

**DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

February 24, 2010

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

REGRETS: Mr. Mark McLean
Dr. Cathy Conrad
Mr. Peter Crowther

STAFF: Mr. Cameron Deacoff, Environmental Performance Officer, Sustainable
Environment Management Office
Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Planner
Ms. Sharon Webber, Legislative Support

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	5
5.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS	
5.1	Election of Chair / Vice-Chair for 2010	5
5.2	Workshop Briefing – Friends of the Earth	6
5.3	Concept Plan Application – Eileen Stubbs Avenue, Burnside	6
5.4	Aquatic Weed – Lake Banook / Mic Mac	6
5.5	Oat Hill Lake Group	4
6.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS	6
7.	REPORTS	
7.1	Chairman’s Report	
7.1.1	Review – January 29, 2010 HRM Water Board Workshop	6
8.	ADDED ITEMS	8
9.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	8
10.	ADJOURNMENT	8

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Peter Connor, Interim Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:22 p.m. in Room 101 of the Findlay Centre, 26 Elliot Street, Dartmouth.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 27, 2010

Mr. Connor requested the following corrections be made to the January 27, 2010 minutes:

Corrections: Item 7.1.1, Page 4, Paragraph 5, first sentence should read:
“...recommended that the **storm** sewer **outfalls** should be...”

Item 7.1.1, Page 4, Paragraph 6, third sentence should read:
“...continued to **voluntarily** monitor a brook...”

Item 7.1.1, Page 4, Paragraph 8, first sentence should read:
“**Dr.** Mark Trevorrow indicated...”

Item 7.1.1, Page 5, Paragraph 1, first sentence should read:
“...high winds and **storm** events could...”

Item 7.1.1, Page 5, Paragraph 2, second sentence should read:
“...commitment to the **residents** of the community...”

Item 5.1, Page 5, Paragraph 1, second sentence should read:
“...**this** situation and found that...”

Header on all pages should read:
“January 27, **2010**”

MOVED BY Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand, seconded by Mr. Pierre Clement that the minutes of January 27, 2010, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Mr. Connor requested that we hear the presentation by the Oat Hill Lake Group, Item 5.5, be our first agenda item. There were no other added items.

MOVED BY Ms. Johanna Campbell, seconded by Dr. Mark Trevorrow that the Order of Business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5.5 Oat Hill Lake Group

Mr. Connor welcomed the members of the Oat Hill Lake Group, Mr. Terry Rowell, Mr. Norman Steele, Mr. John Dicks and Mr. Iaian MacLeod.

Mr. MacLeod gave the Board a presentation on the Oat Hill Lake Group. They are a citizens group who live around Oat Hill Lake and currently have 80+ members. They believe there has been a steady decline of Oat Hill Lake and that immediate action must be taken to restore the ecological health of the lake before it is beyond recovery. They plan to work with federal, provincial and municipal levels of government to deal with their issues.

Mr. MacLeod outlined some of the main concerns as being; impacts of fertilizer and pesticide usage; using storm sewers to dump harmful products and lawn waste; salt drainage going into the lake; littering of shoreline with regular and fishing related garbage; and the severe degradation of shoreline habitat; safety issues for skaters and hikers from ice fishing holes; and the loss of amphibian populations in the lake.

Mr. MacLeod indicated that they believe the main cause for these issues is the fish stocking of Oat Hill Lake. Inland Fisheries currently stock this lake with rainbow trout. The fishing community is well aware of when the stock is added to the lake and traffic in the area increases substantially for weeks after this happens. Once they have taken the majority of the fish then there are smaller groups who fish daily for what remains. He made it quite clear that this Group did not want to halt the fishing in the area but would like to see better regulations to preserve this lake.

Mr. MacLeod reviewed what they would like to see put in place to remedy this situation. Some of his recommendations included placing a moratorium on the stocking of rainbow trout for at least 5 years to give the shoreline a chance to regenerate itself and cut down on the littering issue. Another proposal was to change the current year round fishing to fishing seasons i.e. April 1 to September 30 and winter fishing from January 1 to February 28. This would also help with the regeneration of the shoreline especially for the spring growth.

Mr. MacLeod discussed the two closures of the lake due to very high fecal coliform counts. He also indicated that there were recent upgrades done to a local pumping station. He was concerned about the coincidence of these two items. The group has taken this concern to Councillor McCluskey who is currently looking into this situation.

Mr. MacLeod concluded his presentation and thanked the Board for their time.

Mr. Connor asked if there were any questions for either the Oat Hill Lake Group or Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board.

Mr. Clement applauded the group for organizing themselves and to take action about their concerns. He encouraged the Group to contact the Halifax Water Commission to

have them investigate the pumping station. He also advised them that there were 2 pumping stations in their area, not just one.

Mr. Connor advised the Group that in relation to storm water infiltration in the septic system and the pumping station issue they are experiencing, are throughout HRM and are related to storm water infiltration in the septic sewers. He suggested they implement an INI (Inflow and Infiltration) technique in their community for better storm water management.

Mr. Deacoff suggested they focus on the INI technique to deal with drain water. It is currently illegal to have a combined storm and sanitary pipe within HRM. The storm water will always go into the lake.

