

**DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

September 30, 2009

PRESENT: Mr. Peter Connor, Interim Chair
Mr. Pierre Clement, Interim Vice-Chair
Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand
Ms. Christina Hoehne
Mr. Mark McLean
Dr. Mark Trevorrow
Councillor Jackie Barkhouse

STAFF: Ms. Cathy Mellett, Acting Manager, Municipal Clerk's Office
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	
4.1	Scotia Weather Services	5
4.2	Decadel Lake Study	5
5.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS	
5.1	Update on Committee of Council Reform	3
6.	CORRESPONDENCE PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS	5
7.	REPORTS	
7.1	Harbour East Community Council	5
7.2	Chairman's Report (oral)	6
7.2.1	Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan Committee	6
7.2.2	Workshop Friends of the Earth	7
7.2.3	Aquatic Weed in Lakes Banook and Mic Mac	8
7.3	Staff Update (oral)	8
8.	ADDED ITEMS	
8.1	Proposed Meeting Schedule 2009/2010	8
8.2	Oathill Lake	8
9.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	8
10.	ADJOURNMENT	9

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Peter Connor, Interim Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. in the Findlay Centre Boardroom, 26 Elliot Street, Dartmouth.

Mr. Connor requested a moment of silence in remembrance of Mr. William (Bill) Johansen, father of Board member Ms. Christine Hoehne and a founding member of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board, who recently passed away.

The Chair acknowledged Mr. Don Gordon, former Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board member and participant in previous water quality sampling data collection projects, who was in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - June 24, 2009

Amendments: Item 6.1 - last paragraph, spelling of lake should be Decadel Lake Study (Synoptic Water Survey) not Kato Lake.

Page 6, last paragraph, correct "developments" to be "development".

Page 5, amend last sentence into two sentences.

MOVED BY Mr. Pierre Clement, seconded by Ms. Christine Hoehne that the minutes of June 24, 2009, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: 8.1 Proposed Meeting Schedule 2009/2010 - Legislative Assistant
8.2 Oathill Lake - Mr. Pierre Clement

Move: 5.1 To be dealt with immediately following Item 3.

MOVED BY Councillor Jackie Barkhouse, seconded by Mr. Mark McLean that the order of business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Board agreed to deal with Item 5.1 at this time.

5.1 Committee of Council Review

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Acting Municipal Clerk, provided a verbal update on the Committee of Council Review. She explained that a report had been drafted and would be forwarded to Regional Council in the very near future. She inquired whether the Board was committed to continuing in their role as a watershed protection/advisory Board in the interim (to November) and whether they would be interested in participating in a visioning exercise to be held in November with all three watershed advisory boards. The visioning exercise would be facilitated by HRM Staff from the Community Development business unit including Planning and the Sustainable Environmental Management Office as well as input from Halifax Water.

During the ensuing discussion, the Board placed the following motions:

MOVED BY Mr. Mark Trevorrow, seconded by Mr. Pierre Clement that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board agree to continue serving in its present capacity until Regional Council advises as to their new course of action in regard to the HRM Committee of Council review. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED BY Mr. Pierre Clement, seconded by Mr. Mark McLean that the existing Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board participate in the November 2009 visioning exercise with the other HRM Watershed Advisory Boards and request that staff consider inviting past members of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board to participate in the visioning exercise.

The Board noted that it was difficult to make a decision for a long term commitment without benefit of knowing the details of the recommendation going before Regional Council, however; they noted the importance of being part of the discussion.

Mr. Trevorrow suggested that the receivers of the advice from the watershed advisory boards, such as HRM Staff and Halifax Water (Tony Blouin), also participate in the visioning exercise.

Mr. Clement offered to forward a list of past members to the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Ms. Christine Hoehne noted the importance of including the proposed candidates, once appointed, in the visioning exercises so that they may be involved from the beginning.

In response to the Board, Ms. Mellett explained that the Visioning Exercise would be scheduled for a few hours with a facilitator in regard to what would be the best

approach for protecting lakes throughout HRM. She noted that HRM encouraged input from the volunteers as HRM wanted to consult with them as they were valued for their expertise.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Scotia Weather Services

Mr. Connor agreed to contact Mr. MacLeod with the Board's decision in regard to the invitation to participate in

4.2 Decadel Lake Study

Mr. Pierre Clement advised that 2010 would be the third decade since the data sampling study was commenced. He inquired whether the sampling would be done in the spring of 2010 in keeping with the intent to maintain records per decade. Mr. Clement noted that the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans had participated in the past. He offered to contact those parties who were involved in the previous samplings and would report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

5.1 Committee of Council Review

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. See page 3.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - NONE

7. REPORTS

7.1 Harbour East Community Council

The following motion from the June 11, 2009 meeting of the Harbour East Community Council was before the Committee: **MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor McCluskey, that the Harbour East Community Council:**

- 1. Defer any decision on the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board until comment is received from the existing members.**

- 2. That the outgoing chair of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board and long serving members be recognized by the Harbour East Community Council for the service they have provided to the City of Dartmouth and Halifax Regional Municipality through their contributions to the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Legislative Assistant advised that two previous reports from the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board to the Harbour East Community Council had been included in the Board's agenda package as information items. She explained that there had been no response or acknowledgment from the Harbour East Community Council in regard to the two reports. One of the reports was a request for an amendment to the Terms of Reference and the second report was an outline of the Board's activities.

