



Muskoka

WATERSHED COUNCIL

Minutes

Friday, September 26, 2014

1:00 pm

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

Present

Peter Sale (Chair)
Margaret Casey
Gord Henderson
Jan McDonnell
Scott Young

Patricia Arney
Louise Cragg
Jack Hepworth
Geoff Ross

Shane Baker
Lou Guerriero
Piret Hurrell
Debbie Vernon

Staff

Judi Brouse

Derrick Hammond

Rebecca Willison

Guests

Scott Lucas
Graham Bryan

Chris Marshall

Dan Krause

Welcome

Peter Sale called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm followed by roundtable introductions.

Confirmation of Minutes

MOTION by Jack Hepworth, seconded by Scott Young

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated May 23, 2014 be approved.

CARRIED

Correspondence

- None

Presentations

- [How Much Disturbance is Too Much?](#) – Graham Bryan, Biodiversity Coordinator, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada

This presentation provided an overview of the 'How Much Habitat is Enough?' document followed by a review of the development of the draft concepts/guidelines for the southern Shield 'How Much Disturbance is Too Much?' document.

Once the document is finalized and released, the information will be available to municipalities and other organizations for planning purposes.

Following questions, Peter thanked Graham for his presentation.

- [Planning for the Environment Handbook](#) – Rebecca Willison, Watershed Planning Technician, Muskoka Watershed Council

Rebecca provided an overview of the process used to develop the handbook and went through the contents of the chapters.

MOTION by Geoff Ross, seconded by Jack Hepworth
THAT Muskoka Watershed Council approve in principle the Planning for the Environment Handbook for publication and distribution.

CARRIED

Chair's Items

- The MWC meeting schedule for the next year was distributed with the agenda.
- Great Muskoka Paddling Experience is happening on Saturday, October 11th at Annie Williams Park in Bracebridge.
- The Invasive Species lecture by Andrea Smith was held last night. The presentation and video will be posted on the website.

2014-2015 Work Program

- The quarterly Activity Report (May-August) was distributed with the agenda.
- Status of Communications Committee – more members are needed for the Communications Committee.

Activity Report

- *September 2014 Activity Report* – was distributed with the agenda and reviewed at the meeting.
 - Executive Committee – Approved upcoming projects proposed by the various committees.
 - Policy & Research – A work program has been developed for the coming year.
 - Strategic Directions – Nothing to report.
 - Communications – A review of the Communications Committee is in progress.

Updates and New Business

- A retirement party for Judi Brouse will be held on November 13th. Tickets are available from Rebecca at the MWC office (cash only).
- DMM – Nothing to report.
- FMW – Debbie Vernon reported that FMW is working on a marketing strategy to help increase memberships and donations.
- The Muskoka Stewardship Conference will be held next year and volunteers are needed to help with organizing it.
- Patricia requested that a link to videos be posted on the website.
- Peter Sale announced that Judi will be receiving a Latornell Leadership Award at the Latornell Symposium in November.

Next MWC Meeting

Friday, October 17, 2014 in the Council Chambers at the District of Muskoka administration building.

Adjournment

Peter Sale adjourned the meeting at 3:05 pm.