



Minutes

Friday, February 19, 2016

1:00 pm

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

Present

Lou Guerriero (Chair)	Shane Baker	Margarete Cameron
Patsy Cross	Don Furniss	Jack Hepworth
Piret Hurrell	Randy Jorgensen	Mara Kerry
Caroline Konarzewski	Victoria McDonald	Steve Munro
Peter Sale	Don Smith	Kevin Trimble
Ian Turnbull	Debbie Vernon	Norm Yan
Scott Young		

Staff

Christy Doyle	Rebecca Willison	Paul Grinnell
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Guests

Mark Allen	James Blackman	Nick Popovich
Stephanie Worrone	Sharon Pattinson	Jen LeMesurier
Gail Hepworth		

Welcome

Lou Guerriero called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

Confirmation of Minutes

MOTION by Jack Hepworth, seconded by Shane Baker

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated January 22, 2016 be approved.

CARRIED

Correspondence

- None

Chair's Items

- None

Presentation

[Building for 2020: A Road to Net Zero building in Muskoka](#) - James Blackman and Mark Allen, Co-Owners of [Tapial Homes](#) and [Muskoka Sustainable Builders Inc.](#)

James discussed the path taken by Tapial Homes to develop energy efficient, net zero capable homes in the Muskoka region. Tapial Homes specializes in building Cement Stabilized, Reinforced and Insulated, Rammed Earth walls. CSRIRE can be used to achieve a very high performing wall systems that are simply stunning inside and out. Along with its high mass and internal insulation, CSRIRE walls have no toxic chemicals, high durability, and fire resistance making them a very unique wall system.

Lou thanked James and Mark for their informative presentation with a gift.

[Monitoring Muskoka's Water](#) – Rebecca Willison, Watershed Planning Technician, District Municipality of Muskoka

DMM carries out a recreational water quality monitoring program with approximately 193 sample locations across Muskoka. The purpose of the program is to identify water quality trends by establishing a long-term record of key water quality parameters, including water chemistry and nutrients, clarity, temperature, biological community, and land use. The annual report, containing an overview of the 2015 program and results, was presented.

Activity Report

- Policy & Research Committee – Christy Doyle reported that the committee met that morning and discussed the endocrine disrupting compounds (EDCs) paper, advanced the crown land protection and management document, and discussed potential committee restructuring to address and achieve MWC's future policy and research objectives.
- Christy Doyle reported that there are several key communications projects coming up this spring (including MWC's involvement in Canadian Water Week, Huntsville's Earth Week, the Cottage Life Show, products being developed to support the Climate Change work, and the release of MWC/DMM's Phragmites Identification Card). Members interested in assisting with these efforts can contact Christy.

Updates and New Business

- Peter Sale will be giving a presenting MWC's Climate Paper to the District Council on March 21st. Peter will also be giving a lecture on Climate Change April 21st as part of Huntsville's Earth Week.
- With funding obtained from the Muskoka Community Foundation through the Smart & Caring Muskoka program, a wallet-sized identification card on Phragmites has been developed and will soon be available. MWC will be organizing a launch event in conjunction with the April MWC meeting.
- FMW – Norman Yan and Paul Grinnell reported that the membership drive is underway and encouraged people to renew their membership. Paul reported on FMW's efforts to solicit major gifts and encouraged people to check out the new FMW website to review the new narrative.
- Muskoka Summit on the Environment – Registration is open and people are encouraged to register soon. Information was provided about the MSE Research Grant, Poster Session, and Art Show.

- Provincial issues – Mara Kerry reported that Fisheries Management Zone 15 is undergoing its planning process and there is opportunity for the public to engage, including on an advisory committee. Development of the next Forest Management Plan for the French-Severn Forest District is underway, led by Westwind and MNRF. There will be opportunity for public input. The Invasive Species Act hasn't come into force yet but is expected to in the next year. There are some resources available online including [a strategy](#), information about specific species on the [Invading Species Awareness Program](#) website, and methods to report sightings (i.e. [EDDMapS](#)). Shane asked whether there will be grants available for dealing with invasive species, but Mara could not confirm the provincial position at this time.
- Scott Young commented that he was pleased to see the energy and progress being made by the Council after being away for the better part of a year. He looks forward to seeing the Muskoka Conservancy and MWC working together in the future. He introduced Jen LeMesurier, who also works at the Conservancy.

Next MWC Meeting

Friday, March 18, 2016 in the Council Chambers at the District of Muskoka administration office, 70 Pine Street in Bracebridge beginning at 1:00 pm.

Adjournment

Lou Guerriero adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm.