmonassociation.org*

**Time of Meeting:** 7:00pm

**Date of Meeting:** 10 October 2017  
**Location of Meeting:** Mill Village Fire Hall

**Representing:** Medway River and Environs

**Quorum Requirements:** 15

**Attendance:** 10

**Exec:** Michael Fralic, President  
 Mitchell Alexander, Vice President  
 Reg Rafuse, Treasurer  
 Jo-Ann Holden, Secretary

**Guest:**      **Regrets:**

Items Recorded	(I)nformation (A)ction (D)ecision (C)omplete	Person or Group Responsible and Date
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>		
<p>1.      <b>The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Michael Fralic.</b></p> <p>2.      <b>Minutes from 29 April 2017 were reviewed and approved.</b></p>		
<b>3.      OLD BUSINESS</b>		
dd/mm/yy-item #		
27.05.14-15	<p>Michael F. will head a membership drive for the association and he will resurrect the Newsletter (or a facsimile) of the newsletter Darrell had edited and forwarded to members.</p> <p><b>Update 18 Nov.'14:</b> Bring forward January 2015</p> <p><b>Update 20 Jan. '15:</b> When time is available to Michael he will pursue this project.</p> <p><b>Update 26 May 15:</b> Work in progress</p> <p><b>Update 3 November 15:</b> Work in progress</p> <p><b>Update 26 January 16:</b> Michael will follow up with Bob Shortt regarding the Margaree newsletter/website.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Work in progress. Dell and Ronnie will provide Michael with pictures for a newsletter when up and going.</p> <p><b>Update 20 December 16:</b> Mike working on newsletter for the Advance, re. New members, MRSA activities, etc.</p> <p><b>Update 31 January 17:</b> Mike will have an article placed in the Advance in February or March.</p> <p><b>Update 26 April 17:</b> Article still in the editing stage.</p> <p><b>Update 10 October 17:</b> Deferred to next meeting. Nothing new to report</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Michael</p>

Items Recorded		(Information (A)ction (D)ecision (C)omplete	Person or Group Responsible and Date
03.11.15-09	<p><b>Learn to Fish:</b> NS Fisheries and Aquaculture is interested in the 'learn to fish' program. Horace will coordinate a 'one-day event' working with the Jr. High School students. Andrew Lowles and Alan McNeill will be kept in the loop.</p> <p><b>Update 26 January 2016:</b> Horace will be in touch with Andrew Lowles and Alan McNeill.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Horace unavailable for meeting; therefore, no update.</p> <p><b>Update 20 December 16:</b> Horace unavailable for meeting; therefore, no update.</p> <p><b>Update 31 January 17:</b> Horace unavailable for the meeting; therefore, no update.</p> <p><b>Update 26 April 17:</b> Horace unavailable for the meeting; therefore, no update.</p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> No update. Will leave on minutes until the AGM.</p>	A	Horace
26.01.16-03	<p><b>Fundraising Committee Report</b> – Plans are underway for the Annual Turkey Dinner – 1 May, Charleston Fire Hall. The bottle drive is ongoing. If you have bottles you would like to donate get in touch with Cindy or Raymond. <b>Horace will make application for the Lottery Permit:</b> 1<sup>st</sup> prize the canoe, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize the Peter Gough print.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Lottery has been put on hold for now. MRSA is prepared to sell canoe outright. See item 18.11.14-15.</p> <p>Due to a conflict with the Charleston Fire Hall MRSA was unable to move forward with the Annual Dinner. The dinner has been rescheduled, tentatively, 25 September. Look for an email in the future regarding the dinner.</p> <p><b>Update 20 December 16:</b> As indicated in item 18.11.14-15 the canoe has been raffled! Dinner was postponed until further notice. September date did not work for those involved in the coordination. A new date will be established during the AGM in January.</p> <p><b>Update 31 January 17:</b> The date agreed upon for the Annual Dinner is <b>7 May 2017, Charleston Fire Hall. PLEASE PLAN TO ASSIST CINDY IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE!</b></p> <p><b>Update 26 April 17:</b> MRSA will host the Annual Fundraiser Dinner in the Fall. Date pending. Will keep you posted.</p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> Due to current balance sheet members decided to forgo the 'annual' dinner.</p>	C	

