

**MINUTES: ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE
Annual General Meeting 1992-93**

May 28, 1993

Veith House, Halifax

Present: Cathy Bethune, Anita Regan, Mike Ruxton, Dan O'Connor, Darcy Rhyno, Maggie Moss, Sheila Cole, Anne Corbin, Norval Balsh, Debbie Martinello, Rosalee Lydon, Alice Reid

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 P.M. by Dan O'Connor, who chaired.
2. **Agenda:** M/S O'Connor/Cole that the agenda be adopted as presented. CARRIED
3. **Minutes of previous AGM:** M/S Martinello/Lydon

THAT the minutes be approved as circulated. CARRIED

Anita noted that the Treasurer's Report is not attached to last year's minutes. It was also noted that item 8(i) of last year's minutes, recommending that the Board consolidate EAC's bylaws, has not been carried out.

4. Board of Directors' Report: Was deferred until later in the meeting, when Cathy Bethune arrived to give the report.

5. Treasurer's report: In the absence of the Treasurer, Anne Corbin presented Joe Flynn's written report(attached), pointing out that the surplus position at the end of fiscal year 1993 is due mainly to the Ontario Law Firm forgiving \$6,760 of the legal fees incurred on Point Aconi. Anne drew members attention to the budget for the fiscal year ending 1994, pointing out that it seems a more realistically attainable one than that presented at last year's AGM. There was some discussion and clarification of budget items among those present.

M/S Corbin/Rhyno THAT the Financial Statements be approved and the Budget for 1993-4 be adopted. CARRIED

6. Board of Director's Report: Cathy Bethune presented a written report(attached), which elicited mixed reactions from the Board and much discussion of our structure, financial and operating position. There was considerable discussion of the lack of office and volunteer coordination, which resulted in EAC member Alice Reid offering to discuss with Board members how she might assist with volunteer coordination.

An attempt was made to define the Board's working structure, at which time it became apparent that the Board has yet to implement the structure suggested in the Board Roles and Responsibilities Document, adopted at the March/93 Board meeting.

M/S O'Connor/Rhyno THAT The new Board take up the mandate to immediately implement the Board Roles and Responsibilities adopted at the March Meeting, and evaluate how this is working after six months. CARRIED

A motion to adopt the Board of Directors' report was deferred to allow Rosalie Lydon to present the Harbour Committee Report (Attached).

7. Harbour Committee Report: Rosalie Lydon read the Harbour Committee report, detailing the considerable work EAC's Harbour Committee has done over the past year as a member of the

Halifax Harbour Coalition. Rosalie pointed out that the decision of the Coalition to use part of it's \$77,000 grant to commission three studies of its own, turned out to be a very wise one. All submissions to the Review Panel have been made, and a decision is pending.

M/S Bethune/Moss
THAT the Harbour Committee Report be accepted. CARRIED

8. Adoption of Board of Director's Report:

M/S Cole/Lydon THAT the Board Report be accepted CARRIED

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Wilderness Committee: Sheila Cole reported that this committee is now very strong after a year of re-development. The Committee met with Natural Resources Minister on March 1 to push for an improvement in the present 3% of Nova Scotia's land base which is protected. The committee is also attempting to establish a land trust, and feels that this can be accomplished if private landowners become involved. The Committee has a full agenda of consultation with government, industry and other groups. Mention was made during the report of the Chamber of Mineral Resources, an industry group which is getting together with private landowners to try to get designated but as yet undeveloped wilderness and park area returned to the pool of land available for development!

BTI Committee: Mike Ruxton presented a written report, adding that although the report does not mention finances, the continued availability of funding for BTI is very important. Mike reported that he will be editing the September issue, but the lack of a permanent editor remains a concern. Alice Reid suggested that some of the content of BTI should be more "celebratory", commenting on a seeming over emphasis on researched, issues oriented articles. Mike commented that the inclusion of a readers page in the next issue and the Book Review section represent attempts to explore other angles for content.

M/S Ruxton/Cole that the BTI report be accepted. CARRIED

Fundraising: Anita Regan presented the written Fundraising Committee report, commenting briefly that we need more people to work on fundraising and more memberships. Dan O'Connor pointed out that most of the money raising potential is from known supporters, and this is where our efforts should be concentrated. A note of thanks from all Board Members was extended to all those who have worked so hard on fundraising, particularly to Maggie Moss for her hard work on the luncheon and other projects. In addition to those mentioned in the report, other fundraising plans include raffle of an Al Chaddick painting, a possible Sarah McLaughlin Benefit Concert.

M/S Regan/Bethune THAT the Fundraising report be accepted. CARRIED

Environment and Development Coalition Report: Debbie Martinello gave the report, highlighting the ongoing work being done on the Thailand-Nova Scotia Linkage project. Completion of the video "So Who Lives Here Anyway? Alternative Visions of Sustainable Communities" met with rave reviews. Debbie reported that the E&D group is very focused and is looking for ways to build members, funds and reach out to rural areas.

M/S Martinello/Corbin THAT the E&D report be accepted. CARRIED

No reports were submitted from the Packaging or Education committees.

New Business:

Cathy noted that Melanie Briand has received a \$5,000 Community Health Grant for a project on alternatives to pesticides, sponsored through EAC.

Norval Balsh suggested the possibility of an energy Coalition being formed which would have a provincial focus. It was suggested that perhaps an energy caucus could be formed within the N.S. Environmental Network.

Awards: Anne announced the recipients of this years awards:

Tarred Duck Award: Metropolitan Authority (for the second year in a row)

Sunshine Award: Solar Nova Scotia

Volunteer of the Year Award: Catherine Pross, EAC Librarian

Nominating Committee Report:

A slate of 15 names was presented to the meeting. Further nominations were called for, with none forthcoming. Alice Reid declined to be nominated, due to limited volunteer time available.

A unanimous vote was held to accept the fifteen names presented.

M/S O'Connor/Bethune THAT subject to a review of the bylaws, the Board of Directors be empowered to fill any remaining non ex-officio member positions to a maximum of 18. CARRIED

Change of meeting time: To accommodate all those present, the regular meeting of EAC's Board of Directors will be held on the First Tuesday of each month. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on July 6th at 7.P.M.

Adjournment: M/S Martinello/Ruxton CARRIED 10:05 P.M.