

Record of Proceedings - Meeting Minutes Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

Meeting Date: July 3, 2008	Recorded by: E. McIntyre
Meeting Location: Township of the Archipelago	Status: Draft
<p style="font-size: small;">Caveat: Unless statements are in quotations, they have been paraphrased to express the intent of remarks made by individuals to whom they are attributed. For brevity, only discussion and comments of a significant nature as well as 'action items' arising from discussion are included herein. These minutes represent a true and accurate summary of proceedings to the best ability of the recorder.</p>	

Full Member	Pres.	Regrets	Abs.	Full Member	Pres.	Regrets	Abs.
Deb Ratuszniak			x	Bill McRobb	x		
Peter Agnello			x	Eric McIntyre	x		
Dave Bulger			x	Doug Wright	x		
Terry Crawford, Pres.	x			Mike Palmer	x		
Ray Hachigian	x			Karl Schiefer		x	
Greg Mason	x			Graham Poole		x	
Leah Salt			x	Gerry Haarmeyer		x	
Guests: Ivan Filion							

- Handout provided to Council members included:
- OMNR letter (Viejou to Crawford; May 16, 2008 re 2008 AFIA CFIP application refusal)
 - GBA Update (Summer 2008) article re Moon R. walleye rehabilitation
 - Hydrometric chart re Moon R. 2008 discharge
 - Thank-you letter (EGBSC & GBLT partnership) for donations to spawning habitat rehabilitation / enhancement program
 - Financial report / petty cash statement
 - MNR News Release – Ontario Moves to Protect Sturgeon

Introduction of guest: Ivan Filion

1.0 Status of the Socio-Economic Study – Presentation by Ivan Filion

- Ivan provided a 'vision' in terms of objective, strategy and plan of how he perceives the initiative should be rolled-out
- Focus is on economics (jobs) to drive the fundraising needs of the project
- Business case founded upon:
 - Economic return as a function of the quality of the fisheries
 - Cost/benefit
 - Jobs created / sustained as a function of the quality of fisheries
 - Firm direct economic benefits from recreational fishing rather than 'values' derived from fisheries
- Reviewed DFO trend analysis from Great Lakes angling surveys from 1990 to 2005
- Reviewed funding priorities of various government / NGO agencies
- Reviewed 'Next Steps'

- **Action: EGBSC requests that Mr. Filion present a detailed proposal to the MASC and EGBSC itemizing services to be rendered as per presentation and associated costs.**

2.0 Review May 21st Minutes/Action Items:

- 2.1 **Action: Eric to formulate letter to Rob Viejou with cc to Andy Heerschap and Jim Shaw (AFIA) re MNR’s refusal to support CFIP application for walleye culture project at the village of Magnetawan.** (Done. No response received; carry forward to July 3rd meeting. Response received dated May 16th. Copy circulated to Council in handout.)
- 2.2 **Action: Eric to investigate if COA funds for Moon River Project can be transferred to EGBSC via MOU and we conduct our own tendering process.** (Done. Short answer – no. There is provision for a waiver of tendering requirements, but I was advised this was an unnecessary and likely unacceptable avenue to pursue; don’t waste our time.)

3.0 Updates

3.1 Moon River Spawning Bed Enhancement Project:

- “Statement of Completion” – Step 5 in EA process has been completed. EA is now complete and project may proceed.
- OMNR 23-step procurement (tender) process is now underway. We are currently at step 7 – preparation of the Request For Proposal. (Note: We are issuing a ‘Request for Proposal’ as opposed to a tender due to uncertainties associated with the project.)
- Optimistic ‘crystal-balling’ pegs the project start date early in September
- Article on this topic appeared in the latest (summer) edition of the GBA Up-date. (copy circulated to council in handout)
- **Action: Eric to forward e-mail from W. Johnson re use of helicopter for moving rock re Moon R. project**

3.2 Moon River walleye index / culture / stocking project

- From last meeting: “Bill: The flow shouldn’t be drastically reduced all at one time. Why can’t there be a stepped reduction in flow rate to allow some accommodation by the fish?”
- This issue has been brought to the attention of MNR’s water management staff by Dave Gonder and Eric McIntyre.
- **Resolution: The EGBSC requests a meeting with OMNR water management staff to discuss this matter.**
- **Action: Eric to pursue setting up such a meeting. Recommended OPG be included.**

3.3 Fundraising – Spawning Habitat Rehabilitation Program

- EGBSC and GBLT have formulated a joint thank-you letter for donations to the Spawning Habitat Rehabilitation Program (copy in handout)

