Minutes

Friday, June 19, 2009
12:30 p.m.

Muskoka Boat & Heritage Centre – Grace & Speed
Gravenhurst Wharf

Present:
Ian Turnbull          Patricia Arney          Margaret Casey
Fran Coleman          Deb Cumming            Tonia Di Sabatino
Karen Flood           Lou Guerriero          Eleanor Lewis
Anna Mallin           Mary McCulley          Jan McDonnell
Rob Milligan          Steve Munro            Peter Seybold
Al Shaw               Brian Sturgeon         Scott Young

Regrets:
Ken Black            Ben Boivin              Dan Brooks
Diane Griffin         Don MacKay             Don McVittie
Brian Tapley          Alicia Tyson           Jim Walden
Rick Wright

Staff:
Judi Brouse           Rebecca Willison

Tour of Gravenhurst
Gravenhurst Mayor John Klinck and Manager of Development Services Nick Popovich led a tour of four sites in Gravenhurst to demonstrate some of the environmental considerations that have been incorporated into new developments. The first area of interest was the Gravenhurst Wharf, where dark-sky light fixtures with LED bulbs have been installed. Other improvements in the area include extending municipal services along Hwy 169 to reduce the number of private septic systems, removing approximately 8,000 tonnes of contaminated soil, renaturalizing a portion of the shoreline, replacing a culvert with fish spawning habitat, and installing stormceptors to filter contaminants out of the stormwater before it reaches the bay.

Participants then proceeded to Muskoka Bay Golf Club where they viewed an example of wetland preservation in the golf course. Muskoka Bay is applying for certification through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses. An old municipal landfill on the property has been revegetated. The third stop on the tour was at the Granite Trail Condominiums, where site designers worked with the landscape to preserve a ravine and coldwater stream.

The tour concluded at Gateway Fibreworks, where Gail Stiver led a tour highlighting the low impact development features incorporated into the building, including a rainwater collection system, a living wall and a graywater recycling system. Gail plans on installing a green roof, rain gardens, and permeable pavement in the future.
Welcome
Ian Turnbull called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m. by thanking Lou Guerriero and the Town of Gravenhurst for providing lunch and organizing the tour.

Confirmation of Minutes
MOTION by Anna Mallin, seconded by Jan McDonnell

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated May 15, 2009 be approved.

CARRIED

Activity Report
MOTION by Patricia Arney, seconded by Anna Mallin

THAT the Activity Report for June 2009 be approved.

CARRIED

Council Biographies
Muskoka Watershed Council members Jan McDonnell and Eleanor Lewis provided brief verbal autobiographies for the Council.

Updates & New Business
• 2009 Environmental Lecture Series – the second lecture is scheduled for July 23rd at the Port Carling Community Centre and will feature Dr. Andrew Paterson speaking about Algae & Our Lakes.
• Muskoka Lakes Association is holding an information seminar on July 18th at 9:30 am in the Port Carling Community Centre.
• Muskoka Envirocredits will officially launch on Tuesday, June 30th at 9:30 am at Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville.

Correspondence
• Letter from Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty re: the Green Energy and Green Economy Act
• Letter from DMM re: Muskoka Growth Strategy – Draft Phase 2 Report
• Letter from CAISN re: Midpoint Report

Committee Meetings
• Communications – Monday, August 17th at 1:30 pm in the Birch Room at the District of Muskoka
• Policy & Research – Friday, August 28th at 10:00 am in the Birch Room at the District of Muskoka
• Strategic Directions – Friday, August 21st at 10:00 am in the Birch Room at the District of Muskoka
• Executive – Friday, August 21st at 1:00 pm in the Birch Room at the District of Muskoka

Next Meeting
Friday, August 28, 2009 at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers at the District of Muskoka.

Adjournment
Ian Turnbull adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.