

**DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

March 25, 2009

PRESENT: Ms. Audrey Manzer, Chair
Mr. Peter Connor
Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand
Ms. Christina Hoehne
Mr. Mark McLean
Mr. Pierre Clement

ABSENT: Dr. Ron Beazley
Dr. Mark Trevorrow (regrets)
Councillor Jackie Barkhouse (regrets)

STAFF: Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Planner
Ms. Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER	3
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES	3
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES	3
5.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS	3
6.	CORRESPONDENCE PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS	
6.1	Correspondence	3
6.2	Petitions	3
6.3	Delegations	3
6.3.1	Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan - Stantec	4
7.	REPORTS	
7.1	Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan	4
7.2	Chairman's Report (oral)	6
7.3	Staff Update (oral)	6
8.	ADDED ITEMS	6
9.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	6
10.	ADJOURNMENT	6

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Audrey Manzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m. in the Findlay Centre Boardroom, 26 Elliot Street, Dartmouth.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 25, 2009

Due to a lack of quorum at the February 25, 2009 meeting, no minutes were generated; meeting notes were circulated for information purposes. The following corrections were noted: Page 4: under the Lions Beach section - the word "*boulder*" should be "*bollard*"; wording under Patterson Corner section to be revised to read "*historically, there has been a strong Mi'kmaq presence*"; Page 5: "*petroglyph*" should be spelled "*petroglyph*". Staff confirmed that the area around Lake William was not considered a growth area under the HRM Regional Plan. Staff also clarified that under the staff update, Item 7, the report referenced would be going to the Harbour East Community Council not Regional Council.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Move: Item 7.1 to be dealt with prior to Item 6.3.1.

The Board agreed to the agenda as amended.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

5.1 Approval of January 28, 2009 minutes

Approval of the minutes deferred as a hard copy had not been recirculated.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence - NONE

6.2 Petitions - NONE

6.3 Delegations

The Board agreed, during the approval of the agenda, to deal with Item 7.1 Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan, at this time.

7.1 Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan

C An Information Report dated March 3, 2009 was before the Board.

Mr. Cameron Deacoff, Environmental Performance Officer, advised that HRM's Regional Plan requires the establishment of a water quality monitoring plan. He noted that Stantec, formerly Jacques Whitford, had won the contract to draft the functional plan and were before the Board that evening to present the draft document.

The Board agreed, during the approval of the agenda, to deal with Item 6.3.1 at this time.

6.3.1 Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan - Stantec

Ms. Kate Green, Stantec, introduced her team, including partners from Dalhousie University, as follows: Shanna Murphy, Julianne Sullivan, Matt Steeves, Rob Jamieson, Rick Scott. She then presented a verbal update on the Consultants report in regard to the HRM Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan prepared in partnership with the Dalhousie University Centre for Water Resources Studies.

Ms. Green noted that due to limited funding, areas of importance were identified as: Background Review; Watershed prioritizing; actual waterbody prioritizing (which ones should be monitored over the long term); establishing a monitoring program (developing criteria)/ management framework (how to fund the program as well as establishing a structure for HRM to deal with problem areas) and finally, the Review Period. The critical portion of the project would be the Review Period during which the Consultants would meet with each Watershed Advisory Board for their input and then a final review with HRM staff.

Vulnerability rankings were designed for waterbodies which were then sub-divided into three tiers of vulnerability: Tier 1 - High Vulnerability; Tier 2 - Moderate Vulnerability; Tier 3 - Low Vulnerability. A short-list of lakes requiring monitoring from the highest priority watersheds (Tier 1) was compiled and includes, among others, Lake Banook.

The completed Functional Plan would establish watershed-based controls to prevent the decline of water quality in the surface water systems from eutrophication, sedimentation and runoff caused by development activities. The plan identifies two key areas of monitoring: 1. On-going baseline monitoring to establish surface water quality

baseline conditions; 2. Data collection through monitoring by developers (through development agreement process), HRM or HRM's Consultant.

During the ensuing discussion, the Consultants provided the following responses to questions/comments of the Board:

- C medium of testing was suggested to be E.coli as it provided more reliable figures.
- C criteria is being developed for longterm sedimentation tracking such as; the depths at which the tests should be taken is proposed to be at 1- 5 meters with the location to be determined most likely on a case by case basis with 3 - 5 sites proposed per lake.
- C criteria would be established to have the Developer increase the standard monitoring required by HRM during development.
- C in regard to monitoring overflow from sewage pumping stations; the data arrived too late to be included in the current report, however; the known sewage overflow areas are now documented and will be factored into the mapping process. The Board suggested monitoring near the pumping station areas as pumping stations were designed to overflow and were positioned at the low point in the water system. There are a number of pumping stations in the Dartmouth area; some of which are very old and require updating.

Mr. Deacoff noted that there was a separate Stormwater Management Functional Plan as well as a Wastewater Functional Plan that would be done by Halifax Water; the three plans will be designed to "speak" to each other.

- C a list of data approaches will be recommended to HRM such as Eutrophic status.
- C sampling will be very descriptive and recommended to be taken on the same day, time, location using the same lab methods, including bottles, and information such as weather conditions on the testing day as it will be critical to reduce the "noise" in the data as much as possible for repeat water monitoring. It was suggested that wildlife be noted as well as any change in wildlife habits may indicate a concern.
- C It was suggested that HRM coordinate data analysis with the Province in regard to their data compiled through their monitoring of public beaches.
- C It was also suggested that triggers for rain events be incorporated into the monitoring plan as there could be a lot of sediment flow after a rain event such as in development areas like the Dartmouth Crossing area.
- C In consideration of a possible requirement for testing every two weeks during development, it was suggested that automated sampling devices be required for larger developments. Prudent measures must be taken in advance of a major storm event rather than mitigation and containment after the fact.

- C Some data recommendations will include development of a predictive model based on E.coli and continuous flow data to help prevent E.coli events whereby a beach could be shut down in advance.
- C Species level identification was suggested over family level as it provided more detailed data although it would be more expensive.
- C The annual cost for the monitoring program would be approximately \$391,597. Funding options are being reviewed.

The Board thanked the Consultants for the presentation.

Ms. Green noted that the Consultants had now met with all three HRM Watershed Advisory Boards and would provide one month for the members to review the data and respond to the questions provided. She encouraged the members to prepare further comments for their consideration by April 24, 2009. The Consultant's final submission date is May 29, 2009.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. See page 4.

7.2 Chairman's Update

Ms. Manzer advised that the Harbour East Community Council had extended the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board membership terms to November 30, 2009. With the Board's consent, Ms. Manzer offered to extend an invitation to the proposed candidates being considered to fill the current vacancies to attend the next meeting as observers.

7.3 Staff Update

Mr. Driscoll advised that he would provide an update each month on all upcoming public meetings. He noted that the Dartmouth Crossing rezoning matter would be at the upcoming Harbour East Community Council meeting along with the Wright's Cove matter and a proposal for a twelve storey apartment building on Windmill Road.

Mr. Mark McLean exited the meeting at this time and quorum was lost.

8. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, April 29, 2009

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Chris Newson
Legislative Assistant