Mr. Clement indicated that Bell Lake is one of the few lakes within HRM which did not have storm water drainage.

Mr. MacLeod asked the Board for their endorsement on their project. Mr. Connor clarified that the DLAB has no authority to endorse an external project but could offer comment.

Mr. Clement suggested to the Group to incorporate "Daylighting" into their project. DLAB have a brochure which could be beneficial to this Group outlining policies and guidelines for "Daylighting" within HRM. This could be beneficial however is very expensive to implement.

Ms. Hoehne indicated that DLAB's brochure was updated 4-5 years ago and was included in a water bill at one point.

Mr. Driscoll will try to find a copy of this brochure and forward it to the Group.

Mr. Connor thanked the Oat Hill Lake Group again and indicated that the Board would be interested in continued dialogue with them. He asked them to keep us up to date on their progress. He also indicated if they had other questions or concerns for the Board to not hesitate to contact us again.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

5.1 Election of Chair / Vice-Chair for 2010

The Board reviewed the proper procedures for electing the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Ms. Christine Hoehne and Dr. Trevorrow thanked the current representatives for their fine work to date.

Mr. Connor asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. Mr. Pierre Clement was the only nomination put forward.

MOVED BY Ms. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Hoehne that Mr. Clement be declared the Vice-Chair of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board by acclamation. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Clement asked for nominations for Chair. Mr. Connor was the only nomination put forward.

MOVED BY Dr. Trevorrow, seconded by Ms. Hoehne that Mr. Connor be declared the Chair of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board by acclamation. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5.2 Workshop Briefing – Friends of the Earth

Mr. Connor requested we formally invite Councilor Lund to a future DLAB meeting to give us a presentation on this topic. Appropriate staff will be contacted in regard to this matter.

This item should remain in Item 5, Consideration of Deferred Business for follow up.

5.3 Concept Plan Application – Eileen Stubbs Avenue, Burnside

Mr. Joseph Driscoll stated that the DLAB's comments were submitted to Terrain Group. The Board then reviewed the emails dated February 23, 2010 which confirmed this statement.

Mr. Driscoll then stated he had maps of the adjacent lands and that he was trying to get in touch with Ms. Cathy Spencer to get further clarification on some items for the Board. He was unable to contact her in time for this meeting. He will be reporting to the Board for our March 31, 2010 meeting on this matter.

Mr. Clement and Mr. Connor both requested that the map be forwarded to the Board members for their perusal. Mr. Driscoll will ensure all members will receive a copy either via email or in paper version before our next meeting.

Mr. Connor reiterated that there were members who wished to do a walkabout of the property again. The members still wanted to do this, however it was agreed that this action would take place once the weather was more clement.

This item should remain in Item 5, Consideration of Deferred Business for follow up.

5.4 Aquatic Weed – Lake Banook / Mic Mac

Mr. Connor asked who on the Board wanted to (a) contact the canoe clubs to engage them in the task of monitoring the 2 different growth species found in our lakes and (b) who would be willing to take pictures of the progress of the growth.

Ms. Campbell asked for clarification on this topic. Various Board members gave information to Ms. Campbell (we believe there are 2 types of species; Dr. Don Gordon took a sample of one of the species last year and found that it was native to the area; and the rate of growth of these plants peak in the summer which we suspect is because of the warmer water).

Mr. Deacoff advised the Board that he was asked by Councillor McCluskey to also monitor this situation. He has also taken a sample, which may or may not be the same one as the one taken by Dr. Gordon, and found it to be native to the area. He wanted the Board to know that HRM has not been passive on this issue.

Mr. Connor suggested that Mr. Deacoff and Ms. Campbell integrate their efforts to maximize the investigation. They agreed to work together on this project.

Ms. Hoehne recommended that they talk to the people who organized and worked the World Canoe Championships last summer as they were culling these plants every day during this event.

Mr. Clement recommended that aerial photographs would also enhance this investigation. The last time such photographs were taken of these areas was in 2005.

Mr. Connor suggested that the vigorous growth might have been triggered by the lowering of the water levels in 2008-2009.

This item should remain in Item 5, Consideration of Deferred Business for follow up.

5.5 Oathill Lake

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

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE

7. REPORTS

7.1 Chairman's Report

7.1.1 Review – January 28, 2010 HRM Water Board Workshop (Verbal)

Mr. Connor asked the Board if anyone knew what was next now that this workshop has been held.

Mr. Deacoff indicated that he did not know, however, Ms. Cathy Mellett could be a follow up person on this issue. He indicated that Ms. Mellett was preparing a report about this workshop for Council.

Mr. Connor asked if there was anything further that needed to be done at this point. He also indicated that it would be helpful to see a written record as most of the DLAB members were in attendance.

Councillor Barkhouse indicated that several other Councillors did attend this workshop and because of that, when the final report is presented at Council, they could properly critique it. She mentioned that this workshop was not taken lightly.

Ms. Hoehne asked if this workshop was for all Boards or just Watershed. Mr. Deacoff replied that it concerned just the Watershed.

Mr. Connor indicated that this workshop was a great experience and looked forward to the follow up.

This item should be place in Item 5, Consideration of Deferred Business for follow up.

8. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, March 31, 2010

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Sharon Webber
Legislative Support