

Record of Proceedings - Meeting Minutes Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

Meeting Date: Tue. March 24, 2009

Recorded by: E. McIntyre

Meeting Location: OMNR Parry Sound Dist. Boardroom

Status: Approved

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: None

Handouts provided to Council members included:

- French River (Water Quality) Stewardship Council – Newsletter
- 2009 Lake Stewardship Workshop – Draft Outline
- Project Description Report – Go Home Bay Walleye Rehabilitation Project (Draft)
- Financial Report
- 2009 Work Plan (Draft)
- GB-5 Meeting Minutes (Draft)

1.0 No guests

2.1 Review Jan. 10th Minutes/Action Items:

Item 2.1: Action: Eric to send Moon River Project Report and 2008 Annual Report to Cottage Life Magazine, the Muskokan Sun, The Muskokan and Ontario Out of Doors. Done; sent Jan. 14 & Feb. 9.

Item 2.2: Action: Eric to formulate & sent letter to the Muskoka River Standing Advisory Committee explaining Moon River (Geo. Bay) fishery interests and impacts of upstream manipulations. Done – sent Feb. 19.

Item 3.1: Invoiced GBBR for \$2k donation re support of Regional Economic Development Fisheries Action Plan. Thank-you GBBR! (Do not anticipate receipt of money until next fiscal year.)

Item 3.3: Action: Eric to contact Arunas to discuss option of Lodge Creel partnership project. Done – e-mail, Feb. 9.

Item 3.4 – Tournament Fishing: Action – Letter indicating EGBSC support for a regulatory solution to the impasse related to bass daily limit of 3 fish. Done; letter sent Feb. 2 signed by Bill McRobb.

Item 5.1 – Madawaska Club & Go Home Bay walleye spawning bed enhancement project: Action - Eric to seek partnership with Madawaska Club on project. Done – E-mail sent Feb. 4th.

Item 5.3 – 2009 Lake Stewardship Workshop: Action – Eric to proceed with invitations to guest speakers. Done. Note: Date changed to Mon. June 22nd to accommodate new venue at C.W. Stockey Centre in Parry Sound. Rental Fee: \$550 + taxes

Item 6.1 – OMNR Parry Sound Dist. Office received a response letter from OFAH (with cc to our Council) in reference to internal MNR correspondence re ending harvest of snapping turtles; copy circulated at our last meeting. MNR concerned with the appearance our Council had forwarded this internal correspondence to OFAH. As per the minutes of our meeting – this was not a Council action.

Item 6.3 – Geo. Bay Coastal Trail: Action – Eric to forward donation cheque of \$1,500. Done – Jan. 16th.

Item 6.3 – Request from OMNR that Jan. 10 minutes be amended as follows (changes in red):
Request from Georgian Bay Coastal Trail:

- *Resolution: The EGBSC agrees to become a supporting partner in the Georgian Bay Coastal Trail initiative and provide financial support in two annual payments of \$1500 in 2009 and 2010. This funding is intended to support the production of a feasibility study. Carried.*
- **Action: Eric to notify Kirsten Spence**
- *(Addendum for clarification: Money for the above resolution is to come from EGBSC general funds and is not affiliated with our custodial co-management project.)*

Item 6.6 – Action: Eric to send letter to First Nations extending open invitation to participate in EGBSC matters. Done – sent Feb. 9th.

Items 6.4 & 6.5 – Revisions as discussed made to Annual Report and 2008 Update; documents posted on our website.

Item 6.6 – Revisions to Terms of Reference. Done.

2.2 Review of Feb. 25th Minutes:

Item 1.3 – Action: Eric to advise Cate Ahrens of linkages between wildlife habitat messages delivered by Roy Warriner and possible curriculum content for Educator's Network. Done – Mar. 4

Item 3.2 – Action: Eric to contact Bob Florean to set-out revised timeline for Regional Economic Development Project. Done.

Item 3.6 – Action: Eric to make payment (\$1250) to French River Stewardship Council (2nd and final instalment). Done – Feb. 27.

Item 6.2 – Chimney Swift project with Parry Sound Nature Club – Eric to contact Glenda Clayton (PS Nature Club Pres.) to determine contribution request amount. Done - \$200.

Discussion & Resolution: EGBSC to contribute \$200 towards the project as requested. Carried.

Item 6.4 – Action: Eric to draft response letter to Shawanaga FN indicating our willingness to partners on signage project for 'Turtle Rock'; request Shawanaga liaison on our Council. Done –

Mar. 4 / Follow-up phone call Mar. 18

Item 6.5 – Membership. Action: Eric to invite Doug Graham to attend Council meeting. Doug wishes to decline.

