

Record of Proceedings - Meeting Minutes Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

Meeting Date: Thur. Aug. 20, 2009

Recorded by: E. McIntyre

Meeting Location: OMNR Parry Sound Dist. Boardroom

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.
John Bell		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	Gerry Haarmeyer	x		
John Crawford	x						

Guests: Ivan Filion (by teleconference); Andrew McLellan

Handouts provided to Council members included:

- E-mailed before hand:
 - Moon River Water Management Decision Matrix (July 15)
 - Regional Economic Development – Concept Paper
- Distributed at Meeting:
 - Regional Economic Development – Concept Paper
 - Moon River Water Management Decision Matrix
 - Schiefer & Gonder e-mail re above (July 24)
 - GBBR newsletter (Summer 2009)
 - Financial report
 - Kapikog Lake Cottage Assn. – Letter of appreciation

1.0 Guest Introductions – Ivan Filion (by teleconference) / Andrew McLellan

1.1 Debriefing on Stewardship Ranger program by Andrew McLellan

- Rangers have been actively involved in a number of partner projects: chimney swift nesting structure (PS Nature Club); snake fencing at Killbear Park; wetlands inventory; assisting with Species At Risk inventory; Sandy Is. boundary marking (GBLT); walleye habitat restoration (MCA); Crown land campsite clean-up; thunder box construction; Park to Park trail maintenance; animal enclosure construction (Aspen Wildlife Center) and others. Have received all positive comments from various partners as well as PS North Star newspaper.
- Training provided: WHMIS; 1st Aid; OHS; Pleasure Craft Operator's card; GPS
- Educational opportunities: French River Pow Wow; wetland classification; Massassauga Rattlesnake inventory; Endanger Species identification;

- Conservation Reserve Program; Env. Response – Coast Guard
- Eric also noted the excellent work of Andrew with respect to finding partners, work planning and crew supervision.

1.2 De-briefing re Phase 1 of Regional Economic Development / Fisheries Action Plan Initiative (I. Filion)

- (Eric: We – EGBSC & MASC, have applied to the Ont. Stewardship Opportunity Fund for \$15k for project coordinator. East Algoma SC not part of application; they declined at this time.)
- Concept paper outlining the initiative process distributed to council
- Ivan (by teleconference):
 - Initiative involves tourism, economic development and fisheries aspects
 - Future funding from Ministry of Tourism will require incorporation of councils
 - All funding and stakeholder groups have been contacted – except Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA); will be contacted tomorrow
 - Contacts include: MNR; NOTO; OFAH; NOHFC; FedNor; MNM&F; Min of Tourism; Trillium Fund – soon also OMAFRA
 - Funding applications have not yet been made as per contact; this is will be done once all the foundational groundwork has been completed.
 - Background paper awaiting survey results from NOTO re economic distress related to a chronic diminishing fishery
 - Sept. 18th – multi stakeholder meeting scheduled in Parry Sound; re concept paper and funding contributions. Request at least 2 members from each stewardship council attend (in addition to coordinators)
 - Some complications exist with FMZ councils – overlap of mandate to a minor degree; councils can work together
 - East Algoma stewardship council for the time being not part of the process; opportunity still there to bring them on board later if they so wish.
 - DFO not presently involved. May be brought into the process at a later and more appropriate time. Basis of the project is economic development and job creation; DFO exclusively fisheries. Probably MNR's purview to invite them into the initiative.
 - Recommend update e-mailed to Eric (Aug 20) be sent out to council members (Done – Aug. 21)
- **Resolution: Mike P / Terry C / Ray H and Eric M to represent the EGBSC at the Sept. 18th multi-stakeholder meeting.**

Remuneration: Ivan plans to submit a single invoice upon completion of his contract.

2.0 Review June 23rd Minutes/Action Items:

- 2.1 **(Item 1.3) Action: The EGBSC unanimously supports the proposal of a decision tree (wrt Bala Dam spring-time manipulations) and will fully cooperate in its formulation. Bracebridge water control staff to lead this initiative.**

(Draft decision tree has been formulated; sent to Council members by e-mail July 15 and also part of meeting handouts)

Discussion:

- Eric: This is a huge task that will easily consume the rest of this meeting. Suggest formulating a sub-committee to work on this.
- Sub-committee appointed: Bill / Karl / Mike and Eric

2.2 (Item 5.1) Gerry Haarmeyer to conduct boating course for OS Rangers. (Done; thanks very much Gerry!)

3.0 Updates:

3.1 Go Home Bay Walleye Rehabilitation (Re-introduction) Project

- Eric re-visited the site on July 20th for detailed measurements; information needed to complete 'Scope of Work' for tender process
- Currently working through the MNR procurement process (23 steps). Presently at step #9 – tender is posted on MERX web site; closing date Sept.10.
- Anticipate construction in late Sept. or Oct.
- No stocking planned until stocking EA completed this fall / winter.

3.2 Tadenac Bay Walleye Culture Project:

- Conducted snorkel assessment on July 1st; no walleye seen; disconcerting that only a handful of other small fish were seen.

3.4 Moon River Walleye Culture Project (Bill)

- Bill has commenced harvesting walleye from his pond. 433 fingerlings harvested thus far
- Approx. 5600 early summer and late summer fingerlings have been received from Venard Robitaille. Bill reports them in excellent condition; no mortality at time of stocking.

3.5 Report re Minister's Visit (Ray)

- All went well
- Minister attentive to our council matters and concerns

3.6 GBBR Env. Education Coordinator

- E-mail from Becky Pollock (Co-manager GBBR) re Ont. Trillium Fund funding for Environmental Education Coordinator – successful.
- Anticipate dedication of time by Eric to assist GBBR as requested on this initiative
- GBBR newsletter (Summer 2009) included in handout

4.0 Financial Report

- Financial statement presented to Council.
- Matter of financial bonus for Stewardship Rangers discussed
 - No consensus reached; defer to next meeting

5.0 Business Arising / New Business

- 5.1 Fall Central Zone Ont. Stewardship Council meeting – Oct. 5 & 6, Talisman Resort
- If anyone would like to attend (and we would like a council member to attend), please notify Eric
- 5.2 Muskie Study for 2010? (Bill)
- Issue relates to a series of e-mails (McRobb / Aldo Lacuesta / McIntyre / Liskauskas – late June) about the state of muskies in the Moon River area
 - **Action: Eric to contact UGLMU recommending a regular schedule of assessment surveys for walleye and muskie in the Moon River area.**
- 5.3 Letter of Appreciation from Kapikog Lake Assn re children's workshop day
- Acknowledgement of Council's contribution much appreciated
- 5.4 July 26th – Eric attended French River (Water Quality) Stewardship Council annual membership meeting
- Items discussed: Sturgeon Bay blue-green algae case study; Georgian Bay Biosphere; French River water sampling – station location and parameters tested; lagoon project re phosphorus reduction; school tree planting project.
 - Looking for assistance with respect to walleye spawning bed rehabilitation and enhancement projects. Eric offered the services of the EGBSC in this regard. Contact person at FRSC is Terry Young.
 - **Action: Eric to write a letter of support to FRSC re fisheries rehabilitation initiative**
- 5.5 Membership
- Eric presented rationale and multiple benefits of inviting Glenda Clayton to join our stewardship council
 - Unanimously agreed to do so; proceed in accordance with by-laws.

7.0 Date for Next Meeting:

- Wednesday, September 23