



Minutes

Friday, September 18, 2009

12:30 p.m.

Rosseau Memorial Hall
Victoria Street, Rosseau

Present:

Ian Turnbull	Patricia Arney	Ken Black
Ben Boivin	Margaret Casey	Fran Coleman
Karen Flood	Lou Guerriero	Eleanor Lewis
Anna Mallin	Mary McCulley	Jan McDonnell
Don McVittie	Rob Milligan	Peter Sale
Al Shaw	Brian Sturgeon	Peter Seybold
Scott Young		

Regrets:

Dan Brooks	Tonia Di Sabatino	Diane Griffin
Don MacKay	Steve Munro	Brian Tapley
Alicia Tyson	Jim Walden	

Staff:

Judi Brouse	Rebecca Willison
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Guests:

David Conn	Chris Madej
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Tour of Rosseau Waterfront

Mayor David Conn welcome the members of MWC to Rosseau and provided some background on the efforts of Seguin Township to become an 'environment first' municipality. Seguin contains 186 lakes in four watersheds covering 750 square kilometers. There are approximately 4,500 households, of which two thirds are seasonal. The Township has adopted the slogan "The Natural Place To Be."

Seguin Township's Official Plan supports an environment first approach, and the zoning bylaw, tree-cutting bylaw, and fill and blasting bylaw reflect this. A water quality monitoring program similar to Muskoka's was developed two years ago, and a shoreline stewardship guide is being developed and will be distributed to all households in the Township. The Township is also trying to limit commercial development on its lakes, and has worked with the MTO to limit the number of billboards along the highways.

Seguin Township recently redeveloped the public waterfront in Rosseau as well as the Rosseau Memorial Hall. Previously, the waterfront area consisted of beach, lawn and a boat ramp. Facilities were upgraded to include a new boat ramp, washrooms and a gazebo, and stormwater management ponds were constructed to capture runoff and sediment.

Welcome

Ian Turnbull called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. by thanking Mayor Conn, Brian Sturgeon and the Township of Seguin for providing lunch and hosting the meeting.

Confirmation of Minutes

MOTION by Ben Boivin, seconded by Margaret Casey

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated August 28, 2009 be approved.

CARRIED

2010 Report Card Discussion

Judi Brouse gave a presentation highlighting the Wetland Section of the 2010 Report Card and received input from Council members. The Council discussed whether the Wetland Section of the Report Card should contain grades or indicate 'Insufficient Data' and contain a section designed to educate users on the importance of wetlands. It was decided that the Strategic Directions Committee will look at this issue in more detail and provide a recommendation to MWC at the meeting in October.

Updates & New Business

- The Muskoka Awards Banquet is being held on September 18th, 2009 at the Rosseau, J.W. Marriot Resort and Spa. The Muskoka Heritage Foundation has been nominated in two categories and Ken Black and George Snider have been nominated in one category.

Committee Meetings

- Communications – Monday, September 28 at 1:30 p.m. in the Birch Room at the District of Muskoka
- Policy & Research – Friday, October 23th at 10:00 a.m. in the Birch Room at the District of Muskoka
- Strategic Directions – Friday, October 2nd at 9:00 a.m. in the Birch Room at the District of Muskoka
- Executive – Friday, October 2nd at 1:00 p.m. in the Birch Room at the District of Muskoka

Next Meeting

Friday, October 23, 2009 at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers at the District of Muskoka.

Adjournment

Ian Turnbull adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.