

**MINUTES OF THE AMALGAMATED CONSERVATION SOCIETY MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 04, 2017 AT THE ESQUIMALT ANGLERS' RAMP**

CLUBS REPRESENTED:

Victoria Fish & Game Protective Association - Wayne ZACCARELLI
Victoria Golden Rods & Reels - Brian PALAS
Haig-Brown Flyfishing Association - Ian HOLDER
Westcoast Flyfishers Association - Brian ALEXANDER
James Bay Anglers' Association - Jim DOW
Goldstream Volunteer Salmonid Enhancement Association - Jim PEARSON

The meeting called to order at 1945 hours with Vice-president Brian ALEXANDER in the chair.

The secretary read the minutes of the previous monthly meeting held 06/09/17.

MOVED BY: Ian HOLDER that the minutes of the September meeting be adopted as read.

SECONDED BY: Brian ALEXANDER **CARRIED**

There was no correspondence.

Wayne ZACCARELLI explained some aspects of the new B.C. Societies Act which requires minor changes to our Constitution and Bylaws in order to conform to the transitioning requirement. The deadline for transitioning is November 2018. Wayne will forward an electronic version of our existing Constitution and Bylaws in early 2018 so that any changes beyond those required, can be incorporated into the new version which will be voted on at our March 2018 AGM.

Jim PEARSON reported no spawners at the fish fence due to low water levels. Goldstream coho fin clipping is continuing. They will be released in April 2018. Approximately 25,000 Craigflower Creek coho were fin clipped from September 23 to 26. They will be released into Prior Lake in October 2017. Coho have been seen jumping in the Gorge Waterway and Portage Inlet.

Jim stated that a crew of volunteers is at Nitinat hatchery this week for Chinook brood stock and egg taking.

Ian HOLDER noted that their next meeting would be on October 11 with fly tying on the 18th. The club now has two groups of fly tiers - one advanced and one beginner. Both groups have been well attended.

The Haig-Brown club is in the process of changing their website to a new server. Wing Kee Chan is their new webmaster and he is trying a new free site called Samepage.

Sue Pollard from the Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C. will be the speaker at their next meeting.

Jim DOW reported that the James Bay Anglers have only about one half their usual number of members due to the interruptions caused by the drilling for the sewage pipe crossing from Ogden Point to the McLoughlin Point sewage treatment plant. The first small hole is about half way across the harbour. This initial hole has to be drilled larger two more times to reach the final diameter. Many of their members have joined Esquimalt Anglers' for boat launching facilities.

Brian ALEXANDER announced that the club will be holding a fish out on Sooke River October 15. The Golden Rods & Reels and Haig-Brown club will also be participating. Quality Foods is sponsoring lunch by providing the food. The Westcoast Flyfishers recently held a fish out at Island View beach for searun Cutthroat trout.

Brian PALAS reported on his experiences fishing the Oyster River. The Golden Rods & Reels held a corn roast at Sidney in August and they have a turkey roast scheduled for October 05 at the CNIB building.

Wayne ZACCARELLI stated that he attended an open house and tour of the Millstream- Atkins Avenue culvert fish way project on September 30. Attendees gathered at the Mill Hill CRD Parks Headquarters parking lot. Ian Bruce of Peninsula Streams Society led the tour to the project area below the culvert located across from the CRD Parks entrance. The project involves constructing approximately 10-12 step pools from the creek level to the culvert entrance; a distance of about ten vertical feet. It is also planned to pour a concrete sill with baffles within the steel culvert to assist fish migration through the large diameter culvert.

The project is budgeted for about \$500,000 over two years with planning and engineering underway now and construction starting in May 2018. The Victoria Fish & Game Protective Association has donated \$5000 toward the project. Donations can be made to Peninsula Stream Society referencing the Millstream Fishway Project.

Brian ALEXANDER raised discussion on the Atlantic salmon movements since the mid August escape of 300,000 from a San Juan Islands fish farm netpen operation. The daily movements northward into Georgia and Juan de Fuca Straits was noticeable by the catches of anglers. An 8.6 pound Atlantic was caught in the Esquimalt Anglers` derby on August 27.

Brian also mentioned the good year being experienced by Tyee Club catches of Chinook in the Campbell River Tyee Pool. More than 40 Chinook over 30 pounds have been entered so far this year.

The meeting adjourned at 2050 hours.