



Minutes

Friday, May 18, 2012
1:00 pm

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

Present

Patricia Arney
Margaret Casey
Isobel Heathcote
Neil Hutchinson
Tracey Rast
Peter Sale
Scott Young

Shane Baker
Louise Cragg
Jack Hepworth
Caroline Konarzewski
Ken Riley
Peter Seybold

Ben Boivin
Patsy Cross
Piret Hurrell
Richard Lammers
Geoff Ross
Ian Turnbull

Regrets

Scott Aitchison
Dan Brooks
Gord Henderson
Mary McCulley
Greg Mierle
Ruth Nishikawa
Al Shaw
Debbie Vernon

Nic Bell
Valerie Fieldwebster
Steve Inniss
Jan McDonnell
Rob Milligan
Michael Peppard
Lyle Steep
Paul Wiancko

Lola Bratty
Lou Guerriero
Anna Mallin
Don McVittie
Steve Munro
Mary Robertson-Lacroix
Paul Stueck

Staff

Judi Brouse

Rebecca Willison

Marg French

Guests

Kristie Virgoe
Rosemarie Hinzmann

Summer Valentine

Coel Balmer

Welcome

Patricia Arney called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm with roundtable introductions. Patricia welcomed the new Executive Director from the Muskoka Heritage Foundation, Kristie Virgoe.

Presentation

[MWC Biodiversity Report](#) – Peter Sale and Ian Turnbull, MWC Biodiversity Sub-committee

The paper will form the basis of further broad-based action.

Ken Riley agrees with the paper up to page 27. He has some specific concerns with the stats and figures used and the complexity of the science section. In response, Patricia noted that the paper included a reference to the fact that there are differing opinions on the statistics. She reiterated that the motion is to post a draft of the paper for feedback and not approving the paper as a final position paper.

MOTION by Ian Turnbull, seconded by Isobel Heathcote
THAT the report "Muskoka's Biodiversity: Understanding our Past to Protect our Future"
dated May 11, 2012 be approved for public comment on the MWC website.

CARRIED

Confirmation of Minutes

MOTION by Tracey Rast, seconded by Ian Turnbull
THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated April 20, 2012
be approved.

CARRIED

Correspondence

- Letter from the Muskoka Landowners' Association
- MWC comments on EBR Registry Number 011-6043 (Snapping Turtles)
- MWC letter to the Provincial government re: review of the ARA
- Letter notifying MWC that funding was received from Community Futures for the Biodiversity Summit.

Chair's Items

- MWC membership – photos and biographies will be posted on the MWC website for each member, beginning with the Executive Committee.
- MWC presentation to DMM re: [Official Plan Review](#) – remove reference to D34 (secondary dwellings).

MOTION by Isobel Heathcote, seconded by Peter Sale

THAT the MWC Chair be authorized to prepare and give a presentation to DMM
with respect to the review of the Muskoka Official Plan as detailed in the Chair's
presentation to MWC dated May 18, 2012.

CARRIED

Updates and New Business

- *May 2012 Activity Report* – was distributed with the agenda and reviewed at the meeting.
- Neil Hutchinson spoke to MWC about the recent announcement about the [closure of the Experimental Lakes Area program](#).

MOTION by Neil Hutchinson, seconded by Peter Seybold

THAT MWC write a [letter to the federal government](#) encouraging them to rethink
their decision to close the Experimental Lakes Area.

CARRIED

- [Biodiversity Summit](#) – will be held June 6-7, 2012

Next MWC Meeting

Friday, June 22, 2012 at the Raymond Community Hall in Muskoka Lakes. Lunch begins at 12:00 pm
and the meeting begins at 1:00 pm.

Adjournment

Patricia Arney adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.