- Eric attended GBLT reception on June 10th. Delightful setting, great company and stimulating conversation. Event provided an excellent opportunity to strengthen partnership bonds with the GBLT. Attendance was very worthwhile.
 - On a related fundraising note: The GBBR has proposed the possibility of creating a joint charity comprising the GBBR, Westwind and the EGBSC. Each organization contributing towards legal cost to establish the charity.
 - Discussion
 - EGBSC interested in such a pursuing such a partnership
 - Eric to bring additional information to council as it becomes available.
- 3.4 12-Mile Bay E.S.T.N. (Trapnet) Survey
- Survey conducted from May 28th to June 5th; consisted of 30 net sets
 - Data not analyzed, but observations: excellent muskie abundance; smallmouth bass population looks 'good,' crappie and largemouth look good at specific locations; productivity (catch weight) increases as one moves from the open waters of Georgian Bay easterly into 12-Mile Bay.
 - Thanks to volunteers John Wilson, Dave and Donna Larush for assistance. Special mention and thanks to Jim Palmer and Shawn Morrisey from MNR PS District who provided the bulk of manpower required for the project.
 - Summary report will be written up later in the year.
 - (Note: No opportunity was available to set any nets in the Tadenac Bay area, notwithstanding the Tadenac Club being very interested in us doing so. We may conduct a specific project here in the fall if manpower is available.)
- 3.5 Moose-Deer Point Ecosystem Protection Group
- Eric attended MDP-EPG meeting May 22nd.
 - Group formed pursuant to the 'additions to Reserve' initiative for Moose-Deer Point FN to help protect the rare and sensitive nature of the ecosystem in the area.
 - Interests are very aligned with the EGBSC. Two topics discussed: garbage disposal and SAR education/awareness project are of mutual interest. I also like to think we had some positive contribution in these matters.
 - Eric recommends EGBSC joining the EPG group.
 - **Resolution: EGBSC agrees to join MDP-EPG. Carried.**
- 3.6 Rino Ouellette Memorial Scholarship Award
- Moira Ouellette and Eric McIntyre attended the Parry Sound High School commencement ceremony on June 26, 2008.
 - Scholarship award co-winners: Kaitlin Chantler and Ashley Gardner
 - We also presented Kaitlin and Ashley with framed prints of two of Rino's paintings – they looked fabulous, as well as a letter of congratulations from Terry Crawford on behalf of the EGBSC
- 3.7 2008 Lake Stewardship Works – State of Fishery Resource
- Workshop held June 26, 2008.
 - Approx. 55 in attendance representing over 20 cottage associations and other interest groups
 - Special thanks to guest speakers: Karl Schiefer, Arunas Liskauskas, Steve Scholten and Jim McMullen. Your contribution to a successful day is much appreciated.

4. Financial Report

- Copies of financial report distributed in handout

5. Work Planning - 2008

5.1 Upcoming projects:

- Continue to expedite Moon River project to extent possible
- **Action: Eric and Karl to conduct site evaluation in Tadenac Bay for walleye culture**
- Bass Nest Creation Project – interest seems to be waning – possibly due to over-saturation of project being run for 4 consecutive years. Continue with project for this year then consider a hiatus.
- Custodial Co-management of Crown Lands & Conservation Reserves – ongoing as per last year
- Continue support GBBR lead projects
- Add-ons:
 - Sturgeon Bay Remedial Action Team (Eric to sit on this committee as a representative of the EGBSC)
 - French River Water Quality Stewardship Council (Eric to attend July 11th meeting and report back to Council)

5.2 Another \$50k coming from COA for a rehab project in 2009. We need to figure out where we are going to go next because we will need to start the EA process soon.

- **Action: Eric to consult with Karl re 'best bet'**
- **Action: Eric to consult with Arunas re possible Port Severn project**

6.0 Business Arising

6.1 OFAH Invasive Species Awareness Program

- Eric has solicited via a formal letter under EGBSC letterhead, a donation from the GBA and GBA Foundation to become supporting partners in this project. (This to help cover additional contribution required from EGBSC when HRDC funding was not received.)
- No response to date.

6.2 Fall COST conference – Oct 21/22 (Peterborough)

- Eric and Terry to attend

6.3 Ont. Stewardship Aboriginal Engagement Committee

- Objectives as per Draft Terms of Reference and role of OS coordinators discussed
- Aboriginal engagement underway by joining Moose Deer Point EPG
- **Resolution: Due to other workload commitments, EGBSC recommend that Eric NOT sit a member on this committee.**

6.4 **Motion by Greg Mason that the EGBSC cover gas expenses incurred by Ivan Filion in attending our meeting. Second: McIntyre. Carried.**

7. Date for Next Meeting: Tue. September 9, 2008