Action: John Bell to invite Dave Powell to attend Council meeting. Dave interested in attending a future meeting but could not make March 24th meeting.

Action: Eric to contact Graham Poole to inquire if he wishes to continue as Council member. Done – Graham wishes to relinquish full member status but become an Associate member.

Action: Terry to contact Deb to inquire if she wishes to continue as a full member. Deb declined; resignation accepted. Council acknowledges and expresses thanks for many years of service to this and the previous North Channel – E. Geo. Bay Fisheries Advisory Council.

3.0 Updates:

3.1 GBBR Update:

- Looking to employ an Environmental Education Facilitator to develop lesson plans on species and habitats that fit with current curriculum. Would identify field trips and outdoor sessions near each school; train teachers and launch a series of Lessons-in-the-backpack. Facilitator would support teachers in and outside the classroom, provide online resources and engage community volunteers in helping with program. Program intended to be self-sustaining in two years.
- Seeking Trillium funding for the position of Facilitator, but partner support dollars are required also. Seeking \$1.5 – 2.5k per year in '09 and '10 from EGBSC.

Discussion: General consensus amongst council that this is a highly worthwhile endeavour and we should be supportive of it. Some concern expressed about availability of money in 2010.

- **Resolution: The EGBSC wholly supports the GBBR in its endeavour to secure an Environmental Education Facilitator. The Council will donate \$1.5k in 2009 and review our financial situation prior to making a commitment for 2010. Donation is contingent upon the GBBR receiving a Trillium grant to commence the initiative.**

3.2 Regional Economic Development Project – Fisheries Rehabilitation Action Plan for the North Channel and Eastern Georgian Bay:

- Bob and Eric would like to invite the Sault Ste. Marie Stewardship Council to be a supporting partner in this initiative. This is a new OS council / no funding expected or requested at this time.
- Bob has drawn up a draft contract that Ivan is reviewing.

3.3 Fishing Tournament Issue:

- EGBSC letter to Fisheries Branch (Feb. 2) and Feb. 12 reply – were part of handout package for Feb. 25th meeting.
- No further action required by Council, nor is any further response from MNR anticipated.

3.4 2008 Twelve-Mile Bay ESTN Survey:

- Report complete & now posted on our website

- 3.5 2008 Five–Mile Bay SLIN Survey:
- Report now complete and posted on our website
- 3.6 French River (Water Quality) Stewardship Council:
- Joe Dipong (March 1/09 e-mail): “On Behalf of the French River Stewardship Council please pass along our thanks to the EGBSC for their continued financial support.”
 - For information purposes: Copy of their latest newsletter included in handout
 - The EGBSC would like to retain liaison with the FRSC; continue to exchange minutes on an associate member basis.
 - **Action: Eric to attend their July 26th meeting.**
- 3.7 2009 Lake Stewardship Workshop
- Have booked the Stockey Centre in Parry Sound (June 22) - \$577.50 rental fee
 - Workshop outline provided in handout to Council
 - Speakers: MOE (Ngan Diep and possibly one other), Karl Schiefer, Gord Miller – Env. Commissioner.
 - FOCA unable to send a presenter
 - **Action (Eric): Ask Judy Brouse of the Muskoka Watershed Council if they could attend as a presenter.**
- 3.8 Moon River Walleye Egg Collection:
- Project will be lead by Bill (Eric will be conducting index spawners survey at Go Home Bay)
 - Eggs to supply Moon River hatchery
 - Emergent fry from hatchery: destined for Moon River, Tadenac Bay (ponds) and to Venard Robitaille for rearing to advanced fingerling / yearling stage
 - Scott Finucan and Dave Gonder intend to conduct flow velocity assessment of enhanced spawning bed.
- 3.9 Tadenac Bay – Experimental Walleye Culture Project
- Project approved by Tadenac Club
 - **Action: Eric to provide Gary Patineau (care-taker) with seine nets with which to cordon off embayments.**
- 3.10 Go Home Bay Walleye Rehabilitation Project
- Draft Project Description Report – part of handout to Council
 - UGLMU comments:
 - Stocking number to be at discretion of UGLMU (number will most likely be constrained by funding as opposed to ecological considerations)
 - Egg harvest from Moon River not to increase beyond 1 million
 - Duration of stocking – 3-4 years
 - Environmental Screening Report has been sent to MNR for screening designation. Hope to have project designated Category A. (No further EA requirements necessary.) Nonetheless, will inform and seek comments from prospective partners: GBA, GBAF, GBLT, GBBR, Wah-Wah-Taysee Assn., Cognashene Assn. and most importantly – Madawaska Club at Go Home Bay.
 - Preliminary response from Madawaska Club has been favourable.

