

Record of Proceedings - Meeting Minutes Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

Meeting Date: Tue. June 23, 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				

Guest: Trevor Griffin / Dave MacPherson / Steve Taylor / Andrew McLellan

Handouts provided to Council members included:

- E-mailed before hand:
 - Data re Moon River flow issue
 - Update – Regional Economic Development – Fisheries Action Plan
- Distributed at Meeting:
 - E-mail (Gonder to McIntyre; June 2/09) Re Lake Trout stocking at Limestone Islands
 - 2008-09 Financial report
 - 2009-10 Financial report
 - Letter (L.Deacon to T. Crawford; May 29) Re First Nation Conservation Officer
 - A synopsis of the state of the Moon River walleye resource and related issues
 - E-mail (Liskauskas to McIntyre; June 16) re Tadenac pond culture project & draft response

1.0 Guest Introductions

1.1 Overview of Muskoka River Water Management Plan and how it affects Moon River (presentation by Steve Taylor)

- Signatories to the plan
- Explained: What is a WMP? Why prepare a WMP?
- 41 structures on Muskoka watershed; 29 MNR & 11 power producing, 1 other
- Discussed issues to be considered in formulating a WMP

1.2 (Dave MacPherson) Review of past management practices and rationale for why particular manipulations are made in accordance with the current plan.

- Discussions regarding 2009/08/07/06 manipulations – how it worked; what

decisions were made and why; what could have been done differently.

1.3 Future communications:

- Need to plug some data gaps – set spawning date criteria
- Bracebridge water control staff are willing to meet pre and post-freshet to review conditions in the watershed and discuss water control manipulations
- (Trevor Griffin) Water control staff willing to work with EGBSC to formulate a decision tree for water control manipulations in accordance with a multitude of freshet scenarios.
- **ACTION: The EGBSC unanimously supports this proposal of a decision tree and will fully cooperate in its formulation. Bracebridge water control staff to lead this initiative.**
- Education of upstream stakeholders is key to maximizing flexibility within the current WMP to improve flow conditions for downstream walleye production. Discussion: Perhaps the EGBSC should lead an 'information open house' in Bala to pursue this public awareness theme. **Action: This matter to be further discussed by the EGBSC for inclusion in work plan.**

The EGBSC graciously acknowledges the commitment and professionalism of MNR water control staff in attending our meeting to hear our point of view, explain management actions, discuss and seek resolution to outstanding issues.

2.0 Review May 26th Minutes/Action Items:

- 2.1 Action: Eric to draft EGBSC briefing note (*State of the Moon River walleye resource and related issues*) for Ray to present to Minister Cansfield during her visit – July 9th. (Done. Copy in hand-out package to Council.) (See item 6.3)
- 2.2 Action: Eric to contact TROOP with offer to pay expenses related to Crown Land clean-up activities. (Done.)
- 2.3 Resolution: The EGBSC is pleased to donate \$200 towards the Kapikog Lake Cottage Association workshop and Fun Day. (Done)
- 2.4 Action: Eric to contact UGLMU and report back on rationale re Limestone Islands lake trout stocking program. (Done. Response from Dave Gonder in handout package to Council)
- 2.5 Some concern expressed by Council members re May 15th letter re Aboriginal Conservation Office in Parry Sound. Eric to send letter out to Council for future discussion. (Done. Letter and response in Council handout package for later discussion at this meeting. See item 6.1)
- 2.6 Action: Eric to notify Rob Gibson relating to a complaint received by Council in the matter of no response from MNR to an infraction reported via the TIPS hotline. (Done)

