

Communications Committee Meeting

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018; 9:30am – 11:00am

SEAWA Office, 41 – 419 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE, Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 0G9

Attending: Jennifer Lee (Observing), Marilou Montemayor, Diane Harty, Cathy Linowski, Natasha Rogers, Brooklyn Neubeker (Recording)

Regrets: Martha Munz-Gue, Jass Baidwan

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:30am by Cathy Linowski
2. Approval of agenda: Moved by Cathy Linowski, seconded by Diane Harty
3. Approval of previous meeting minutes: With changes to name spelling and details about who to contact added to action items table.  
Moved by Cathy Linowski, seconded by Diane Harty
4. Debriefing on Fall events: These events were discussed last meeting during planning, and no major changes to planning occurred so no need to discuss in detail.
5. a) Discussion of January Newsletter:
  - Topic proposed was “Importance of headwaters” with focus on mountain fed rivers from snow melt run off, some from glaciers, etc. Ice dams, potential damage, etc.b) Discussion of Communications Materials:
  - Info sheets to be completed:
    - a. Russian olive – include photos of recommended native species to plant instead of or replace Russian olive trees.
    - b. Water Quality info sheet.
6. Discussion of April 2019 Forum:
  - Topic : Water Management

- Advertising through newspaper no longer economical, costs too much for little results. Facebook may be worth keeping as it is not as expensive.
- Possible speakers and more to suggest later:
  - a. Judy Stewart– MGA and management of local wetlands and riparian lands.
  - b. Speaker on setback from riparian lands
  - c. etc

7. b) Inviting new committee members:

- Create posters.
- Send Terms of Reference for Communications Committee to those invited to the Communication Committee.

8. a) Youth Advisory Committee:

- Send to Cathy Linowski a “Youth Advisory Committee” poster that she can send to her students.
- Suggested that rather than reaching out to sports groups, SEAWA should reach out to groups like the girl scouts, boy scouts, 4-H, and the Junior Forest Wardens for volunteers as they often need volunteering for badges, and they already learn about climate issues and planting trees, etc.
- Discussion of Junior Forest Wardens and obtaining shrubs for SE Alberta, planting, and temporary watering systems.

b) World Water Day:

- Book now as library plans months in advance.
- Ask these organizations (HatSmart, Grasslands Naturalists, Praxis (Could they contact schools to have students do posters?), Council of Canadians, SEAWA, Cypress County, Aboriginal groups (Miwasin), Nehemiah Construction Ministries (potential speaker and table, drill wells in Africa), SMRID (if no table could they send information materials?), Water treatment plant (potential speaker and display? Contact Greg Paxman).
- Cathy’s students could do posters for WWD at MHC.
- Talk to Martha about other groups that provide healthy water to other countries.
- Get library to provide interesting and popular film about water.

- Contact people from Cinema Political, they show films at the library. Maybe they could take part in the planning. (Gary McFarlane, Dave Bahnmilller, David Gue).

Extra discussions not in agenda: Obtain Species at Risk poster from Ron Linowski for April forum. It was presented at a Species conservation forum and showed links to changes in climate and species decline.

Discussion of future planting of cottonwood trees – obtain male plants so that residents do not complain about cotton fluff clogging air vents and getting in yards.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 11:20 by Cathy Linowski.