4.0 Financial Report

- Copies of report distributed in handout
- This is the year-end financial report.

5.0 Work Planning

- 5.1 Draft 2009 Work Plan Proposal presented to Council (copy in handout)
- Project additions / deletions / revisions necessary?
 - **Action (Eric): Work Plan needs to be posted to our website to receive MNR support funding.**
 - The Work Plan is a dynamic document that will change as the year proceeds. Some new projects – yet unplanned may be brought on stream and some planned may not necessarily proceed. **Work planning to be reviewed at future meetings.**
 - Gerry indicated the Kapikog Lake Cottagers' Assn. will be approaching our Council for support of their project to construct bat houses and nesting boxes.
 - Suggestion that we have nesting boxes / loon platform / bat houses – available at the Lake Stewardship workshop to generate interest and ideas amongst participants.

6.0 Business Arising / New Business

- 6.1 Request from Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) for field assistance to aid with Colonial Water-bird survey:
- Time period: May 11 – 25; counting ring-billed and herring gull nests; looking for two volunteers for 3-5 days
 - Council would like to assist CWS; Eric to volunteer time – as available. If additional assistance required – contact PS Nature Club, PS high school and/or PS Anglers & Hunters.
- 6.2 Fish Regulation Stickers (potential fundraiser project)
- Potential Council fundraising project; 'Toonie a tape'
 - Price quote: 5k - \$4.7k / 7k – \$5.4k / 10k – \$6.2k from Annan & Sons
- Discussion:
- Possible partners: GBBR / GBAF / Muskies Canada / Bass Pro Shops
 - Tapes need to be UV protected; old ones faded badly
 - Some concern expressed that we don't have the marketing infrastructure
 - Tapes, collection jars and fundraising brochures could be dropped off at marinas and resorts up and down the Bay.
 - Possibly we could get partners to fund the tapes and distribute for free
 - Eric to investigate if Bass Pro Shops might be interested in partnership
- 6.3 GB-5 Meeting – March 11
- Attendees: Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve (GBBR), Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT), Georgian Bay Association (GBA), Georgian Bay Area Foundation (GBAF) and EGBSC.
 - Draft minutes from meeting included in handout
 - Summary of meeting to be published in GBA Update

- 6.4 Moon River – Pre-freshet conference Call
- Scheduled for March 31 @ 8:45 am
 - Council members to be on: Terry, Bill, Eric, Mike
 - **Action (Eric): Contact Phil Hall to inquire about background material**
- 6.5 Georgian Bay Association Annual Spring Meeting
- Scheduled for Tue. April 14 7-9 pm
 - Eric & Bill (if available) to attend
- 6.6 Crown Land Stewardship Workshop
- March 23 @ Quality Inn (old Jolly Roger)
 - GBBR lead initiative, but EGBSC co-hosting. Discussions with key user groups to identify threats and partnerships / stewardship activities to address them.
- 6.7 Conservation Strategy For Lake Huron Workshop (also called Biodiversity Project Workshop) (Mar. 30 & 31/09 – Sarnia)
- Background material has been sent to Terry and Eric; neither can attend. Other volunteers – negative.
 - Audrey Lapenna of MNR has indicated there will be follow-up information sessions with one probably in Parry Sound. Members of Council will make a concerted effort to attend this.
- 6.8 FMZ-14 Council:
- Invitation from UGLMU to attend inaugural meeting May 9 in Owen Sound.
 - Eric and Terry to attend on behalf of EGBSC.
 - It is important that we have good representation from eastern Georgian Bay otherwise proponents/representatives from elsewhere on the Bay may exert undue influence
 - **Eric to advise UGLMU we may wish to have additional EGBSC members sit on this committee, but May 9th timing was not good for most of our members.**
- 6.9 Joint Muskoka – Parry Sound SC & EGBSC Meeting or event
- The Muskoka – Parry Sound Stewardship Council has expressed an interest for a joint meeting or event. Councils could learn from one another in terms of various perspectives, procedures and how matters are dealt with
- Discussion:
- Our meetings are currently packed as it is; little opportunity / willingness to lengthen a meeting to include other council's business
 - We do acknowledge benefits from observing other points of view and we want to 'keep-the-door-open' to accrue these benefits. Suggestion we exchange minutes on an associate member basis.
 - If the MPSSC holds a meeting or event nearby, several local EGBSC members may avail themselves to attend to improve liaison between councils.

7.0 Date for Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 27 – 6:00 pm OMNR Parry Sound boardroom.