



Minutes

Friday, April 20, 2012
1:00 pm

Council Chambers – District Municipality of Muskoka
70 Pine Street, Bracebridge

Present

Peter Sale (Acting Chair)	Shane Baker	Nic Bell
Ben Boivin	Margaret Casey	Patsy Cross
Valerie Fieldwebster	Lou Guerriero	Isobel Heathcote
Gord Henderson	Jack Hepworth	Piret Hurrell
Steve Inniss	Richard Lammers	Anna Mallin
Mary McCulley	Jan McDonnell	Don McVittie
Greg Mierle	Rob Milligan	Michael Peppard
Geoff Ross	Lyle Steep	Paul Stueck
Ian Turnbull	Scott Young	

Regrets

Scott Aitchison	Patricia Arney	Bob Bergquist
Lola Bratty	Dan Brooks	Louise Cragg
Neil Hutchinson	Caroline Konarzewski	Steve Munro
Ruth Nishikawa	Tracey Rast	Ken Riley
Mary Robertson-Lacroix	Peter Seybold	Al Shaw
Debbie Vernon	Paul Wiancko	

Staff

Judi Brouse	Rebecca Willison	Marg French
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Guests

Welcome

Peter Sale called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm with roundtable introductions. He congratulated Rebecca Willison for receiving the District of Muskoka Evergreen Award. An item on Snapping turtles was added to the agenda under New Business.

Presentation

[The Value of Shoreline Buffers](#) – Jan McDonnell, Wildlife Biologist, Ministry of Natural Resources

Peter thanked Jan for her presentation.

Confirmation of Minutes

MOTION by Isobel Heathcote, seconded by Jack Hepworth

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated March 23, 2012 be approved.

CARRIED

Correspondence

- Letter from the Town of Bracebridge re: the receipt of a 2012 Community Grant

Updates and New Business

- *April 2012 Activity Report* – was distributed with the agenda and reviewed at the meeting.
 - Policy & Research Committee – Peter Sale summarized the draft Biodiversity Paper circulated to MWC earlier in the week. Comments on the paper can be sent to jbrowse@muskoka.on.ca. The paper will be brought to MWC for approval at the May 18th meeting. The revised Aggregate Resources Position Paper has been posted on the MWC website for comment.
 - Communications Committee – A Biodiversity Summit Blog was created to solicit comments on the communiqué for the Biodiversity Summit.
 - Strategic Directions Committee – Lou Guerriero presented a review of indicators for the 2014 Report Card. Judi Brouse gave a presentation about the Watershed Inventory Project and how it is used for the Report Card.
- Snapping Turtles – EBR posting on new reporting requirements for harvesting snapping turtles.

MOTION

THAT Muskoka Watershed Council submit comments to the EBR congratulating them on increasing reporting requirements on the harvesting of Snapping turtles and encouraging them to require that all hunting cease on species listed as a Species at Risk.

CARRIED

- [Muskoka Stewardship Conference](#) – will be held April 28, 2012
- [Biodiversity Summit](#) – will be held June 6-7, 2012
- Student Projects – have received all student reports, which will be posted on the MWC website.
- MWC Wetland Workshop – scheduled for June 11, 2012
- Community Futures, Trans Canada, and BEAN funding applications still outstanding.

Member Organization Updates

- Patsy Cross – The Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve lost their core funding in the last federal budget so they are fundraising to make up the \$57,000.
- Scott Young – DMM budget was passed last week.
- Don McVittie – The Parry Sound-Muskoka Stewardship Network lost funding for its coordinator but will still continue with the Stewardship Rangers program.

Next MWC Meeting

Friday, May 18, 2012 in the Council Chambers at the District Municipality of Muskoka Administration Building.

Adjournment

Peter Sale adjourned the meeting at 2:50 pm.