

MSA 2021 AGM,
October 8, 2021 ,7pm, Saint Patrick's Hall
Covid Health Measures In Place

[\(social distancing and masks were worn. Also proof of double vaccination was required\)](#)

Attendees: (Pre-registration required with name, address, and phone number for contact tracing)

John Stinson, Greg Lovely, Joel Robinson, Pat Wall, Alex Breckenridge, Kay Robertson, Bill Haley, Patrick Poirier, Julia Marie Campbell, Wayne Cleveland, Jack Aikens, Eugene LeBlanc, Keith Christmas, Jean Haley, Lloyd Withers, Lester Wood, John Hart, Conor Demone, Sean Dacey

Regrets: *Peter Mancini, Paul MacNeil, Patrick Mahoney (Proxy vote provided to Kay Robertson), Mark Ernst (Proxy vote provided to Greg Lovely), Robert MacAulay, Kyle Denny, Eddie Hillman, Rod Bird, Mike Crosby, Jefe Legge*

Agenda

-Call to order and MSA President's address: Bill Haley brought the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Bill started the meeting reminding us that we are on unceded land of the Mi'kmaq people here in Cape Breton. There was then a moment of silence for those who have passed in the last year.

Bill then told the membership that both Wendy MacEachern and Joe Googoo have resigned from the MSA Board and thanked them for their years of dedicated service.

Bill informed the members that this had been a very busy year for the MSA Habitat Remediation Crew, who had planted thousands of trees, installed temperature loggers, (Hobos), and repaired and/or installed more than 100 structures in tributaries of the Margaree river, (15 new ones in Captain Allen's Brook alone). Bill thanked the crew for their hard work.

Archie Gillis, (Supervisor), Emmitt Dailey, Peter Poirier and Donald Fortune will all be returning next year.

Erin Gillis had to leave her position due to family issues but moved on to teaching and Leah Burns worked for MSA again this year. Mary MacNeil has now been hired until next April. She will be working on Amy Weston's Gulf Priority Rivers project along with other things.

Bill also told the membership that many maple seeds have been gathered this year for future riparian zone planting in the Margaree river watershed.

He also informed the membership that the marked kelt recapture carried out this Spring was a huge success and that DFO will have a lot of useful data to work with to help estimate the numbers of adult salmon returning to the Margaree river.

-Adopting of the minutes of the 2020 MSA: motion, (Greg) second, (Joel)

Before the minutes were accepted, Kay Robertson wished to have some concerns reflected in the minutes from last year's meeting.

#1. In Kay's opinion, there was an error during voting for new Board members. There was a call for nominations from the floor for Officers (Executive positions), she felt, but there never was a call for nominations for Directors.

#2. That the minutes reflect her frustration with communicating with and being heard by the MSA Board about some of her concerns.

These concerns were noted and Greg Lovely, (MSA Secretary) will make these changes to last year's AGM meeting minutes.

There was a new motion made by Lester Wood, seconded by Pat Wall that the amended minutes be accepted.....mc

-Adopting of the minutes of any Special meetings: There were no special meetings in 2021.

-Business arising from the minutes: There was no business arising from last year's minutes.

-Bylaw Committee

Two proposed changes to bylaw 16 and 19 are below:

Present Bylaw 16

16 (a) The Officers and Directors, as named in Article 13, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Association, shall take office immediately following the Annual Meeting and shall hold office for a three-year period.

(b) No Director shall hold the same position for more than two consecutive terms, (6 years).

(c) A Director may leave the Board or hold a different elected position for one year and then return to the Board in the Prior elected position.

Proposed Amendment

16 (a) The Officers and Directors as named in Article 13 shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Association, shall take office immediately following the Annual Meeting and shall hold office for a three-year period. No person may become an Officer of the Association unless that person has served as a Director of the Association for the duration of the preceding fiscal year.

(b) No Director shall hold the same Executive Office position for more than two consecutive terms, (6 years).

(c) An Executive Officer may leave the Board, be a Director at large or hold a different elected position for one year and then be elected to his/her Prior elected position.

(d) A Director at large may serve on the Board for as many consecutive terms as the members wish to elect him/her.

Present Bylaw 19:

19: Any vacancy in the governing body including the Officers may be filled through appointment by the Board of Directors, such appointee to hold office for the unexpired term of the predecessor.

Proposed Amendment:

Any vacancy in the governing body including the Officers may be filled through appointment by the Board of Directors, said appointee to hold office for the unexpired term of the predecessor. If the vacant position was not occupied by a predecessor, a three-year term will commence on the date of the most recent Annual General Meeting.

Before a motion was accepted, many members wished to discuss concerns they had with the Bylaw changes.

Lester Wood suggested that, for simplicity, all terms be the same for both Directors and Officers, (executive): that they both be limited to serving 2 three-year terms only.

Discussion ensued. Haley commenting it was sometimes difficult to find any person willing to stand. Stinson agreed and commented that 'corporate memory' can be impacted but he agreed it could be looked into for further bylaw changes.

On the same issue, Joel Robinson commented that he strongly felt that the position of Treasurer was an unique position and should not be limited to the 2 consecutive 3 year term maximum rule. He suggested strongly that if the treasure was doing a good job, that he or she should be able to stay on as long as they were voted back in. John Hart commented that, in the past, a person had been 'named' Treasurer however the 'normal' Treasurer who had been doing the job continued in that role. Stinson agreed that he had heard that this was done but it was really contravening the bylaws. He suggested, if that were to happen, changing the bylaw should be considered rather than contravening it.

