

DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES

February 1, 2012

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

REGRETS: Mark Trevorrow
Peter Crowther

STAFF: Cameron Deacoff, Environmental Performance Officer
Darrell Joudrey, Planner
Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order 5:20 p.m. in Room 101, Findlay Centre, Dartmouth.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 4, 2012

The following amendments were noted:

- Cover Page – Pierre Clement should be noted as *Chair* and Peter Connor as *Vice Chair*
- Page 5, fourth paragraph, last sentence should read: ...the development could proceed *as of right* as there is no development agreement in place...
- Page 5, fifth paragraph, second sentence should read: He questioned the use of discrete sampling to suggest there is no evidence of *negative effects to water quality*.
- Page 5, fifth paragraph, replace last sentence with:

He wondered whether it would be also worth determining whether there was evidence of effects, such as sediment build up around outflows, resulting in flow restrictions, channeling and more plant growth than in other areas of the lake.

- Page 5, last paragraph should read: *Mr. Dickey advised that when the Phase 1 Development occurred minimum requirements were in place.*
- Page 7, first paragraph, word affect should be *effect*
- Page 8, replace fourth paragraph with:

Mr. Clement explained that Penhorn onsite stormwater was previously directed towards Penhorn Lake, with storm sewer catch basins on both sides of the property. He noted that the basins on the West side of the property, North of the demolition site were blocked off to limit the sediment discharge into the system. It has been suggested that this may have been responsible for problems with flooding on Bow Street, but that regardless there was noticeable sediment discharge into the lake.

- Page 8, sixth paragraph, should read: The Board discussed how they could play a role in the development *should part of the land be developed*.
- Page 8, sixth paragraph, strike word *just*
- Bottom of page 9, replace *amount reported* with *expected as a result of a fishing derby*.
- Page 7, Item 8.2, insert the word *certain* before *fish species*; as well, delete the word *most*
- Page 5, second last paragraph, after the word shallow add *in that area*
- Page 5, second last paragraph references Mr. Dan McQuinn, representative of Stantec but was *Mr. Matt Steeves*
- Page 9, second last paragraph, second sentence – should read *Mr. Deacoff* not Mr. Cameron

MOVED by Ms. Hoehne, seconded by Mr. McLean that the minutes of January 4, 2012 be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

8.1 Information Item 2 – Staff Memorandum dated January 23, 2012 re: Follow up to stormwater concerns raised at the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board’s November 2, 2011 meeting

4.1 Discussion re: Beavers and Lakes

MOVED by Ms. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Hellenbrand that the Order of Business be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Barkhouse entered the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Discussion re: Beavers and Lakes

The Chair provided an overview of the Board’s discussion in January related to beavers in HRM lakes.

Following a brief discussion, the Board requested the Clerk invite Jenny Costello from the Department of Natural Resources to speak to them about the effects and potential impacts of beavers in HRM’s urban lakes, to gain insight as to:

- why beavers are showing up in certain lakes now when they would not have been in the past; whether there is a trend
- whether beavers have an effect on water quality and vegetation

It was noted that Ms. Costello could contact the Chair or Vice Chair should she have any questions.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence – None

6.2 Petitions – None

6.3 Delegations – None

7. REPORTS

7.1 HARBOUR EAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

7.1.1 Russell Lake Water Quality

A report from Harbour East Community Council dated January 18, 2012 was before the Board for review.

Richard MacLellan, Manager of Energy and Environment provided an overview of the Harbour East Community Council's January 18, 2012 report and Russell Lake's water quality. Mr. MacLellan noted that the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy directs with policy ML-31:

Pursuant to policy ML-30, in the event the critical water quality threshold levels for Morris or Russell Lakes are reached, it shall be the intention of Council to immediately undertake a review of existing plan policies contained herein and determine an appropriate course of action respecting watershed management and future land use development in the area. Critical water quality thresholds shall be made available to the public.

Given the policy direction, Mr. MacLellan suggested the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board conduct a review of the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy policy to identify whether the entire MPS, or sections thereof, require possible revisions. He advised that staff would draft a recommendation report outlining the process and procedures for the Board's consideration at its next meeting.

The Chair clarified that on page two of the January 12, 2012 staff report the second paragraph should read *15 micrograms per litre*, not 15 milligrams.

Following a brief discussion, it was **MOVED by Mark McLean, seconded by Peter Connor that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board table the Harbour East Community Council January 18, 2012 report to a subsequent meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

It was noted that staff would provide the Board with coloured copies of the December 19, 2011 staff report, with attached report from Stantec for their information.

