

**DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

March 31, 2010

PRESENT: Mr. Pierre Clement, Vice-Chair
Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand
Ms. Christina Hoehne
Dr. Mark Trevorrow
Ms. Johanna Campbell
Mr. Mark McLean
Dr. Cathy Conrad

REGRETS: Mr. Peter Connor, Chair
Councillor Jackie Barkhouse
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 B February 24, 2010	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	
5.1	Concept Plan Application - Eileen Stubbs Avenue, Burnside	3
5.2	Aquatic Weed - Lake Banook / Mic Mac	4
5.3	Oat Hill Lake	4
5.4	Role of Watershed Advisory Boards - Update from January 2010 HRM Watershed Advisory Boards Workshop	4
5.5	Dartmouth Area Watersheds Network (DAWN) - Update from November 2009 Workshop	5
5.6	2010 Synoptic Survey of HRM Lakes (Decadel Study)	6
5.7	Workshop Briefing - Friends of the Earth	6
5.8	Brochure Status	6
6.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS B NONE	7
7.	REPORTS	
7.1	Chairman's Report	7
7.2	Staff	
7.2.1	Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board Annual Report to Harbour East Community Council	7
8.	ADDED ITEMS	
8.1	Storm Sewers	7
9.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING B Wednesday April 28, 2010	8
10.	ADJOURNMENT	8

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Pierre Clement, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m. in Room 101 of the Findlay Centre, 26 Elliot Street, Dartmouth.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 24, 2010

Mr. Clement requested the following corrections be made to the February 24, 2010 minutes:

Corrections:

Item 5.5, page 5, paragraph 3 B should read:

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.**@

Item 5.5, page 5, paragraph 5 B first sentence should read:

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

MOVED BY Ms. Christina Hoehne, seconded by Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand that the minutes of February 24, 2010, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS - NONE**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE****5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS****5.1 Concept Plan Application B Eileen Stubbs Avenue, Burnside**

Mr. Joseph Driscoll distributed copies of the approved Concept Plan for this area to the Board members.

Mr. Clement asked if the conservation area was a requirement in the plans. Mr. Driscoll indicated that according to this plan HRM owns it and that our Parkland people will decide what to do with it when the time comes.

Ms. Hoehne indicated that we should set a date for the walkabout. Mr. Clement asked to defer this to our next meeting as Mr. Connor will be back then.

5.2 Aquatic Weed - Lake Banook / Mic Mac

Mr. Clement gave a brief overview of prior discussions on this topic.

Dr. Cathy Conrad asked if the water plant species was ever identified. Mr. Cameron Deacoff indicated that he was unsure of the actual name of the plant however it was native to the lake. He will forward this information for the Board.

The Board then had discussions on what action should be taken such as pictures and samples of plant growth. Plant harvesting was also a possibility which was discussed.

Mr. Clement asked if there was ever an inventory of water plant growth done within the HRM. Dr. Conrad indicated that there had been one done of Albro Lake some years ago.

Mr. Clement then asked if there was some resource which could monitor water plant species. Mr. Deacoff indicated that the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre of New Brunswick could provide this service for a fee. They also have a data base but unfortunately it is incomplete.

Mr. Deacoff also indicated that the Invasive Species Alliance in Nova Scotia has also provided this type of service in the past. It is a non-profit group but he does not think they are active at this time.

Mr. Clement expressed concern that this type of inventory could have positive effects for watershed management. Mr. Deacoff indicated that his department was in the process of establishing policies and strategies concerning the waterways however they are under budget restraints.

Mr. Deacoff indicated that invasive species are not necessarily nuisance species and nuisance species are not necessarily invasive species. Ms. Hoehne indicated that monitoring both species for major changes could show problems within the waterway.

5.3 Oat Hill Lake

Mr. Clement indicated that we had discussed the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board brochures under this item at our previous meeting. This item will now be discussed as a separate topic in Item 5, Consideration of Deferred Business for follow up as Brochure Status.

5.4 Role of Watershed Advisory Boards - Update from January 2010 HRM Watershed Advisory Boards Workshop

Mr. Clement gave a brief overview of this workshop and asked the members if they had any questions.

Mr. Mark McLean indicated that he was not sure if the diagram within this document was existing or proposed. Mr. Clement indicated that he understood that this was a draft proposal of the structure and the information contained below it indicated the pros and cons of this structure.

Ms. Hoehne inquired if this diagram was a future structure. Dr. Hellenbrand and Mr. Clement both confirmed that that was not the case as the WAB (Water Advisory Boards) were not included in the original plans.

Mr. Driscoll indicated that this document was informational only at this point and indicated that Regional Council will make the final decision.

Ms. Hoehne inquired why DLAB was considered a Watershed Advisory Board. Mr. Clement replied by indicating that it may have come out of discussions held at the Workshop.

5.5 Dartmouth Area Watersheds Network (DAWN) - Update from November 2009 Workshop

Mr. Clement asked the Board for comments on this document. He noted that Dr. Conrad, DLAB member, had been a facilitator at the DAWN Workshop. He also indicated that there is a follow up to this Workshop scheduled for April 17.

