

Record of Proceedings - Meeting Minutes Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

Meeting Date: April 9, 2007

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	

Handout provided to Council members included:

- Socio-economic Steering Committee – Meeting Minutes for March 20th meeting
- Revised (March 20th) Phase II High Level Scoping Document
- Year-end financial report

1.0 Review March 12th Minutes/Action Items:

Action items from March 12th minutes:

- **Action: Eric in consultation with Ray, to formulate wording for “American Donors” tab; post on our website.** (Done. Wording read to Council; forwarded to Deb for posting on website.)
- **Action: Eric to forward copy of final “Spawning Habitat Rehabilitation Program” to Deb for posting on website.** (Done)
- **Resolution: Council approves hiring an engineering consultant to formulate construction drawings and specifications for Moon River project.** (Done – see item 2.1)
- **Resolution: Eric to forward electronic copy of Annual Report to Deb who will in turn see if she can get copies made at reduced rate.** (Done – see item 2.3)
- **Action: Eric to forward Bayfield-Nares NSCIN report to Deb for posting on our website. Eric to distribute hard copy to project partners.** (Done)
- **Action: Eric to invite Steve Scholten (PS District Fisheries Bio) and Rob Viejou (PS Area Supervisor) to next meeting to discuss Almaguin Fish Improvement Association (AFIA) CFIP application for walleye culture & stocking project.** (Not done. See item 4.1)
- **Resolution: We donate \$2.5k to the FRWQSC as requested, but pay in two annual instalments of \$1,250.** (Done. Memo of thanks has been received from Joe Dippong.)

- **Action: Doug Wright to check with Moira Ouellette – 1. That images present in our 2007 Annual Report related to this matter meet with her approval. 2. Inquire if Moira would consider presenting the award at the PS high school graduation ceremonies.** (Done. Mrs. Ouellette has agreed to both.)
- **EGBSC Resolution: "That Council provide \$550 in funding for the purchase of fish sanctuary signs as requested by Jim McMullen, contingent upon: 1. The contribution be recognized by placing "Funded by" then the logo of the EGBSC on the bottom on the signs; and 2. Jim to contact Bill McRobb for consultation with respect to supplier."** (Done)
- **Action: Eric to place order for 100 tote bags.** (Done. Requirement to get logo into Vector file format; cost \$75.)

2.0 Updates

2.1 Moon River Spawning Bed Enhancement Project:

- Great Lakes Environmental has been hired to formulate specifications and drawings. Work is underway but has been delayed because of incompatible data files between UGLMU and GLE (namely bathymetry maps). Also, Scott Finucan has been brought in to assist with project, but Scott's internet connection was disrupted and only recently restored.
- "Project Evaluation Report" – now being reviewed by MNR (Step 3 in EA process)
- "Notice of Completion" – to be sent to respondents of public notice once above report approved. (Step 4 in EA process)

Discussion:

- Terry, Ray and Eric attended GBA Annual spring meeting to promote fundraising for the project. Good public exposure for project and the Council.
- **Action: Eric prepare letter of donation request to Fishing Forever.**
- Bass Pro shops a potential funding partner for Spawning Habitat Rehabilitation Program

2.2 Geo. Bay Biosphere Reserve – Partner projects:

- Project #1: Species at Risk outreach & education project – complete.
- Project #2: 'Pilot Project' – Lake Huron Framework for Community Action – complete.
- Annual meeting with partners/stakeholders held March 19, 2008 – well attended & very successful.
- FedNor intern – Cate Ahrens will be starting soon. Cate will be focusing on formulating a communications plan for GBBR.
- Water festival planned for May 29th; targeting Grade 6 students from Britt, Humphrey and MacTier public schools. EGBSC willing to assist in any manner possible.
- Awaiting word on SAR project funding; next phase would be more outreach than product development, which was accomplished in 1st phase just completed.
- Youth summit being planned for September. EBBSC willing to assist in any manner possible.

2.3 2007 Annual Report

- Revisions made to 2007 Annual Report by Deb – nice job. However, production cost too high for small printing of less than 50 copies. An additional 10 copies ordered

from Aqua-Graphics in format they submitted (with corrections as noted in March 12th minutes).

