

DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES

October 5, 2011

PRESENT: Peter Connor, Chair  
Pierre Clement, Vice Chair  
Mark Trevorrow  
Christine Hoehne  
Johanna Campbell  
Klaus Hellenbrand  
Councillor Jackie Barkhouse

REGRETS: Mark McLean

ABSENT: Peter Crowther

STAFF: Cameron Deacoff, Environmental Performance Officer  
Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant  
Kim Cahill, Legislative Support

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER.....	3
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 1, 2011 .....	3
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.....	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE .....	5
5.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS.....	5
5.1	Storm Water Management Policy .....	5
5.2	Current Water Target Levels – Shubenacadie Canal / Lake Banock System.....	5
5.3	Spill Clean-Up Red Bridge Pond – Mr. John Sibbald, Pollution Prevention Coordinator, Environmental Engineering .....	6
6.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS .....	6
6.1	Correspondence – None.....	6
6.2	Petitions – None .....	6
6.3	Presentation.....	6
6.3.1	Halifax Water – Integrated Resources Plan – Mr. Nick Pryce, Senior Planner, Genivar, Mr. George Zukovf, President ECG Consultants .....	6
7.	REPORTS .....	6
7.1	Chairman’s Report.....	6
7.2	Synoptic Survey Monthly Update.....	8
7.3	Penhorn/Woodlawn Community Vision Action Team Monthly Update.....	8
7.4	Waterfront Brochure Project: Revised Guidelines.....	9
8.	ADDED ITEMS - NONE .....	9
9.	NEXT MEETING DATE – November 2, 2011 .....	9
10.	ADJOURNMENT .....	9

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Peter Connor, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:21 p.m. in Room 101, Findlay Centre, Dartmouth, NS.

## 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 1, 2011

The following corrections to the minutes were noted:

On page 1, replace the name “*Johanne*” with “*Johanna*”.

On page 3, item 4.1, strike the reference to Item #2.

On page 4, item 4.1, second line of seventh paragraph, replace the word “*Water*” with “*Flag*”.

On page 5, item 5.1, replace each of the word “*Policy*” with “*Functional Plan*”.

On page 5, item 5.1, third sentence should read “*Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee*”.

On page 6, item 7.1, fourth line of fourth paragraph, replace the word “*letter*” with “*email*”.

On page 6, item 7.1, fifth line of fourth paragraph, replace the name “*Conner*” with “*Connor*”.

On page 6, item 7.2, second line, replace the word “*chloroform*” with “*chlorophyll*”.

On page 6, item 7.2, third sentence to read: “*He further noted that data was received from the analyses labs at each, the QEII, NRCAN in Ottawa and the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO).*”

**MOVED by Ms. Christina Hoehne, seconded by Mr. Pierre Clement, that the June 1, 2011 minutes, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

The Board agreed to move up Item 6.3.1 as the first order of business.

**MOVED by Ms. Christina Hoehne, seconded by Ms. Johanna Campbell, that the Order of Business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Peter Connor questioned the significance of the Information Item – Solutions for Shoreline Erosion – A Basic Guide to Bioengineering and requested clarification from the Clerk's Office.

Item 6.3.1 was discussed at this time.

**6.3.1 Halifax Water – Integrated Resources Plan – Mr. Nick Pryce, Senior Planner, Genivar, Mr. George Zukovf, President ECG Consultants**

Mr. Nick Pryce, Senior Planner, Genivar introduced himself and Mr. Jeff Haggett of Genivar, indicating Mr. George Zukovf was unable to attend. Mr. Pryce gave a presentation on the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) and its origin.

Mr. Pryce explained that Halifax Water, as a Utility, applied for a rate increase. The Utility and Review Board told Halifax Water that an IRP was needed. He indicated that the IRP is a 25 year plan for which Genivar has been tasked to determine the most cost effective ways to fix infrastructure. Genivar is not tasked with figuring out what the rate should be or how it should be calculated. Highlights of his presentation are as follows:

- There are three main drivers responsible for a need in increased capital: renewal, regulatory, and growth.
- The waste water system is in a bad state because it has not been funded adequately. It was set up in the 1940s but as of 2009/2010, responsibility was shifted to the Utility.
- Halifax Water spends roughly \$20 million while the municipality's resources expectation is meant to be around \$65 million.
- One of Halifax's biggest problems is Infiltration and Inflow (I and I).
- Residents believe that growth is driving the process but it is actually the smallest driver because developers are required to cover the cost of pipe installation.

Councillor Barkhouse entered the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

- A technical conference was held yesterday; the next conference will occur in December. Plenty of notice for future information sessions will be provided via the Clerk's Office.