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26.01.16-12	<p><b>McGowan Fish Hatchery</b> needs to be expanded. Moved and seconded, 'A letter is to be written to NS Dept. Of Fisheries, Inland Division, to express the need for more containment for hatching and growing trout at McGowan's.' Michael and Horace will put points to paper and forward to the Minister.</p> <p><b>Update 31 May 16:</b> Michael has drafted a letter to NS Inland Fisheries in support of an expansion to McGowan Fish Hatchery.</p> <p><b>Update 20 December 16:</b> Mike sent a letter to Keith Colwell and is awaiting a reply. The letter included an invitation to join Michael on the river for a day of fishing, as well as MRSA's expression of support for the growth of McGowan's. Further discussed was the need for policing poachers, and potential fencing at the hatchery.</p> <p><b>Update 31 January 17:</b> MRSA received a response from Keith Colwell, Minister NS Fisheries and Aquaculture, regarding the angling potential on the Medway and the role of the provincial hatcheries. Keith suggests a meeting with the Inland Fisheries Division staff, in late winter, to further discuss ideas. Darryl Murrant, Manager of Enhancement is to contact Michael to arrange a meeting.</p> <p>Keith is interested in enjoying a day of fishing on the Medway. Michael and Ronnie will avail themselves to Keith.</p> <p><b>Update 26 April 17:</b> Darryl has not contacted Michael; therefore, Michael will contact Darryl.</p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> Michael received letter of 'thanks' from Keith Colwell for the support MRSA expressed in regards to an expansion at McGowan Fish Hatchery.</p> <p>Darryl Murrant and Michael have not communicated to discuss 'the angling potential on the Medway' or 'the role of the provincial hatcheries.'</p>	A	Michael
31.05.16-02	<p><b>Action Required from Environmental Committee Report –</b> Fish were released from the Charleston hatchery into Wentworth and Salter's Brooks. Some trout were able to free themselves from the incubation boxes and found a home in the waterway around the hatchery; otherwise, minimal loss was sustained. Fish have been released from 3 schools involved in the Fish Friend program. The Jr. High is the only remaining school to release the fish. Ronnie received a card from Greenfield School thanking him, Dell and the Association for the program. The Fish Friend program will continue next year. Eggs will be ordered again this fall for the hatchery. There is enough room to increase the number of eggs at the hatchery by installing 3 more incubators, each having 3 layers within the incubator.</p> <p>DFO have slated a meeting for 7 June in Truro. Ronnie was invited to speak on the Fish Friend program. He has indicated that there is a small chance he may attend but it is very unlikely.</p> <p><b>Ronnie will coordinate a meeting with the Environmental Committee. One agenda item will be the erection of signage/posters along Medway to identify fishing locations by names.</b></p> <p><b>Update 20 December 16:</b> Discussion on the installation of signage/posters was deferred until after the General Meeting in January.</p> <p><b>Update 26 April 17:</b> item will be reviewed at the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> MRSA has decided not to pursue this any further.</p>	C	

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20.12.16-06	<p><b>Facebook.</b> Mitchell Alexander will review MRSA's facebook page to see how it may be further promoted. Mitchell may want to start with Horace for information. Jay and Horace were instrumental in creating the FB page.</p> <p><b>Update 31 January 17:</b> Mitchell unavailable for the meeting.</p> <p><b>Update 26 April 17:</b> Mitchell unavailable for the meeting.</p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> No Update</p>	A	Mitchell
31.01.17-06	<p><b>Lime</b> – the pH has not been tested at the Charleston Hatchery. Mike McNeil from McGowan's Hatchery will be contacted regarding lime.</p> <p><b>Update 26 April 17:</b> Michael will collect the pH equipment from Brian Dulude. <b><u>See new business 26.01.17-12 regarding lime.</u></b></p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> Michael will email Brian Dulude regarding the equipment. Ronnie has a set of walkie talkies that belong to MRSA. Ronnie will continue to store the walkie talkies.</p>	A	Michael
26.04.17-08	<p>Brian Holden and Dell Nauss will attend the Western Region Crown Land (formerly Mersey Woodlands Advisory Committee) Stakeholder meeting 24 May 2017 at McGowan's Lake.</p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> Brian attended the stakeholder meeting and prepared a brief for the MRSA meeting.</p> <p>Jo-Ann received an email from George Morrison, who has been a rep. on the committee. George noted "It would be much better for you to have a member who is able to attend both (MRSA and WSIC) on a regular basis. I would support a new member for the WSIC."</p>	C	
26.04.17-09	<p>Clean up River Rd. – 4 June 2017, Sunday at 9:00. BBQ to follow. Clean up will cover the area from Charleston Fire Hall to Dean's Brook....depending on the turnout of workers.</p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> Jo-Ann prepared an article and submitted same to Adopt-A-Highway and to Bernie for posting to the web. She also forwarded a 'Renewal Notice for the Nova Scotia Adopt-A-Highway Program' for the period from 3 August 2017 to 3 August 2020.</p>	C	
26.04.17-12	<p>Michael proposed that the association restart a liming project. Lime will be distributed at a number of salmon spawning areas along the Medway. Michael will start the leg work involved for the project, ie. obtaining permits, type of lime required, purchase of lime, storage of lime, distribution of lime, time line for installation of lime, etc. Estimation of length of time required to complete the project is 6-8 months. Once Michael has collected the information required he will arrange an Environmental Committee meeting to put the plans in action.</p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> Rob Harlow has indicated to Michael that 4/5 truck loads of lime are available to MRSA. The lime has been stored for a number of years and it is time to relocate it to sites decided by MRSA. Michael will inquire as to whether Harlow Construction will deliver. Michael will contact Mike McNeil, McGowan's, regarding required permits.</p> <p>Before any lime goes into the watershed, adjacent water is to have pH tested</p>	A	Michael

