



Minutes

Friday, October 16, 2015

1:00 pm

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

Present

Peter Sale (Chair)	Patricia Arney	Shane Baker
Margaret Casey	Louise Cragg	Patsy Cross
Lou Guerriero	Jack Hepworth	Leeanne Leduc
Brian Lynch	Victoria McDonald	Jan McDonnell
Michael Peppard	Geoff Ross	Al Shaw
Don Smith	Kevin Trimble	Ian Turnbull (@ 2:30 pm)
Debbie Vernon	Paul Wiancko	Norm Yan

Staff

Samantha Hastings	Christy Doyle	Rebecca Willison
Paul Grinnell		

Guests

Fred Jahn	Marcus Firman	Michelle Hendrie
Rob Tanner	Chris Cragg	Jamie Delaney
Gail Hepworth		

Welcome

Peter Sale called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

Confirmation of Minutes

MOTION by Kevin Trimble, seconded by Debbie Vernon

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated September 18, 2015 be approved.

CARRIED

Correspondence

- None

Chair's Items

- Raffle tickets are available for the upcoming kayak raffle to raise money for Friends of the Muskoka Watershed. The draw will take place following the MWC meeting on November 27th.

- Environmental Lecture - Water fleas, big data and 21st century technology: Case studies in Muskoka and Sudbury point the way to saving the world with Dr. John Kenneth Colbourne will be held on October 26th.

Presentations

- [Muskoka's Public Infrastructure and Environmental Implications](#) – Fred Jahn, *The District Municipality of Muskoka*

Mr. Jahn provided a high level look at the responsibilities of the [Engineering and Public Works Department](#) at the District of Muskoka, touching on stormwater management and waste management. Following a number of questions, Peter thanked Fred for his presentation.

- Planning for Mid-Century: Managing Climate Change in Muskoka ([Draft Technical Document - Recommendations](#)) – Peter Sale, *Muskoka Watershed Council*

Peter reviewed the draft recommendations from the Technical Report. Many comments were received from the Council and will be incorporated into the next draft of the document.

Activity Report

The October 2015 Activity Report was distributed with the agenda.

Updates and New Business

- Phragmites – Christy Doyle provided an overview of the Phragmites issue in Muskoka and some potential options for moving forward. She highlighted the [Phragspotter](#) app and showed the distribution of sightings across Muskoka. MWC is in a position to send a letter to DMM encouraging them to allocate funds to the issue while MWC investigates best management practices and advises how to proceed. Paul Wiancko outlined the seriousness of the issue in the Township of Georgian Bay and noted that stands of Phragmites are mostly near major roadways and should be eradicated before it spreads further into Muskoka's natural areas. Paul encouraged MWC members to download the app and submit sightings so we can get a better idea of where it is found in Muskoka. Patsy Cross was involved in eradication efforts this summer along the Georgian Bay coast through a program coordinated by Georgian Bay Forever.

MOTION by Patricia Arney, seconded by Patsy Cross

THAT Muskoka Watershed Council requests that an allocation within the District of Muskoka's Public Works and Engineering Department budget be made available to address the control of Phragmites within the District of Muskoka.

CARRIED

- FMW – Raffle tickets are available for the kayak raffle draw being held on November 27th. FMW's membership drive will commence soon and MWC members are encourage to renew their membership. The Great Muskoka Paddling Experience held on October 10th was very successful.

Next MWC Meeting

Friday, November 27, 2015 in the Council Chambers at the District of Muskoka administration office, 70 Pine Street in Bracebridge beginning at 1:00 pm.

Adjournment

Peter Sale adjourned the meeting at 3:15 pm.