

**Coast of Bays Coastal Planning Committee Meeting
Vancor Hotel, Head Bay D'Espoir
January 25, 2011**

Attendance:

Conrad Collier – COBC (Chair)
Steward May – Harbour Authorities
Amy Tucker – DFO
Ross Hinks – Conne River
Sigrid Kuehnemund – DFO
Brooks Pilgrim – DFO
Melissa Burke – DFA
Kevin Lawrence – FFAW
Roberta Collier – NAIA
Max Taylor – Recreational Boaters
Georgina Brushett – Milltown
Julia Jensen – Cooke Aquaculture

1. Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm followed by a roundtable of introductions. The Chair welcomed Georgina Brushett to the committee as a municipal representative, and Julia Jensen as the aquaculture industry representative.

2. Adoption of Agenda

With no new items added to the agenda, it was adopted on a motion by **Sigrid Kuehnemund/Steward May**.

3. Adoption of Minutes of February 24, 2010

The minutes of the February 24th agenda were adopted on a motion by **Max Taylor/Kevin Lawrence**.

4. Business Arising

Abandoned Mussel Sites

The Chair reported that he enquired with DFA and DFO about the status of abandoned mussel sites, but to date no status update has been provided. Steward May met with the Coast Guard about navigational aid lights and asked about lights around abandoned mussel sites. They said they would ask navigable waters to see what is going on with this. The issue needs more follow-up.

Oceans Conference

The Chair distributed the Coast of Bays Oceans Conference 2010 Report to those in attendance who did not already have a copy. The Conference was held in Harbour Breton on April 14th and 15th and was a great success. The Report includes copies of the presentations that were given, as well as short biographies of the presenters and a synopsis of their presentations.

New Fisheries and Aquaculture Committee

A new fisheries and aquaculture committee has been formed in the Coast of Bays region to allow both sectors the opportunity to communicate with each other. It will be a forum for both sectors to discuss their concerns openly. Mildred Skinner brought up the idea for a committee such as this at the Oceans Conference in April. The chair of the COBCPC is glad to see that this initiative is happening. The committee has shared members with the COBCPC, so they are indirectly connected.

5. Presentation - Integrated Coastal Planning: Strengthening our Communities; Protecting our Ocean Resources

Conrad Collier provided a presentation on coastal planning in the Coast of Bays region. An overview was provided on the region and its key economic activities, while a definition of coastal planning and how it fits into the region was also discussed. Conrad also discussed achievements of the committee to date, and asked committee members to think about their role in the committee and how they would like it to move forward.

6. Presentation - The Laurentian Channel Area of Interest Marine Protected Areas Program

Sigrid Kuehnemund (Section Head – Integrated Management, DFO) provided a presentation on the Laurentian Channel AOI for an MPA off the coast of NL. An overview was provided on what an *Oceans Act* MPA is, and how they are developed and designated. The Laurentian Channel was described, providing examples of activities that happen within it and the reasons it was chosen as an AOI. Next steps for the following year were also discussed.

7. Presentation - Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in the Newfoundland and Labrador Region

Brooks Pilgrim (Policy and Economics, DFO) provided a presentation on AIS in the province. An overview was provided on what AIS are and possible ways they can get to NL. Monitoring and surveying in the province was discussed, and well as what kind of AIS have been found during these activities. Ways that DFO has tried to mitigate some AIS was described, as well as lessons that have been learned and next steps. There was emphasis on the Violet Tunicate and the Golden Star tunicate which are found in the Coast of Bays region.

8. Other Business:

Some topics came up during the presentations, including:

- Possible effects of a proposed Parks Canada South Coast Fjords National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA). The NMCA is at the very beginning stages and would not be happening in the near future, but the COBCPC should keep it on their radar.
- There are large concentrations of sharks (possibly porbeagle or blue) around aquaculture cages and they are becoming a nuisance.
- There is still plastic floating around Belleoram from the violet tunicate mitigation efforts.
- NAIA has done work on beach clean-ups in the area. Six different communities did five beach clean-ups. There was a lot of waste from many different sources and sectors. It was a worthwhile initiative that they hope will continue.

9: Roundtable

Steward May

- There was a beach clean-up in Belleoram and very shortly afterward the tides and currents brought debris back in again
- Armour stone has been put up in the breakwater in Belleoram
- Have put in a tender for an inflow wharf in Belleoram, but will not be getting one this year

Ross Hinks

- The Atlantic Salmon on the South Coast has been assessed by COSEWIC and is considered threatened
- It may go on the Species at Risk list of threatened species.
- Will be going to a meeting in Ottawa in March to discuss next steps
- If it is listed there will be steps taken to protect it and it will affect many people
- There are questions about aquaculture's impacts on wild salmon that need to be answered
- Will provide an update at the next COBCPC meeting about what happened at the meeting in Ottawa

Melissa Burke

- They are looking for the best site for the aquaculture inclusive inflow wharf at Belleoram
- It is on the books to be done in the 2011-2012 fiscal year
- Inflow wharves are used for anything that is being sent to an aquaculture site, while outflow wharves are used for anything that is coming from an aquaculture site
- Use various criteria such as currents, sedimentation and traffic to decide on where the wharves go
- Still looking at how the wharves will be managed

Kevin Lawrence

- Waiting on a bait cooler that is being developed with DFA
- Waiting on an extension to the wharf in Wreck Cove – talking to small craft harbours about that
- Pool's Cove is getting an aquaculture inflow wharf, it will be completed in the spring
- Need to consider the future consequences of aquaculture now while it is being developed

Roberta Collier

- None

Max Taylor

- None

Georgina Brushett

- Milltown is working with the COB Corporation on their industrial park
- The environment concerns her greatly, as hydro and aquaculture developments are having impacts upon the area that need to be considered

Julie Jensen

- None

Sigrid Kuehnemund

- Would like to address the question of what's next for the COBCPC
- Other CMAs have spent time developing tools for their area that identify sensitive marine areas
- Something to look into would be collecting information to update the Community-Based Coastal Resource Inventory (CCRI) or add additional information to it
- The CCRI has been very useful for habitat managers

Brooks Pilgrim

- DFO will continue to address AIS

Amy Tucker

- Looks forward to working with the COBCPC

10: Closing Remarks**11: Date of next meeting**

- The next meeting will be at the call of the Chair, end of March 2011. All members will be contacted by email. The Chair asked for any suggested agenda items to be sent to him soon so he can have time to organize presenters if necessary.

12: Adjournment

- With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47pm on a motion by **Steward May**.