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26.04.17-13	<p>Dell and Raymond have presented a project to the membership. They propose that a 'pond' on the lands of Raymond's brother be equipped with trout, trout food and netting to encourage to growth of trout, which will then be released into the Medway. These trout will be purchased (or donated) from McGown's Hatchery and be allowed to grow to a reasonable size before release. The pond has a flow of water in and out of the contained area and seems a good spot for such a project. The netting will be used at the intake and outflow of water. Dell and Raymond will be the go to people and caretakers of the pond. Ronnie has volunteered to approach Mike MacNeil, at McGowans for info regarding the trout.</p> <p><b>Update 10 Oct 17:</b> Ronnie discussed this item with Mike, McGowan's, Mike advised against any further investigation into this due to the potential for disease.</p>	C	
<b>4. NEW BUSINESS</b>			
dd/mm/yy-item#			
10.10.17-01	<b>Treasurers Report</b> – Treasurers report was distributed and approved by membership. \$16,274.35	I	
10.10.17-02	<p><b>Environmental Committee Report</b> – Ronnie will coordinate the 'adipose fin' clipping at McGowans with members from MRSA once Mike MacNeil has established the date that Inland Fisheries will be working on this project. Ronnie will discuss the availability of fish for the Charleston Hatchery and the Fish Friends School Projects with Mike at McGowan's. He will keep Michael F. in the loop.</p> <p>To date there are no environment meetings scheduled. If an idea presents itself to Ronnie he will then get in touch with the Enviro. Committee. The lime project mentioned, Item 26.04.17-12, will be coordinated through the Enviro. Committee.</p>	A	Ronnie
10.10.17-03	<b>Fundraising Committee Report</b> – As mentioned in Item 26.01.16-03 Due to current balance sheet members decided to forgo the 'annual' dinner.	I	
10.10.17-04	<b>Social Committee Report</b> – Brian Dulude's notice regarding 'dates to Tie Flies' was handed out to all members present.	I	
10.10.17-05	<b>President's Report</b> – Issues as indicated in minutes.	I	

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10.10.17-06	<p>August 22, 2017 Robert Sopuck, MP in Manitoba, had penned a letter 'Time for Action on the Atlantic Salmon' According to Michael, atho interesting, the question remains, 'what action?' The report of the Standing Committee and Fisheries and Oceans regarding the Wild Atlantic Salmon in Eastern Canada was presented to the House on 30 January 2017. The Government response was presented to the House 30 May 2017. You can find the 'Government Response to the Fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans' on line. I will quote one paragraph:</p> <p><i>"In order to protect fish habitat and promote conservation, including the conservation of Atlantic salmon habitat, Budget 2017 is investing \$43.8 million over five years to protect Canada's marine and freshwater ecosystems by preventing the introduction of aquatic invasive species. These investments will help advance and complement DFO's efforts currently underway on the committee's recommendations, such as: initiatives to control non-native species, including smallmouth bass in Miramichi Lake; and a review of the Recreational Fishery Conservation partership Program."</i></p> <p>It is an interesting read!</p>	I	
10.10.17-07	Students for the Greenfield School had written a letter to the Dept. Of Environment regarding the sludge from Freeman's Lumber mill seeping into the Medway River. Michael will follow up with Dawn Uhlman, Principal of Greenfield School for further information. The students should be commended for taking action regarding their concerns.	A	Michael
10.10.17-08	Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation is accepting proposals to the 2018 application process. With no active project ongoing MRSA will not participate in presenting a proposal.	I	
10.10.17-09	An email was received, from St. Mary's University, regarding a Community-Based Environmental Monitoring Network. The email was handed over to Michael. He will follow up with the sender.	A	Michael
10.10.17-10	Bass were tagged during the summer/fall in Ponhook. If a tagged Bass is caught please follow procedure and record as required.	I	Fisherpersons
10.10.17-11	Dell will purchase a tarp and cover the existing lime on site at the Charleston Fire Hall.	A	Dell
	<b><i>Election of officers 24 January 2018!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</i></b>		
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	<b>PROJECTS OF INTEREST TO MRSA</b>		

	<b>Southern Upland Collaborative Project:</b>		Bev Davison
	<b>Clean Water Symposium:</b>		Bev Davison
	<b>Wild Salmon Unlimited:</b>		Michael Fralic
	<b>Western Region Crown Land Stakeholders: (formerly Mersey Woodlands Advisory Committee)</b>		Brian Holden
<b>5.</b>	<b>The next meeting to be at 7:00 pm 24 January 2018.</b>		
<b>6.</b>	On a motion the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm		

Jo-Ann Holden  
 MRSA Members  
 Lewis Hinks, ASF @lhinks@asf.ca  
 Rene Aucoin, NSSA @ nssasalmon@gmail.com