The Board moved In Camera at 6:35 p.m. to discuss a Personnel Matter related to membership on the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board.

The Board reconvened its regular session at 6:45 p.m.

The following motion was discussed during the In Camera session and was now before the Board for ratification:

MOVED BY Mr. Pierre Clement, seconded by Ms. Christine Hoehne that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board request that Harbour East Community Council:

- 1. Fill the current vacancies on the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board prior to the November meeting.**
- 2. Amend the Terms of Reference in regard to quorum requirements to 50% of the membership at any given time.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.2 Chair Update

7.2.1 Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan Committee (WQMFCP)

Mr. Connor advised that he was a member of the Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan Committee chaired by Mr. Cameron Deacoff, HRM Environmental Performance Officer. The role of the Committee was to produce a water quality monitoring functional plan as required by the Regional Plan. The Stantech report was discussed as well as

the background report for the functional plan including comments from the watershed advisory boards and the development community. Comments from the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board would be used by the WQMFPC during their review of the functional plan. Mr. Deacoff advised that a report would be before Regional Council by the end of December and that a public hearing would not be required as there would be no Municipal Planning Strategy or rezoning amendments. Mr. Connor advised the WQMFPC that he would only be a participate if he had full input from the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board and that he intended to report between the two Committees.

Mr. Connor explained that Mr. Deacoff had suggested that those parties who had initially contributed comment should remain the key contacts.

Mr. Mark McLean left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Connor suggested that he, Mr. Pierre Clement and Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand continue as the group to offer comment on the Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan as they had prepared the initial comments. Their comments would be brought forward to the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board full membership would also be relayed to the WQMFPC.

Mr. Mark Trevorrow reiterated earlier comments he had made in regard to water quality monitoring sampling and that the monitoring plan should include more detail in regard to exactly what steps would be taken if the data indicated a problem.

Dr. Hellenbrand commented that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board should stress the need for inclusion of detailed steps to be taken if the data indicated a problem as part of the water quality monitoring functional plan.

In regard to the high phosphorous levels reported in Russell Lake, the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board placed the following motion:

MOVED BY Mr. Mark Trevorrow, seconded by Mr. Pierre Clement that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board request that staff investigate the cause/source of the high phosphorous levels in Russell Lake discovered as part of the water quality sampling results outlined in the September 11, 2009 report, and; provide the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board with an explanation of the problem and the proposed solutions.

Mr. Mark Trevorrow commented that a possible cause for high phosphorous levels in Russell Lake could be the presence of detergents or fertilizers in the area.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.2.2 Workshop Hosted by Friends of the Earth on Sustainable Practices

Mr. Pierre Clement advised that he was no longer able to attend the workshop scheduled for Thursday, September 31st and inquired if another member of the Board would be interested in attending in his place. Unfortunately, no other members were able to attend at such short notice.

Mr. Connor offered to request a briefing from Mr. Cameron Deacoff in regard to the workshop.

7.2.3 Aquatic Weed in Lake Banook and Lac Mic Mac

During the ensuing discussion on the unidentified aquatic weed in Lakes Banook (around Paddlers Cove area) and Mic Mac, the Board agreed to add the item to the next agenda for further discussion. In the interim, Dr. Don Gordon, offered to attempt to have the plant identified as to whether it was a naturally occurring species or an invasive species. Once identified, the Board could then forward a report to the Harbour East Community Council alerting them of the issue and request that the direct staff to investigate further.

7.3 Staff Update

Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Planner, had sent regrets for the meeting and advised that he had no updates for the meeting.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Proposed Meeting Schedule 2009/10

The Legislative Assistant advised that the only change would be to the meeting room. As of October 1st, 2009, the meeting room would be Room 101.

The Board approved the 2009/10 meeting schedule as presented.

8.2 Oathill Lake Closure

Mr. Pierre Clement advised that a sign had been posted at Oathill Lake in the summer noting that the lake had been closed due to a high coliform count. On August 18th, he saw a notice that advised the lake was re-opened. The notice had been posted by HRM staff and the Department of Health.

Following discussion on the matter, the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board placed the following motion:

MOVED BY Mr. Pierre Clement, seconded by Mr. Mark Trevorrow that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board request that staff provide a report explaining the investigation resulting from the closure of Oathill Lake as well as comment on any other lake closures. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Wednesday, November 25, 2009

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Chris Newson
Legislative Assistant