Presentation panels outlining different service area levels, the stormwater system, and the wastewater system were on hand. Mr. Pryce confirmed that copies of the presentation panels will be sent to the Board.

Mr. Connor inquired as to what role the Board will have with regards to stormwater and how it will be integrated into the Source Plan. Mr. Pryce explained that with a background in stormwater, the Board could have valuable opinions to contribute.

Mr. Clement questioned if the information from the technical conference is available, to which Mr. Haggett provided the website:

<http://www.halifax.ca/hrwc/IntegratedResourcePlan.html>

Mr. Pryce reported that Genivar is working with Halifax Water to hold open houses to inform the public on the cost per litre. He explained that taxes do not portray the true cost and that Halifax Water has kept them low to a point whereby they are not delivering sustainability.

The Board discussed its contribution relating to the Wastewater Functional Plan and Stormwater Management Plan. Mr. Deacoff indicated that the Wastewater Function Plan is more than half way done, noting that the consultant's final report to Halifax Water was recently delivered.

Mr. Connor indicated that the Board would be interested in what is in the plan in terms of overflows and receiving waters for information purposes.

#### **4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE**

#### **5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

##### **5.1 Storm Water Management Policy**

Mr. Deacoff reported that development of the Storm Water Management Policy has been assigned to Mr. Paul Morgan. He indicated that Mr. Morgan is just beginning to work on the Policy and could not confirm at this time what is to happen next and when.

Mr. Connor questioned the use of the term "*policy*" versus "*functional plan*". Mr. Deacoff explained that functional plan is the name for a particular policy and that in effect, the terms are interchangeable.

Mr. Clement questioned whether the Policy has been out to consultants. Mr. Deacoff indicated that a Request for Proposal (RPF) will need to be drafted.

Mr. Connor referred to item 5.1 from the June 1<sup>st</sup> minutes regarding the recommendation forwarded to Harbour East Community Council on September 15, 2011. He asked the outcome of the matter and staff indicated that a report would come to the Board in this regard.

##### **5.2 Current Water Target Levels – Shubenacadie Canal / Lake Banook System**

Mr. Connor led the Board in a discussion, recalling from earlier minutes that the Board had asked Halifax Water to advise what the target level is and how it is maintained. He further recalled that the Board had suggested that a master plan be done for the watershed but he did not know what had happened regarding the issue.

Mr. Connor noted that Mr. Jamie Hannam, Director, Engineering and Information Services, was before the Board on behalf of the Halifax Water Commission to deal with how the water level is altered in Lakes MicMac and Banook.

Mr. Connor indicated that HRM staff had advised the Board that the water management plan for the Port Wallace area was being driven by potential development and servicing needs. However, before this could happen it is a requirement of Regional Plan that a precursor of any further sewer and water systems be introduced to handle any further potential development; a study needs to be done. Mr. Connor commented that this indicated that it was not actually driven by the water levels in Lakes MicMac and Banook but rather by future land use in the area.

Dr. Trevorrow recalled that the Board had discussed the lack of a quantitative hydraulic model for the water level in the lakes. He noted that the Board had previously put forward a motion to Harbour East Community Council that the issue be pushed forward in some way. Mr. Deacoff confirmed that it had been put forward as a recommendation because he was called before the Community Council to explain the nature of the request. He noted that the Community Council referred the matter to Halifax Water.

### **5.3 Spill Clean-Up Red Bridge Pond – Mr. John Sibbald, Pollution Prevention Coordinator, Environmental Engineering**

The Board questioned whether Mr. John Sibbald could once again be invited to give a presentation. The Clerks Office will follow up with Mr. Sibbald on his initial request to determine if he is still interested in making a presentation. Mr. Connor requested that he be copied on this matter.

Ms. Campbell exited the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

### **6.1 Correspondence – None**

### **6.2 Petitions – None**

### **6.3 Presentation**

#### **6.3.1 Halifax Water – Integrated Resources Plan – Mr. Nick Pryce, Senior Planner, Genivar, Mr. George Zukovf, President ECG Consultants**

Matter addressed earlier in the meeting, see page 4.

## **7. REPORTS**

### **7.1 Chairman's Report**

The Chair reported that Joseph Driscoll is no longer a planner with HRM and questioned who Mr. Driscoll's replacement would be for land use and development

matters. It was noted that the Clerks Office would follow up on this and report back to the Board.

Mr. Connor reported his observation of dead fish all over Lake MicMac for a week, following the mid-summer bass fishing tournament that took place on the lake. He explained that it was a day-long event of catch and release and participants were rather aggressive. He indicated that they were lobbing fish that were not of a size or interest to them and he was not sure if the fish kill was caused by the treatment or other insensitivities. Mr. Connor noted that it is not right that people would come and utilize the lake for a very short period of time and the rest of the lake users would have to bear the consequence.

