



Minutes

Friday, April 21, 2017
1:00 pm

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

Present

Lou Guerriero (Chair)	Brenda Armstrong	Patricia Arney
Shane Baker	Chris Cragg	Louise Cragg
George Crawford	Paul Dinner	Gord Henderson
Jack Hepworth	Piret Hurrell	Jenn LeMesurier
Brian Lynch	Rob Milligan	Michael Peppard
Geoff Ross	Peter Sale	Kevin Trimble

Staff

Christy Doyle	Rebecca Willison
---------------	------------------

Speakers

Andrea Smith (Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd.)	Katie Paroschy and Carmen Pereira (MWC EDC Sub-committee)
--	--

Community

Peter Jennings	Rob Attfield	Peggy Peterson
Leslie Henderson	Judy Dunn	Mary Beth Hartill
Nancy (@2:10 pm)		

Welcome

Chair Lou Guerriero called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

Confirmation of Minutes

MOTION by Kevin Trimble, seconded by Jack Hepworth

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated March 17, 2017 be approved.

CARRIED

Presentations

- [Here, There and Everywhere: are we prepared for the invaders?](#) – Dr. Andrea Smith, Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd.

Invasive species are considered one of the greatest global threats to biodiversity and can have profound negative effects on the economy and society as well. Yet, compared with other major

environmental problems, like climate change and pollution, invasive species have garnered relatively little public and political attention to date.

Andrea provided an overview of the invasive species situation in Canada by reviewing major threats and challenges, and discussed how well we are addressing the problem through legislation, public awareness and stewardship tools.

Lou thanked Andrea for her presentation.

- [Pharmaceuticals and other Endocrine Disrupting Compounds \(EDCs\) in Natural Water Systems](#) – Piret Hurrell and Katie Paroschy, MWC EDCs Sub-committee

Piret and Katie presented an overview of what EDCs are, products in which they are found, and their impacts on wildlife and humans. They provided a summary of the recommendations contained in the EDCs paper, including communications and education opportunities, addressing knowledge gaps, implementing Official Plan policies for development, industrial and feedlot water treatment, as well as personal actions that can be undertaken by the public.

MOTION by George Crawford, seconded by Geoff Ross

THAT Muskoka Watershed Council adopt the *Pharmaceuticals and other Endocrine Disrupting Compounds in Natural Water Systems* paper dated April 2017.

CARRIED

Lou thanked the EDCs Sub-committee for their considerable efforts in developing an excellent paper.

Correspondence

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's *Climate Change and Health Vulnerability Assessment* - Christy Doyle reviewed MWC's comments submitted to the Health Unit on its draft report.

Updates & New Business

- MWC Working Group – Kevin Trimble reported on the efforts of the Working Group, and noted that there is a significant number of volunteers participating in the Working Group meetings as well as in the various project sub-committees.
 - The Algae Sub-committee is continuing to work on an “algae perceptions” survey in partnership with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.
 - The Hydrology Sub-committee is looking into Low Impact Development (LID) tools and approaches that may be applicable to Muskoka. An LID expert from the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority will be giving a presentation at the September MWC meeting.
 - The Planning Sub-committee received a Planning 101 presentation to assist with their efforts to comment on the District’s upcoming proposed Official Plan policies.

- The Communications Committee has been busy developing the communications calendar, developing materials, and widening MWC's reach to lake associations and other organizations in Muskoka. Peter Jennings will be giving a workshop in June to assist with MWC's branding and communications. Mike Peppard provided an overview of MWC's Communications calendar/workplan. MWC wants to produce regular communications pieces every month in order to improve community knowledge of MWC events and messages.
- District of Muskoka – Christy Doyle reported that the DMM Water Quality students are starting May 1st. She also noted that the District's proposed Official Plan Amendment #45 (Lake System Health) is under provincial review and More will be coming this summer.
- Upcoming Events – Christy Doyle reminded MWC members of the many upcoming events, including multiple Earth Week events (e.g., an Algonquin Park naturalist will be giving a lecture in Huntsville; MWC members Mike Peppard and Gareth Cockwell will be giving a guided 'walk and talk; through the Limberlost Forest); the Muskoka Stewardship Conference set for May 12; and the upcoming MWC General Council meeting taking place at Marsh's Falls in the Township of Lake of Bays.

Next MWC Meeting

Friday, June 2, 2017 at 1:00 pm at Marsh's Falls in the Township of Lake of Bays. A guided hike will be led by MWC members: please dress accordingly if you wish to participate. Come rain or shine!

A volunteer appreciation lunch will be held at 12:00 pm – RSVP mandatory for lunch. Please confirm with Rebecca at rwillison@muskokawatershed.org. Bring your own camp chair!

Please consider carpooling if possible.

Adjournment

Lou Guerriero adjourned the meeting at 2:45 pm.