

Coast of Bays Coastal Planning Committee Meeting
Vancor Motel, Head of Bay d'Espoir
Oct. 03rd, 2006

Attendance:

Conrad Collier – Coast of Bays Corporation
Craig Mercer – Aquaculture
Steward May – Harbour Authorities
Baxter House - Tourism
Jeffery Roberts – Fisheries Committees
Bret Pilgrim – Coastal Planning Coordinator
Steve Moyses – Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture – Ex-officio
Dawn Mercer – Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Ex-officio
Jason Simms – Department of Fisheries and Ocean – Guest
Selwyn Langdon – Coast of Bays Corporation – Guest

Regrets:

Kevin Lawrence – FFAW – Inshore Fishers
Pius Howse – Rec. Boaters & Cabin Owners
Ross Hinks – Conne River Band Council
Herb Dunphy – Municipalities
Eric Day – FFAW – Processors

The chair opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m. with two items to add to the agenda – **1.** Meeting between representatives from the Placentia Bay and COB Coastal Planning Committees **2.** Coastal Planning Coordinator Funding.

Two agenda items were deferred in the absences of committee members. These items required input from all committee members and will be addressed during the next Coastal Planning Committee meeting.

Items deferred:

- a. Management Plan Direction: Identification of Goals, Objectives, and Strategies
- b. Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas project.

1. Welcome and Introduction

The meeting commenced by welcoming guests Jason Simms (DFO) and Selwyn Langdon (COBC) to the Coastal Planning Committee meeting, followed by a brief roundtable introduction.

2. **Review of Meeting Minutes**

After reviewing the minutes of the last committee meeting (April 6th, 2006) no amendment was necessary.

Motion to adopt minutes – Steward.

Second – Craig.

3. **Marine Debris Awareness Ad.**

In response to concerns regarding Marine Debris in the Coast of Bays region, Bret developed plans for a Marine Debris Awareness Campaign. This campaign will unfold in three phases:

Phase 1: A Marine Debris Awareness advertisement to be broadcasted on the regions community channels.

Phase 2: The distribution of a Marine Debris Awareness educational poster to be displayed in public areas throughout the regions (e.g. schools, town halls, community bulletin boards).

Phase 3: An article in *The Coaster* pertaining to marine debris.

The committee reviewed the Marine Debris Awareness advertisement (Phase 1). Jason suggested the committee obtain permission to use the background music in the advertisement. Dawn informed the committee that Memorial University houses a database of potential background music that could be accessed free of charge for future projects.

ACTION ITEM:

Bret will look into obtaining permission to use advertisements background music.

The committee approved the Marine Debris Awareness advertisement under the condition that permission was provided to use the background music.

Motion for approval – Steward.

Second - Baxter.

4. **Marine Debris Awareness Educational Poster**

A draft Marine Debris Awareness poster (phase 2) was presented to the committee. The poster reflected the Marine Debris Awareness advertisement in both appearance and content. The poster will be displayed in public areas (e.g. schools, municipal offices, libraries, community bulletin boards...etc) throughout the region.

DFO may be able to provide financial assistance with printing costs.

ACTION ITEMS:

Bret – 1. Price the cost of printing posters from various locations and companies;
2. Bring printed poster to next meeting (size: 8.5 X 11 and 17 X 11) for approval.

Dawn – Confirm DFO can provide financial assistance for poster printing.

5. Coastal Planning Boundary

The committee was updated on a draft report highlighting criteria used to support a recommendation for a coastal planning boundary. The report's recommendation is based on ecological, physical, human use and governance perspectives. However, to date the committee has obtained only a draft of this report, which does not provide maps of the recommended boundary.

To provide the committee with a visual of the recommended area, Bret developed a map highlighting the boundary as specified in the report. The lack of specific boundary information and the absence of a map within the report provided some difficulty in understanding exactly what area the report recommends as a coastal planning boundary.

Jason insisted that it is essential for the committee to obtain a finalized copy of the boundary report to clarify some of the issues and confusion regarding the boundary recommendation.

ACTION ITEM:

Dawn – mail a finalized copy of the boundary report to the Coastal Planning Committee (Bret).

Bret presented an alternative recommendation with more of a regional focus. Bret's recommendation was based on the criteria presented in the boundary report and information from other regional coastal planning documentation that considers regional coastal activities. Bret also presented how the primary boundary could be sectioned into three smaller sub-planning areas.

The committee's primary concern with the boundary recommendations is that both recommendations encompass sections of the Burin Peninsula and the coastlines adjacent to communities in that region.

To date there has been no consultation with communities on the Burin Peninsula, and no direct consultation with the REDB in that area (Schooner) regarding coastal planning.

Conrad emphasized that the Coast of Bays Coastal Planning Initiative lacks the capacity to include the Burin Peninsula in its planning primarily due to the geographic composition of the region.

Discussions suggested that the coastal planning boundary do not rule out inclusion of the Burin Peninsula region entirely since users from that region also utilize Fortune Bay. It was suggested that the Coastal Management Plan include a statement affirming that as the coastal planning initiative evolves and providing cooperation from communities from the Burin Peninsula and the Schooner REDB the coastal planning boundary could be expanded to include all of Fortune Bay.

However, for now and the immediate future the initiative should concentrate on the Coast of Bays region.

6. Stakeholder Issues, Comments and Concerns

a. Craig Mercer (Aquaculture)

- Stressed concerns regarding congestion (over crowding) of the wharf in Belleoram; lack of adequate infrastructure – lack of space to tie up gear.
- There is a need for physical space and infrastructure to house aquaculture feed. Currently feed is covered with tarpaulins-gulls tear through tarpaulins and it does not mitigate rodent problems. Some storage sites are chemically sprayed around the vicinity of feed to deter rodents. What impact could this have on feed and possibly fish?
- The threat of bio-security is become more and more prevalent. To protect the industry blood water has to be contained and/or treated.

Discussions suggested that it would be in the best interest of the regions growers to work together to develop a system and guidelines to contend with the issue of blood water.

b. Jason Simms (Department of Fisheries and Ocean)

- Reiterated DFO's commitment to the coastal planning initiative within the Coast of Bays. Jason also emphasised that DFO will provide assistance when and wherever possible to support coastal planning.

7. Other:

- ### a. Meeting between the Placentia Bay and COB Coastal Planning Committee representatives.

In September 2006 it was suggested that representatives from the Placentia Bay and COB Coastal Planning Committees, DFO, and DFA arrange a “think tank” to discuss the format and development of Coastal Management Plans. This would assist in providing a clearer direction as to what a plan should look like for Coastal Management Area's (CMA's) in Newfoundland.

Conrad agreed to contact the Chair of the Placentia Bay Coastal Planning Committee before making formal arrangements for a meeting.

ACTION ITEM:

Conrad is to contact the Chair of the Placentia Bay Coastal Planning Committee

b. **Coastal Planning Coordinator Funding**

Conrad brought to the attention of the committee, DFO, and DFA that the contract for the Coastal Planning Coordinator ends in mid-November, 2006. Dawn informed the committee that a proposal would have to be submitted to DFO to secure funding for the period of November 2006 to March 2007.

ACTION ITEM:

Conrad/Bret - submit a proposal to DFO to secure funding for the period of November 2006 to March 2007.

8. **Scheduling Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be scheduled for the week of the November 13th - 17th, 2006 in Belleoram. Time and date will be specified at a later date.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Steward May.