Mr. Deacoff asked the exact date of the derby and explained that several reports of dead fish were reported to HRM and the Department of Environment without reference to a fishing derby; it would seem likely that there is a coincidence in timing. Mr. Connor indicated that he will get the correct date from the official website. Mr. Deacoff explained that out of courtesy, the organizations holding the fishing derby should have apprised the relevant parties that it was going to occur.

Mr. Clement explained that the bass fishing derby is a competitive event that occurs all around the Province.

Mr. Connor reported his observations of mud on Wright Avenue to the North of Dartmouth Crossing. He indicated that there is a site being developed just North of the first intersection and mud is coming off of the tires of trucks as they leave the site. He further noted that yesterday morning the southbound lane on Wright Avenue at the edge of Dartmouth Crossing was caked with two to three inches of mud and expressed concern that there did not appear to be regulations in place.

Mr. Connor reported that last Friday he attended a stakeholder's workshop in Cole Harbour at the Wesleyan Church respecting the future of the watershed in Cole Harbour. He noted that it is a broad planning exercise that involves all interest groups. Mr. Connor further noted that there is a Charter that has been produced which he believes is on the HRM website. The Charter refers to the Terms of Reference and what is to take place within the open space plan. HRM staff and consultants attended the workshop, hosted by Real Property Planning.

Mr. Connor reported that he attended the Blue Flag discussion for Birch Cove and inquired what had happened with the discussion. Mr. Deacoff explained that a report went to the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee and subsequently forwarded to Regional Council to ask for their support towards the initiatives required to make the beach an official candidate. He noted that HRM had officially committed to the proposal. Steps have also been taken to address the items brought to the Board's attention after the assessment report. Mr. Deacoff indicated that he believes in 2012 the Birch Cove Beach will be an official candidate and hopefully will be designated as an actual Blue Flag Beach and meet the certification requirements.

Mr. Deacoff indicated that one of the other items brought forward in the report to Regional Council is that staff be directed to do preliminary work to assess the potential for the two beaches on the Northwest Arm; the Dingle and Black Rock Beach, to see if they will meet the needs for Blue Flag Beach certification. A copy of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee's report will be provided to the Board.

Mr. Connor explained that the Blue Flag Program requires signage to be posted throughout the beach. Mr. Deacoff indicated that there are a number of things suggested for inclusion in signage, such as the environmental features of the lake. HRM has received a consultant's report that specifically references beaches.

## **7.2 Synoptic Survey Monthly Update**

Mr. Clement reported that all of the data has been received for the synoptic survey. He noted that there are some interesting trends and indicated that quality control on the water quality data is being done right now to make sure that it is consistent and that HRM has the right analyses for the right lakes and that it is consistent with historical data. Mr. Clement explained that he hopes to present the data at the beginning of November and have a discussion with the people at the Nova Scotia Community College to try to bring in some of the academic people. At a minimum, they want to have a technical report written in the same style as has been written in the past three occasions.

## **7.3 Penhorn/Woodlawn Community Vision Action Team Monthly Update**

Mr. Clement reported that the Vision Action Team had a meeting last Thursday. He indicated that one of the main initiatives is to build a trails committee. He noted that in terms of the Board, planning staff have sent forward the Penhorn Mall Property Commencement Process to consider amending the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law. Mr. Clement explained that the planners were hoping to use a form-based code approach to the development. He indicated that this could not be done because of the lack of roadwork infrastructure; therefore staff is changing it to a comprehensive development district approach.

Mr. Clement noted once staff receives the feedback on the drafting policies, they would provide the development plans for the site to the Board for review. Staff is recommending that once the plan is developed the area, that it come to the Board for consideration on the water quality effects.

Mr. Clement reported that the Vision Action Team organized a lake clean up in July at Penhorn Lake. He indicated that there was a fair amount of garbage, mostly from anglers and one to two shopping carts. He noted that the Oathill Lake Conservation Society also participated and that there is interest in the community around Penhorn Lake to draw from their experience and hopefully build a community conservation society for the lake.

Mr. Clement indicated that a community meeting for the Penhorn-Woodlawn development is being proposed for sometime in November. The Vision Action Team would like to attend to encourage people to participate in some form of community action, be it a water quality group or trail development group.

**7.4 Waterfront Brochure Project: Revised Guidelines**

Mr. Deacoff confirmed that there is nothing further to report at this time.

Mr. Connor suggested that the Planner assigned to the Board also be involved in the brochure.

**8. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE – November 2, 2011**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Kim Cahill  
Legislative Assistant

## INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Solutions for Shoreline Erosion – A Basic Guide to Bioengineering