- Next year we will simply cut-and-paste from the 2007 Report Deb worked on and print it locally.
- Copies sent to GBA, GBLT, GBBR, Tadenac Club, Twp Carling, Archipelago and Geo. Bay.

2.4 Socio-Economic Study:

- Minutes of March 20 call in package presented to Council; also includes revised (March 20) 'Phase II High Level Scoping Document'

Discussion

- Much discussion on the objectives and mechanics of this project including survey proposals for collecting data.
- **Action: Eric to contact Wil Wegman and get a copy of socio-economic survey form used in fishing tournaments; present at next meeting.**

3. Financial Report

- Financial report in Council handout
- Year end closing balance (general account): 16.288k (does not include 8.031k in outstanding invoices)
- Of the above, 10.375k is committed to specific future projects
- 40k in separate Moon R. Rehab project account
- We have received 10k in repayment of loan to GBBR. GBBR gratefully thanks us for the loan and is willing to pay an additional \$150 in interest payments. Council gratefully acknowledges the offer but no additional money to cover interest is necessary or expected. **Action: Eric to deposit 10k in GIC to provide funding in the form of interest to be directed towards Rino Ouellette Memorial Scholarship award.**

4. Work Planning - 2008

4.1 Revisions to work plan:

- ESTN survey location – still awaiting direction from UGLMU; Parry Sound OMNR has need for a 'fish survey' in 12-Mile Bay area related to a land transfer with Moose Deer Point First Nation. In the absence of direction from MNR, we will proceed with survey in 12-Mile Bay area.
- Almaguin Fish Improvement Association (AFIA) project for walleye egg collection, culture and stocking – CFIP project turned down by MNR. MNR cites lack of biological benefits and contravention of policy as reasons for refusal.
 - Much discussion on the public relations cost of MNR's decision in this matter.
 - **Action: Formulate letter to Rob Viejou with cc to Andy Heerschap and Jim Shaw (AFIA) in this matter (Eric).**
- Planning / Meeting EA Requirements for next spawning bed rehabilitation project: Where do we go next? Defer to next meeting.

- 4.2 Upcoming projects:
- 4.2.1 Moon River walleye index / egg collection / culture / stocking project
- Bill to supervise with assistance from Eric as required/when available
- 4.2.2 Harris Lake walleye index / egg collection / culture / stocking project
- Eric to provide field supervision/assistance as required
- 4.2.3 ESTN Survey – (looks like 12-Mile Bay)
- Eric to supervise; seek manpower assistance from MNR Parry Sound District as required.
- 4.2.4 Lake Stewardship Workshop
- Discussion:
- Theme: Fish Populations – Canaries in your lake
 - Possible presenters:
 - Karl Schiefer – A Historical Perspective / What we're missing.
 - Arunas Liskauskas – State of the Georgian Bay Fishery
 - Steve Scholten – State of the Inland fishery / Program Direction
 - Jim McMullen – An enforcement perspective
 - EGBSC – What can 'you' do.
 - The 'water quality' theme was also discussed, but MOE seeming unavailable to present

5.0 Business Arising

- 5.1 Dave Bulger e-mail re NOTO Tourism industry study
- Letter read re study being conducted by Tourism Ministry to evaluate the competitive status of Ontario
 - Socio-economic Phase II steering committee to include Ministry of Tourism as potential funding partner
- 5.2 Dave Reid e-mail re EGBSC participation in:
1. Big Sound lake trout egg collection for thiamine long-term dataset
 2. Assessment of Five-Mile Bay LT plantings
- Council is eager to participate in both projects.
 - **Action: Eric to indicate council willingness to participate; get additional details such that projects can be nested into our work plans.**
- 5.3 Fire Smart Program
- A reminded that this is happening in the background and that Fire Smart products will soon be available for public distribution.
- 5.4 Walleye spawning site inspections:
- Karl suggested we inspect walleye spawning sites at Severn Falls, White's Fall and Big Chute this spring.
 - **Action: Eric to contact Conservation Officers and advise members of rendezvous arrangements once date is finalized.**

6. Date for Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 21/08.