

# Record of Proceedings - Meeting Minutes Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

Meeting Date: September 16, 2008

Recorded by: E. McIntyre

Meeting Location: Township of the Archipelago

Status: Draft

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.

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: Keith Sherman – Severn Sound Environmental Association							

Handouts provided to Council members included:

- EGBSC Web page – 'American Donors'
- Scoring Summary re Moon R. RFP (confidential)
- Financial Report
- Strategic Economic Development Action Plan (I. Filion)

## 1.0 Introduction – Keith Sherman, Severn Sound Environmental Association Presentation re Port Severn spawning site.

- Keith gave a detailed presentation on the morphology (contours), spatial orientation and spawning bed characteristics of the Port Severn walleye spawning site
- Presented modelling results with respect to optimal walleye habitat under varying water level and flow regimes
- Future work planned at the adjacent lock could present an opportunity for habitat enhancement at this location.

EGBSC requests to be kept apprised of future developments at the site and expressed an interest in assisting with any future habitat enhancements to the extent possible. Thanks for the up-date Keith.

## **2.0 Review July 3<sup>rd</sup> Minutes/Action Items:**

- 2.1 **Resolution: The EGBSC requests a meeting with OMNR water management staff to discuss this matter. Action: Eric to pursue setting up such a meeting.**
- (Done; meeting tentatively scheduled for Nov. due to Trevor Griffin being away till then on paternity leave)
  - Discussion: An 'Action Committee' consisting of Bill, Eric, Mike and Karl to attend this meeting. Eric to send out issue background data beforehand. Also invite Dave McLeish to meeting.
- 2.2 **Action: Eric and Karl to conduct site evaluation in Tadenac Bay for walleye culture**
- Done. Inspection report to be written up by Eric in near future and presented to council. (See item 3.6)
- 2.3 **Action: Eric to consult with Arunas re possible Port Severn project for 2009**
- (Done. Reluctance on the part of the UGLMU to further alter this site as they feel it is functioning fine as a walleye spawning facility.)

## **3.0 Updates:**

- 3.1 Moon River Walleye Spawning Bed Enhancement Project
- Contract award has been made to W.S. Morgan Construction Ltd.
  - Anticipate construction to start mid September
  - Discussion re funding situation.
- 3.2 Fundraising
- Ray was successful in securing an American partner ...see handout – EGBSC web Page – 'American Donors'
  - Karl attended Cognashene cottage assn. AGM (July 5<sup>th</sup>)
  - Eric attended Woods Bay cottage assn. AGM (July 19<sup>th</sup>); Copperhead – Sans Souci cottage assn. AGM (July 26); Harris Lake cottage assn. (Aug. 1); Kapikog Lake cottage Assn AGM (Aug. 23)
  - Fundraising brochures distributed at all
  - DFO funding submission for Moon River project was unsuccessful as per Aug. 12 letter (K. Ralph to E. McIntyre)
- 3.3 Custodial Co-management of Crown land (Conservation Reserve) campsites
- Severn River CR – only 1 inspection over summer. Sites in good condition (except one), but social issues related to noise continue. Addressing this enforcement issue is outside the scope of the EGBSC
  - GLSKA (Great Lakes Sea Kayaking Assn.) hired two stewards to work the outside islands. This year they ventured as far north as the French River and report many areas requiring attention. We will conduct pick-up of their large item caches.
  - Franklin/Huckleberry Is. – no complaints (that I am aware of).
  - Gibson R. CR – new issue. Cottage Association complaints continue re noise and environmental issues

- McCrae Lake – Significant amount of unregulated camping (c. 70 cars observed on summer weekend); garbage issue made difficult due to no road access
- Moon R. – Had Muskoka/Parry Sound Stewardship rangers in for 1 day. Generally sites in good shape except S. shore downstream of Moon Falls
- Wahwashkesh CR – being look after by MNR stewards

Synopsis: This program is showing escalating growth to the point that it is (becoming) unmanageable. This year EGBSC involvement was inadequate relative to the need.

Discussion:

- Need to involve more volunteers as ‘worker bees’
- Volunteers willing to erect signs and do some behind-the-scenes campsite cleanup; but no takers for dealing with bush latrine maintenance.

