



# *Muskoka*

## WATERSHED COUNCIL

### Minutes

Friday, May 23, 2014

1:00 pm

Pine Room – District Municipality of Muskoka  
70 Pine Street, Bracebridge

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#### Present

Lou Guerriero (Acting Chair)  
Jack Hepworth  
Patsy Cross  
Jan McDonnell  
Peter Seybold

Shane Baker  
Piret Hurrell  
Gord Henderson  
Peter Sale  
Debbie Vernon

John Cooper  
Louise Cragg  
Geoff Ross  
Ian Turnbull  
Scott Young

#### Regrets

Scott Aitchison  
Nic Bell  
Angie Corson  
Caroline Konarzewski  
Anna Mallin  
Steve Munro  
Michael Peppard  
Norm Yan

Patricia Arney  
Lola Bratty  
Steve Innis  
Leeanne Leduc  
Brian McElwain  
Ruth Nishikawa  
Al Shaw

Margaret Casey  
Wil Brunner  
George Crawford  
Richard Lammers  
Don McVittie  
Rob Milligan  
Paul Wiancko

#### Staff

Judi Brouse

Samantha Hastings

Rebecca Willison

#### Guests

Victoria McDonald

Chris Marshall

Becky Pollack (left@2:00)

#### Welcome

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

#### Confirmation of Minutes

**MOTION** by Jack Hepworth, seconded by Gord Henderson

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated April 25, 2014 be approved.

**CARRIED**

#### Correspondence

- None

## **Presentations**

Building Bridges with the Business Community: Experience from the Georgian Bay Biosphere – Becky Pollock, [Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve](#)

Becky answered some questions regarding the GBBR Board structure and involvement, how GBBR measures and reports on activities and successes, and the development of their charter program and how to get businesses involved. She also answered some questions about water levels on Georgian Bay and referred people to the GBA and GBF websites.

Peter thanked Becky for her informative presentation.

## **Recent Activity – Brief Update**

- Muskoka Watershed Report Card – Lou Guerriero gave a brief summary of the 2014 Muskoka Watershed Report Card, which was released earlier in May. The Subwatershed Reports and Background Report will be available on the website by the end of May. Peter Sale presented on the Report Card at District Council on May 20<sup>th</sup>. MWC members were encouraged to take copies of the Report Card to distribute around their community and to book presentations on the Report Card. Judi also thanked Stuart Paul and the District of Muskoka for all of the help they gave in providing data for the Report Card.
- Muskoka Summit on the Environment – Geoff Ross gave a brief summary of the 2014 Muskoka Summit on the Environment, which was held June 8-9. The MSE Research Award was given to Sarah Hasnain to assist her research into the Spiny water flea. The winners of the raffle were Gunars Balodis from Windemere, Suzanne Rutherford of Bracebridge and Andrew Paterson of Huntsville. The early bird registration winner was Freda Finley. A reference list of books and movies mentioned in the presentations is being developed. The Communiqué is in the process of being finalized. The Summit episode for Ideas will air on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **Chair's Items**

- MSE was a success. Approximately 1/3 of the participants were from outside of Muskoka.

## **Telling it like it is! A Project Framework**

What do we, as citizens of Muskoka, want Muskoka to look like in the future? Based on the initial remarks by Peter Sale the Council will develop background papers that look at the impact of various climate and development scenarios in Muskoka to 2015.

A work program will be developed to start in September. Part of the will be a survey the expectations that community members have Muskoka in 2050. The community can be resurveyed in 5 years to see if attitudes have changed. We will be looking for volunteers to step forward and assist with the development of these papers. Talk to Judi or Peter if you are interested in helping. Judi will be putting together a work program over the summer.

## **Activity Report**

- *May 2014 Activity Report* – was distributed with the agenda and reviewed at the meeting.

- Executive Committee – Nothing to report.
- Policy & Research – Nothing to report
- Strategic Directions – The Committee celebrated the release of the Report Card
- Communications – Nothing to report.

### **Updates and New Business**

- DMM – New air photos and a relaunch of the Muskoka Web Map will be available next week.

### **Next MWC Meeting**

Friday, June 20, 2014 at the Foot's Bay Community Centre (1006 Buckeye Road) in MacTier. FMW AGM begins at 11:00 am, followed by lunch (provided) at 12:00 pm, a presentation by Scales Nature Park at 1:00 pm and a hike at the MacTier wetland at 2:00 pm.

### **Adjournment**

Peter Sale adjourned the meeting at 3:10 pm.