



# *Muskoka*

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## WATERSHED COUNCIL

### Minutes

Friday, January 18, 2013  
1:00 pm

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

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#### Present

Patricia Arney (Chair)	Louise Cragg	George Crawford
Patsy Cross	Lou Guerriero	Isobel Heathcote
Gord Henderson	Jack Hepworth	Piret Hurrell
Steve Inniss	Caroline Konarzewski	Richard Lammers
Mary McCulley	Jan McDonnell	Brian McElwain
Rob Milligan	Michael Peppard	Geoff Ross
Peter Sale	Peter Seybold	Ian Turnbull
Debbie Vernon	Scott Young	

#### Regrets

Allyn Abbott	Scott Aitchison	Shane Baker
Nic Bell	Lola Bratty	Margaret Casey
Tom Clark	Neil Hutchinson	Anna Mallin
Don McVittie	Greg Mierle	Steve Munro
Ruth Nishikawa	Al Shaw	Paul Stueck
Paul Wiancko		

#### Staff

Rebecca Willison

#### Guests

Ben Boivin	Chris Marshall	Valerie Fieldwebster
Samantha Hastings	Kim Lafromboise	Mark Misko
Clark Heitman	Sandy Schofield	Pat Schofield
Dennis Lawson	Chris Near	

#### Welcome

Patricia Arney called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

- Great Muskoka Paddling Experience organizers Sandy Schofield, Dennis Lawson and Chris Near presented MWC with a cheque for \$2,510.70. The money was raised at the paddling event held on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Sandy announced that the 2013 event will occur on October 12<sup>th</sup>. On behalf of MWC, Patricia expressed great appreciation for the donation and commended Sandy and the organizers for their outstanding success as a provincially honoured paddling event for both the first and second years.

- Recognition of Long Term Service – Ben Boivin

Patricia presented a card and framed photograph to MWC founding member Ben Boivin in recognition of his dedication to the projects and programs of MWC over the past 11 years. Ben thanked MWC and noted how great a group of dedicated people MWC is and wished them well in the future.

### **Confirmation of Minutes**

**MOTION** by Lou Guerriero, seconded by Gord Henderson

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

**CARRIED**

### **Correspondence**

- none

### **Presentations**

- [Muskoka Road 12 and 48: A Case Study in Wildlife Mitigation Techniques](#) - Kim Laframboise, Ecologist/Species at Risk Specialist at Michalski Nielsen Associates Limited and Mark Misko, Transportation Services Coordinator for the District Municipality of Muskoka

Patricia Arney thanked Kim and Mark for their presentation.

- [Political Activities and Charities](#) – Peter Sale, MWC Vice-Chair

### **Items of Business**

- MWC Budget - was distributed with the agenda. Patricia provided the opportunity for questions, but there were none.
- New and Retiring Members  
Patricia thanked the retiring members for their efforts to promote MWC and its messages and noted that letters of appreciation have been sent to them. She then welcomed several new members.
  - Brian McElwain – is the Past President of the Muskoka Lakes Association and an executive director. He is a real estate agent for Re/Max Hallmark Realty Ltd in Port Carling with a cottage on Lake Rosseau for the last 20 years.
  - Richard Lammers – is a Research Assistant Professor at the Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space at the University of New Hampshire as well as Co-director of the Water Systems Analysis Group. His focus is on large-scale hydrology. He is a resident of Bracebridge.
  - George Crawford – lives on Lake Vernon within the Town of Huntsville. He recently retired after a long career as a water quality specialist and wastewater treatment process engineer.

- Geoff Ross – recently became a full-time resident of Muskoka after retiring from a career as an Engineer developing pollution control programs and standards for Environment Canada. He lives on Skeleton Lake.
- Michael Peppard – has been a resident of Lake of Bays for the past year and has recently launched a not-for-profit 'Eco Muskoka Conservation' organization.

### Updates and New Business

- *January 2013 Activity Report* – was distributed with the agenda and reviewed at the meeting.
- **Policy & Research Committee** – Peter Sale reported that the Committee met this morning where they discussed the review of position papers that is to occur every five years. The following papers are scheduled to be reviewed in 2013:
  - Bulk Water Removal;
  - Economic Development;
  - Golf Course Best Management Practices; and
  - Forest Health Program.

Ongoing projects include:

- Organizing biodiversity meetings in Bracebridge, Gravenhurst and Huntsville;
- Lifecycle of packaging (please send ideas for businesses who might be interested in participating in a pilot project to [rwillison@muskokawatershed.org](mailto:rwillison@muskokawatershed.org));
- Developing algae factsheets and a monitoring program; and
- Planning for the Environment handbook.
- **Strategic Directions Committee** – Lou Guerriero reported that the Committee has been working on the 2014 Report Card. The Water Indicators Workshop was held in November and the Land Indicators Workshop will be held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The indicators and background reports are all being reviewed.
- **Communications Committee** – Steve Inniss provided an overview of the concept of the 2014 Digital Report Card. He also spoke briefly about the communications plan for the Report Card. Rob Milligan questioned whether we can repackage the data on a municipality basis. The idea will be considered by the Strategic Directions Committee.
- Muskoka Stewardship Conference – April 27<sup>th</sup> at Nipissing University in Bracebridge. Theme: What Are You Watching?

### Next MWC Meeting

Friday, February 15, 2013 in the Council Chambers at the District Municipality of Muskoka Administration Building.

### Adjournment

Patricia Arney adjourned the meeting at 2:55 pm.