### 3.4 Invasive Species Awareness Project

- Erin Hamlyn’s last day of work was July 26<sup>th</sup>; project complete. The 11-week program ended early as Erin was starting her school year at a University in Mexico on Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>
- Overview:
  - Attended 12 public events
  - 50+ mail-out packages to parks, shops & organizations
  - Presentations: 17 occasions
  - Continued monitoring activities related to spread of exotics
  - Media contacts – 4
- Acknowledgement of a job well-done by Erin with minimal supervision

Discussion:

- We’ve run this project for two years in a row, perhaps it is appropriate to ‘give it a rest’ for a year or two.
- Invasive species signage is present at all public launch sites in the Parry Sound area but not private locations – perhaps we should consider a project next year that provides signage to private launch sites?
- **Action: Eric to get signs for Mike & Bill**

### 3.5 French River Water Quality Stewardship Council

- Eric attended FRWQSC meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup>
- Much of the meeting spent on organization / by-laws / process / fundraising
- Mike gave an update of FRWQSC activities this year: incorporation; tree give-away; high school education program; annual meeting was well attended and educational for cottagers in attendance; water sampling at 19 sites; survey and questionnaires distributed but have not yet been summarized.

### 3.6 Tadenac Walleye Culture Initiative

- Karl and Eric conducted site inspection on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>
- Several secluded bays offer good potential as walleye culture sites on an experimental basis.
- Eric to complete inspection report

- Pursue discussion with Tadenac Club to proceed with walleye pond culture in 2009. This assumes walleye fry will be available from egg culture operations at Moon River Cottages.

### 3.6 Socio-economic study

- Review Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of UGLMU, OFAH, MNR – Socio-Economic Network, EGBSC, MASC and Ivan Filion re project direction/proposal
- Copy of Draft Strategic Economic Development Action Plan as composed by Ivan Filion provides in handouts to Council
- **Resolution: The EGBSC approves pursuing this project in accordance with the Action Plan (above) and presentation given by Ivan Filion to council – July 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Eric in conjunction with the Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council (Bob Florean) to apply to Ont. Stewardship Opportunity Fund for financial support.**

## 4.0 Financial Report

- Copies of report distributed in handout

## 5.0 Work Planning

### 5.1 Upcoming Field Work:

- Continued work on the Moon River Enhancement Project
  - **Action: Eric to keep Council apprised of schedule of construction activities**
- UGLMU have indicated a desire to have us conduct a lake trout egg collection re thymine analysis on the Big Sound in October; also assist with netting at Limestone Islands in late October
- Some ‘clean-up’ work related to custodial Crown land management projects
- That concludes our field projects for 2008

### 5.2 Habitat enhancement project for 2009

- We have \$50k allocated from COA for a 2009 project – where do we go?
- Discussion:
  - The outlet from Go Home Lake selected as the “best bet” for 2009.
  - Next spring/summer we will try to make arrangement for all of Council to visit the site.
  - If there are surplus funds, this could possibly be used to support Scott Finucan to conduct modelling on other sites such as the Muskoka (Gibson) River.

## 6.0 Business Arising

- ### 6.1 Thank-you letter received from Kaitlin Chantler re her award of ‘Rino Ouellette Memorial Stewardship’ scholarship from our Council. Read to Council.

**6.2 North Bala Falls small hydro project**

- We have received a notice re Public Open House (Aug. 13) from Hatch Energy re proposal to construct a 4.3 mega watt run-of-the-river hydroelectric generating station at the North Bala dam.
- No response required, but we probably wish to keep an eye on this project as it may have implications with respect to downstream water management of the Moon River

**6.3 2009 Lake Stewardship workshop**

- Invitation has been extended to Gord Miller, the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario and has been accepted. Tentative date: Fri. June 26, 2009. (Canada Day falls on the following Wednesday.)

6.4 Fall Central Ont. Stew. Council (COST) meeting – Oct. 21/22 in Peterborough; tentatively Eric & Terry to attend. Terry to check to see if he is available.

**7.0 Date for Next Meeting:**

- Eric to confer with Bill McRobb re suitable dates for holding meeting at Moon River Cottages.