Lester Wood also had some wording changes he wished to have changed before any voting began. These changes were agreed to and made.

Keith Christmas suggested that a Special Meeting be called to review the MSA Bylaws.

Motion that these bylaw changes be made, moved by Stinson, seconded by Paddy..... mc.

-Receiving and adopting the Treasurer's Financial statement and Auditors report: motion that these financial statements be accepted. (John Stinson), second (Joel)

Lester Wood wished to have the investments of the two firms be listed as "Book value" and, at John's request, offered to look at this for John. He is also interested in looking at the changes to MSA'S investment policies made this year. He suggested, due to the Covid induced meltdown experienced in March of 2020 that MSA invest in the least risky ventures, in a word, Blue Chips. John was quite amenable to showing Lester the stocks we were in, almost entirely Blue Chip with dividends. For that matter, the Scotia Wealth investments, which are more into mutual funds than individual stocks, are invested in virtually the same companies.

After Lester's concerns were heard, the membership voted, and the motion was carried.

-Report from the Margaree Fish Hatchery: Greg reported that the Margaree fish hatchery has gathered all required brood stock for the Margaree and Baddeck rivers this year. There is not enough water and fish in the Middle and Mabou rivers at present to proceed with brood stock collection. Adipose fin clipping has begun for parr to be released back to the Middle and Baddeck rivers. In 2021, approximately 60,000 smolt and 100,000 parr were released back to the Margaree river and 25,000 parr into both the Middle and Baddeck. No juveniles were reared for either of the Grahams or Mabou rivers.

-Report from other affiliates: Conor Demone from the Nova Scotia Salmon Association, (NSSA), presented the NSSA Affiliate of the year Award to the Margaree Salmon Association. Conor told the assembled members that NSSA was very impressed with the work being performed by our association

-Report of the Resolutions Committee and call for adoption of each resolution: Bill informed the MSA membership that a resolution brought forward by a member was turned down by the Resolutions Committee, therefore not brought forward to tonight's AGM. A detailed note has been sent to the member explaining why the suggestion was not brought forward.

-Reports of other committees: Bill had pretty much covered everything in his opening remarks.

-Receiving the report of the Nominating committee and call for further nominations from the floor, (3 times). Bill informed the membership that 5 MSA Directors have offered to put their names forward to serve another 3 year term: Wayne Cleveland, Joel Robinson ,Keith Christmas, Rod Bird and Peter Mancini. As well, Patrick Poirier has been nominated and has accepted for the position of second Vice President. Finally, 2 new nominees have accepted their names be put forward, Julia Marie Campbell and Kyle Denny.

Bill called three times for any further nominations from the floor for Directors. There were none. Bill then called three times for any further nominations from the floor for the second VP position. There were none.

Pat Wall made a motion that nominations cease and that the names put forward stand, seconded by Stinson... mc

-Election of Directors: All nominees were unanimously elected.

-New Business: Bill told the membership about next year's proposed tagging program during the marked kelt recapture study. He also mentioned that DFO hopes to install both a counting fence and a smolt wheel in 2022.

John Hart wondered if resolutions not passed by the MSA Resolutions Committee could be shared with the membership in Newsletters.

It was pointed out that, as far as the warm water protocol went, a meeting was held at the beginning of the year with representatives from UINR, ASF, NSSA, Inland Fisheries, MSA, DFO Science, DFO management and DFO C&P and all had agreed there was no need to change any part of the protocol at this time.

John Hart also noted that the Red Bank Pool has lost 70% of its flow.

Adjournment (Pat Wall)

MARGAREE SALMON ASSOCIATION

FINANCIALS, APRIL 1/20 TO MARCH 31/21

Year dominated by COVID restrictions

INCOME			EXPENSES		
Donations		2344.77	Admin		13,224.64
Grants	- AAS20	15,000.00	Habitat	AS Expenses	4,646.68
	- ASCF20	13,500.00		Salaries, Etc.	85,564
	- Berm, County	4,000.00	Fundraising Exp		3422.96
	- NSSAJointProject	11,040.00	Director's Exp		705
	- Summer Works	3,982.00	Gifts/Donations		9000
Fundraising		0.00	Projects	Assessibility	593.4
HST Rebate		11,277.55		Mapping	430.7
Interest Inc		96.93		Riparian Exp	547.86
Membership		4,940.00		Sanctuary	1,440.15
Merch Sales		1,112.16		World River Day	503.76
		67293.41			120,079.15
			Expenses over Incom	\$52,885.74	

NOTE 1 **INVESTMENTS** No monies were transferred out of either investments for use this fiscal year.
Expense over income deficit was covered by monies taken from HISA account ***

NOTE 2 **OFFICE RENT** In July 2019 a cheque for \$18,300 was made out to Cranton Crossroads Community Centre to prepay rent at \$300 a month until Dec. 2023

MARGAREE SALMON ASSOCIATION

Operating Equity at March 31/21

March 31/20

March 31/21

General	890.83	913.24
Project	1102.48	1096.6
HISA	117,487.69	64,584.61 ***
	119481	66594.45
	Difference in total	-52,885.74

US Acct.	1278.49	1342.2
----------	---------	--------

Investments	1,844,392	2,282,634
-------------	-----------	-----------

Accts Rec		Prepaid Rent	9,900
-----------	--	--------------	-------

Restricted Amount for Accessibility Project			2151
---	--	--	------

Signed

.....
John H Stinson, Treasurer

.....
Bill Haley, President

Date.....

Date.....