

NSEN Minutes – December 17, 2018:

Members called to order by Chair Chris White

Members Present

Chris White
Samantha Burns
Brittany Maguire
Emily Dodge
Megan MacLeod

Members Not Present

Adelaide Canning
Thomas Gregoire
Sheila Richardson
Victoria Byrne

Updates

1. Meeting with Margaret Miller & NS Environment on Nov 15
 - a. 5 member groups and 3 more sent in questions
 - b. Everyone seemed pleased
 - c. Some were following up with others in the department
 - d. Suggested to meet with department more than once a year – likely not happen
2. Talking Circle
 - a. Halifax concludes tomorrow
 - i. CCH fund had already closed
 - ii. Chris applied for a scholarship (750) and received it. Donating it to NSEN. Will cover Catherine's honorarium for last two circles. Tory donated money to cover cost of another of the talks
 - iii. Joanne and Kelly planning an expansion of TC to Cape Breton
 1. 4 in Sydney & 4 in rural areas
 2. Megan's organization gives up to 3,000 in grants for projects in certain areas (has certain stipulations)
 3. CEPI – Mi'kmaq led organization open to partnering on it
 - iv. TC at margin of NSEN's mandate and doesn't really benefit NSEN's members
 - b. Is NSEN the group to be doing this when we're low on resources?
 - c. Chris analyzed some survey results
 - i. Several people reported how interconnected they felt with environment, community, and indigenous people (from 20 – 80%)
 - ii. Go through rest of surveys once TC are completed

3. Finances
 - a. PayPal is working
 - b. Bookkeeper's reports don't make sense – Chris is meeting with Jennifer to verify things
 - c. Megan will be sending invoice
4. Membership
 - a. CASLE – closed, no longer an organization
 - b. Chris sent membership renewal notices out (using Mail Merge)
5. Claire Seaborn – senior advisor to Catherine McKenna
 - a. Emailed Chris to meet
 - b. Sheila Cole and Chris met with her
 - i. BP offshore drilling
 - ii. Funding
 - c. CS went to EAC to meet with them after
6. Call with other provincial and CA network
 - a. Sheila Cole has been doing them
 - b. Chris will be on call tomorrow
 - c. Will ask if others have found and funding, esp. core funding
7. Meeting with Geoff Mercer won't happen in 2018
8. Tidal Event
 - a. Extension for promotional material
 - b. 2 panelists confirmed: Darren Porter (fisher) and Dr. Graham Daborn (Acadia)
 - i. Paul McEachern (Marine Renewables Canada) tentatively confirmed, will confirm himself or a colleague by early Jan
 - ii. Melissa Oldreive (FORCE) considering and will get back soon
 - iii. Mike Wambolt (DFO) declined for now
 - iv. Steve Sanford (NS government) and Sana Kavanagh (Mi'kmaw Conservation Group) haven't responded yet
 - c. Boris Worm (Dalhousie) will moderate if he is available

Action Items

1. Approve minutes from Nov 5 board meeting
 - a. Emily moves to approve minutes, Brittany seconds, motion passes
2. Tidal Event
 - a. Need: Event title, description, and cover image
 - b. Chris sent out document with above
 - i. Board approved
 - c. Event structure
 - i. Avoid debate format
 - d. Plan survey, refreshments, other details in 2019
 - e. Promotions: Library will promote on website. NSEN can make Facebook event ourselves. Will promote through social media, newsletter. Connections to other organizations. Possibly of funds for posters.
 - i. Connect with NBEN – might be interested in it

3. Membership
 - a. Chris will need to check mailbox at Veith House
 - i. Will likely have to follow up with people in new year
 - ii. Board still has to do individual membership form and fee
 - iii. Have to update Joint Stocks
 - iv. Potentially new board member – will likely join next board meeting
 - v. Emma Bocking might be joining board
4. Website
 - a. Can post November minutes, remove agendas
 - b. Make membership form more obvious with the donate button so we have peoples' information
 - c. Can add minutes from meeting with NS Environment to website
5. Visioning
 - a. Jeana completed summary of visioning session
 - b. Everyone on board should review before next meeting (in January) so that it can be discussed
 - c. Project that NSEN could take on:
 - i. Regular webinars: pick a few member organizations to present at each one so organizations can connect and see what everyone is doing
 1. Could be themed ("Rivers," "Wilderness", etc.)
 - d. Talking Circles
 - i. Can decide in April where NSEN is and if we should move forward with it
 - ii. Takes up a lot of NSEN resources and doesn't serve NSEN members as well
6. Fundraising
 - a. Large networking event: Could fundraise for an event
 - i. In new year, identify grants that would support this
 - ii. Mobilize volunteers
 - iii. Truro possible location
 - iv. Discuss more in new year
 - v. Could we partner with a university? Dal's College of Sustainability? (Debra Ross) Involve student audience – could present research / projects in webinar (student project related to webinar theme; could present poster at event, etc.)
 - vi. Emily will look into grants that fund large networking events
 - vii. Potential grant from HRM to update website: Emily looking into it more
 - viii. Could NSEN partner with a charity
 - ix. TD Environment Grant seems likely to fund in consecutive years
7. New people
8. Chris will send out doodle poll in early January