7.2 BOARD MEMBERS

7.2.1 Chairman's Report – *Mr. Pierre Clement (Verbal Update)*

Mr. Clement indicated that the Energy and Environment office hosted a *Save our Lakes* meeting held in January 2012 with respect to how to deal with lake water quality, and asked Mr. MacLellan to provide an update.

Mr. Richard MacLellan, Manager of Energy and Environment provided a history of the *Save our Lakes* working group and its initiatives under the direction of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee (ESSC). ESSC directed staff to identify options

for green infrastructure. A workshop was held in January 2012; a report outlining the options and alternatives is being prepared to ESSC.

The next workshop is projected to be held in March 2012 to address the Annual Save our Lakes report. HRM has commissioned Stantec to assist staff with the preparation of this report. Stantec is synthesizing the past six years of water quality data, so that the working group will be able review this information and develop questions and/or conclusions relative to how the lakes are doing. Mr. MacLellan noted that the Board will be invited to the workshop in March 2012.

Mr. MacLellan further advised that the Regional Plan is under review, which is a process where the environment is having an influential role on a number of issues.

Mr. MacLellan indicated that the various processes noted above and the review of the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy, would provide opportunities for clear recommendations from the community advisory groups on policy directions.

Mr. Clement referenced the January 13, 2012 letter of invitation from the Ecology Action Centre respecting the Applied Stormwater Management Workshop being held February 20th-21, 2012 at Dalhousie University (Information Item 1). He commented that the workshop should be an interesting opportunity for those that can attend to be informed on the types of things going on with stormwater management. He noted that the information is interconnected and would contribute towards the Board's discussion on policy issues related to the high total of phosphorous in lakes and also with the Save our Lakes discussion.

Mr. Clement further provided an update on the Penhorn/Woodlawn Community Vision Action Team work, which seems to have come to a halt. The Committee has not been disbanded and there is still work going on from the public meeting. The Action Team will be making a submission to the Harbour East Community Council in the near future.

A brief discussion was held on the Board's January request to have Senior Planner, David Lane provide an update on Penhorn Lake relative to the existing conditions.

MOVED by Mr. Connor, seconded by Ms. Campbell that the Dartmouth Lake Advisory Board request a staff report identifying:

- 1. Whether remediation has been put in place on the Penhorn Mall demolition site to minimize the impacts on both Penhorn Lake and stormwater flow as result of the demolition; and**
- 2. Whether HRM is considering policy changes to ensure that the stormwater management plans for onsite demolition are sufficiently rigorous where demolition could impact on the quality of fresh water resources.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

**7.2.2 Penhorn/Woodlawn Community Vision Action Team Monthly Update –
Mr. Pierre Clement (Verbal Update)**

Discussion held under Item 7.2.1, see above.

8. ADDED ITEMS

**8.1 Information Item 2 – Staff Memorandum dated January 23, 2012 re:
Follow up to stormwater concerns raised at the Dartmouth Lakes
Advisory Board’s November 2, 2011 meeting**

The Chair provided background on the origin of the Board’s request for a response related to their stormwater concerns expressed in November. Clarification was provided that the Board was concerned with silt going into Lake MicMac from the stormwater runoff and not with the water levels.

The Vice Chair noted that the Board has raised this issue on more than one occasion, commenting that the January 23rd memorandum indicates that controls were in place and most of the site is now stabilized. However, the memo does not address what measures should be in place to ensure it does not happen again.

The Chair questioned the statement respecting the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal allowing sedimentation to be discharged from the site.

A brief discussion was held on the lack of permitting process, wetland remediation and the need for erosion sedimentation plans for small scale developments. A question was raised regarding the intent of the last sentence in the memo. The Board requested staff provide further clarification related to the questions raised during the discussion.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 7, 2012

10. ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjourning a brief discussion was held respecting Board member Peter Crowther’s attendance. The Board requested the Clerk send a letter to Mr. Crowther to see if he was still able to be an active member.

A brief discussion was also held on the Board’s membership vacancies. The Board agreed to solicit individuals to apply for membership who fit the composition.

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Krista Vining
Legislative Assistant

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Letter of Invitation dated January 13, 2012 from Host Ecology Action Centre to attend their Applied Stormwater Management Workshop: February 20th-21, 2012 at Dalhousie University
2. Staff Memorandum dated January 23, 2012 re: Follow up to stormwater concerns raised at the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board's November 2, 2011 meeting
3. Approved 2012 Meeting Schedule