Ms. Hoehne asked if they wanted all DLAB members to attend. Mr. Clement indicated that it would be very beneficial to attend as DAWN was looking for ways to improve how waterways are managed. He also mentioned that his presentation during this Workshop discussed the difference between being in the role as advocacy and advisory. One of the points he took away from this workshop was that there were inconsistencies when choosing WAB members, which was a concern to participants.

Ms. Campbell asked how does the diagram on page 14 of the attached document differ from the diagram included in the documentation in Item 5.4 Role of Watershed Advisory Boards. Dr. Conrad indicated that the DAWN diagram includes all levels of government and is related to a Nova Scotia provincial water strategy. Dr. Hellenbrand indicated that it was not restricted to just Dartmouth.

Mr. Clement indicated that it would be great to have one resource for all Nova Scotia and suggested we could start in Dartmouth and move across the province.

Mr. Deacoff asked the Board if they could recommend speakers for the next DAWN Workshop for the following topics (someone who could describe how they work today).

- (1) Highway Development
- (2) (3) Urban Subdivision Development
- (4) (5) Golf Course Development

Mr. Driscoll indicated that he might know someone who could speak to the Golf Course Development and would get back to Mr. Deacoff.

5.6 2010 Synoptic Survey of HRM Lakes (Decadel Study)

Mr. Clement indicated that he had been trying to organize this study for 2010 however has had to postpone it until spring 2011. He has had meetings with various individuals regarding this survey and will forward copies of his notes to the Board for their review.

He is very excited to have the Nova Scotia Community College on board for this project. They have approximately 48 students and laboratory facilities to help with this study.

The Board made various suggestions to Mr. Clement to help with his study. This item will be discussed in detail at future meetings.

The main hurdle for this project at this time is access to a helicopter. There are several lakes which can be accessed by canoe however the rest need to be done via helicopter (or an alternate method which has not been determined). This is required as all samples need to be taken on the same day.

5.7 Workshop Briefing - Friends of the Earth

Mr. Clement asked the status of the invitation of Councillor Lund to speak to the Board. This request was addressed but there has been no reply as of this meeting.

5.8 Brochure Status

Mr. Joseph Driscoll explained to the Board that there were many different types of brochures within HRM in relation to watercourse issues. He introduced Mr. Sean Audas, Development Officer for Zoning and Permits to give a brief presentation.

Mr. Audas circulated a copy of HRM Watercourse Buffers - An Overview, to the members. Mr. Clement asked to have this document e-mailed to members. He gave a quick verbal overview of the contents of this brochure do's and don'ts for residents regarding buffers around their properties. He explained that his staff will be issuing information to Russell Lake residents shortly to reinforce these regulations. He indicated that some of the residents have not been abiding by these regulations.

Ms. Hoehne asked why the residents did not already know about these regulations. Mr. Audas indicated that there could be many reasons for this.

Mr. Clement asked if there were any fines issued for these infractions. Mr. Audas indicated that he and his staff worked with these residents to find appropriate solutions. He did indicate that if they were not cooperative they would have been fined.

Mr. Clement indicated that the DLAB brochures included information about water habitats and waterfront information. He also indicated that it was very pleasing to

view. Mr. Audas indicated that he would be happy to take a look at the DLAB brochure and see if they could incorporate some of the information with theirs.

Mr. Mark McLean indicated that he had lots of different types of brochures which he can bring to our next meeting for review.

Ms. Johanna Campbell asked if the HRM brochures are on line. Mr. Driscoll and Mr. Audas indicated they were unsure but will investigate and advise the Board.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - NONE

7. REPORTS

7.1 Chairmans Report - NONE

7.2 Staff

7.2.1 Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board Annual Report to Harbour East Community Council (*Draft*)

Mr. Clement asked the Board if anyone had any comments on this document.

The following change is required:

October 2009, page 4, paragraph 3 should read:
Friends of the Earth Workshop: **Water Soft Path**

MOVED BY Mr. Clement, seconded by Ms. Hoehne that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board Annual Report, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Storm Sewers

Mr. Clement told the Board of a situation he came across recently. He was out for a walk and noticed a plume of sediment coming from a lake. He took pictures and forwarded them to Tony Blouin for his remarks. Apparently this was remnants from work being done up the street. Mr. Clement indicated that he realizes there is clear policies and salt controls however he feels there may not have been an inspection or cleaning of the sewer after the work was completed. He wondered if there were any HRM By-Laws or policies regarding this as it could be a major source of pollution for lakes.

Ms. Hoehne indicated that it would be essential to have cleanup done after all sewage work. Dr. Hellenbrand indicated that even if it appeared to be insignificant amounts of sediment it could affect lakes over a longer period of time.

MOVED BY Mr. Clement, seconded by Dr. Mark Trevorrow that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board invite a member of HRM Water to discuss (1) the processes in place today as it pertains to the replacement or fixing of storm sewers; (2) are there inspections and cleanouts of these storm sewers; and (3) is there regular storm sewer clean outs performed within HRM. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, April 28, 2010

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Sharon Webber
Legislative Support