3.0 Updates:

- 3.1 Stewardship Ranger Crew

- Andrew McLellan – Crew Leader now hired on (started June 15)
 - 4 rangers: Eric Root / Michael Clark / Tori Nesbitt and Breanne Haskin to start June 29th
- 3.2 2009 Lake Stewardship Workshop – delivered June 22 @ Stockey Centre, Parry Sound
- 61 attendees representing 19 cottage associations + conservation / G&F clubs
 - Also DFO & GBBR set up information tables (our thanks to them for participating)
 - Presentations will soon be posted on website (*posted June 25th*)
 - Eric: At a future meeting – suggest we review our delivery of this project. Workshop popularity has ‘plateaud’; attendance somewhat disappointing
 - *Supplemental: Expenses for workshop – approx. \$1k; donations received \$185.*
- 3.3 Go Home Bay Walleye Rehabilitation (Re-introduction) Project
- Currently awaiting EA screening designation before proceeding
 - Have contacted MGS (Andrej Baca) to commence procurement but cannot proceed until above completed
- 3.4 Regional Economic Development – Fisheries Rehabilitation Action Plan (i.d.NOR)
- Ivan currently in the process of securing partner support for project
 - Memo previously circulated by e-mail updating progress was included in handout to council
 - Intend to have Ivan attend our next meeting to give a wrap-up presentation of Phase 1 for which he is contracted for. Phase 1 ends July 31st.
- 3.5 Clean-up day for McCrae Lake:
- Conducted May 31st
 - Partners: Barrie Canoe Club, Twp. Geo. Bay, MNR, EGBSC
 - Generally speaking – delighted with the low amount of garbage collected; took ½ ton load to Baxter transfer station
 - Previous activities by TROOP contributed to good condition of campsites.
- 3.6 Rino Ouellette Memorial Scholarship Award
- This year’s recipient: Carly Chantler
 - Framed print of one of Rino’s paintings to accompany award.

4.0 Financial Report

- 2008-09 financial statement presented to Council.
- Motion: To accept the 2008-2009 year-end financial report. Motion by Mike P. / Seconded by Bill M. / carried
- Now that we are controlling our money via a small business account, the year-end financial report to be reviewed by one or more trustees to be appointed by Council

5.0 Work Planning

- 5.1 Ontario Stewardship Ranger Crew:
- Work plan starting to fill out nicely; still opportunity for additional jobs however

- **Action: Gerry to conduct Boating Course for OS Rangers**

6.0 Business Arising / New Business

6.1 Correspondence received:

- Copy of letter from Dan Pawis, Chief Shawanaga First Nation
 - Letter from 'Office of the Great Lakes – State of Michigan', addressed to 'Ontario First Nations'; requesting comments regarding proposal to withdraw water from Lake Huron for domestic water supply of in various municipalities. Item informational; no action required.
- Response from Lois Deacon (Director of Enforcement Branch) in reply to our letter of May 15 re Aboriginal Conservation Officer in Parry Sound.
 - Copy in handout to Council
 - Response is non-committal.
 - Noted by Gerry that Aboriginal officer should be in addition to current compliment of officers.

6.2 Request from Bob Duncanson (GBA Executive Director) for EGBSC to endorse GB-5 Statement of Intent.

- Statement read
- Resolution: EGBSC is in agreement with and supports the above statement. Carried.

6.3 Synopsis of Moon River walleye population re Minister's visit – July 9th.

- Noted there is some angst within MNR that this synopsis represents lobbying the Minister
- Discussion:
 - Synopsis is not offensive or derogatory of the MNR in any way, in fact it notes their significant contribution to rehabilitation
 - If it does constitute lobbying – it is for the benefit of the resource
 - 2 modifications made to synopsis – all in agreement
 - Present synopsis as modified to Minister – carried.

6.4 Tadenac Bay 'Pond Culture' project:

- Review and discussion of e-mail (Liskauskas to McIntyre; June 16); copy in handout to Council
- Discussion and modifications made to draft response (as per handout)
- Consensus to reply to Arunas with cc to Dave Reid, Dave Gonder and Rob Viejou as per revisions to above draft.

7.0 Date for Next Meeting:

- Eric to confer with Ivan Filion to find mutually agreeable date to meet
- Suggested – 3rd week in August.
- Action: Eric to notify members when date selected.