HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

March 2, 2011

- PRESENT: Mr. Peter Connor, Chair Mr. Pierre Clement, Vice-Chair Ms. Christina Hoehne Mr. Mark McLean Dr. Mark Trevorrow Councillor Jackie Barkhouse Ms. Johanna Campbell
- REGRETS: Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand Mr. Peter Crowther
- STAFF: Mr. Cameron Deacoff, Environmental Performance Officer, Infrastructure and Asset Management Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Planner, Community Development Ms. Sharon Webber, Legislative Support

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Peter Connor, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. in Room 101 of the Findlay Centre, 26, Elliott Street, Dartmouth, N.S.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 9, 2011

Changes: Item 7.1, page 7, paragraph 1, sentence 2, should read:

"The main concern is the construction of a 12 foot high, at its highest point, retaining wall being built on the property's buffer zone."

MOVED BY Ms. Christina Hoehne, seconded by Dr. Mark Trevorrow, that the minutes of February 9, 2011 as changed, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED

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

Add: 8.1 Aquatic Weeds in Lakes Banook and Mic Mac

8.2 Russell Lake Total Phosphorus Levels 2010

MOVED BY Ms. Johanna Campbell, seconded by Mr. Pierre Clement that the agenda as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Storm Water Management Policy

The Board would like to put forward a motion to ask Harbour East Community Council to be consulted in the development of HRM's Storm Water Management Functional Plan. Mr. Cameron Deacoff indicated that Mr. Richard MacLellan is the Project Manager for this plan.

MOTION BY Mr. Pierre Clement, seconded by Mr. Mark Mclean to ask Harbour East Community Council, that DLAB be consulted in the development of HRM's Storm Water Management Functional Plan. MOTION PUT AND PASSED

Mr. Connor asked what the status of HRM's Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan was. Mr. Deacoff indicated that this plan has been delayed at the present time.

4.2 Spill Clean-Up Red Bridge Pond

Mr. Joseph Driscoll investigated this issue and was not aware of anyone from HRM going to that site. Mr. Deacoff indicated that he will have a colleague from his office come talk to the Board to explain the process for cleaning up spills within HRM.

Councilor Barkhouse entered the meeting at 5:37

A question arose around what protocols are used for various types of spills. Mr. McLean indicated that his office had written policies on this subject. Mr. Connor asked Mr. McLean if it was possible to bring some of this information to a future meeting. Mr. McLean indicated that he would review these documents and make copies of sections which pertain to cleaning up spills. He also indicated that there were different protocols for different types of spills.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - NONE

7. **REPORTS**

7.1 Chairman's Report

As Mr. Connor was away for the last meeting he had some questions regarding the presentation made by Mr. Jamie Hannam, Manager of Engineering, Halifax Water (DLAB Meeting held February 9, 2011, Item 6.3.1)

Mr. Connor wanted to know if Lake Charles was used as a control point as it is at the beginning of the lock system. Mr. Clement suggested that Lake Charles was not part of the lake control system and that the only control point is Lock No. 1. They would only use Lake Charles in extreme cases. Mr. Connor wanted to know when they would use the lock control system. At the February 9, 2011 presentation Mr. Hannam indicated he would forward the current target levels for the system. To date this information has not been received.

Mr. Connor asked about the status of the Watershed Study proposal for the Port Wallace area. Mr. Driscoll indicated that this proposal is still being worked on. Dr. Trevorrow indicated that this was a prime example problem which could be used by an institution such as NSCC or Dalhousie to come up with an electronic model for these systems. They could monitor these systems and come up with satisfactory water levels. This information could ultimately produce an accepted electronic model which could automatically open and close the locks. Mr. Clement indicated that that would be a perfect project for NSCC or the Centre for Water Resource Studies at Dalhousie University. Mr. Clement will be meeting with members of NSCC shortly and will bring up this issue with them.

Mr. Connor will be away for the next meeting and Mr. Clement will be chairing the April 6, 2011 meeting.

The Board has been advised of open water at the boat launch where Red Ridge Pond goes into Lake Mic Mac. It is at the back of a residential area. This area has never

closed (frozen) all winter, which is highly unusual for that area. Mr. Connor and Mr. McLean will go take a look and advise the Board at the next meeting.

7.2 Synoptic Survey Monthly Update

Mr. Clement indicated that Synoptic Committee will be meeting again on Friday. Things are still going ahead for the last week of March and that everything is ready to go

Mr. Connor asked if there are any samplings done when the ice is still on the waterways. Mr. Deacoff indicated that within HRM it is not done for safety reasons but it is done in other jurisdictions. Mr. Clement indicated that ideally monitoring should be done in all types of conditions to provide or complete long term data sets. He suggested the interpretation of the data is done for immediate value and there were varied reasons for this.

7.3 Penhorn/Woodlawn Community Vision Action Team Monthly Update

Mr. Clement will be meeting with this team on March 8, 2011. The previous meeting was a team building exercise. The team are getting a model from a liaison group which they will be reviewing. The team's goal for completing this phase is June, 2011. Once this phase has been completed it will then be presenting this plan to public. Mr. Clement has told the group that his main focus will be water connected matters. The actual developer is also aware of the team's goals and would like to participate in the process.

7.4 Waterfront Brochure Project: Revised Guidelines

Mr. Driscoll indicated that Ms. Laura Walsh will be contacting Mr. McLean to help with this project.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Aquatic Weeds in Lakes Banook and Mic Mac

Mr. Deacoff gave the Board an update on the progress of these meetings. He indicated that his office had been working with select members of the public as it relates aquatic weeds in Lakes Banook and Mic Mac.

This group has been participating in meetings and the primary item in discussion at this time is obtaining funding to buy a mechanical weed harvester. In addition to purchasing a harvester they will be forming groups for further action by engaging the public sector.

Ms. Hoehne asked if there was any reason why these weeds are becoming problematic. Mr. Deacoff indicated that that was one of the questions this committee was currently looking into. Mr. McLean inquired if there had been a formal application to ask permission to use mechanical devices to harvest these weeds. Mr. Deacoff indicated that HRM recognized that this would be required however they were not in a position to do so at this time. He also indicated that when more details are finalized all formal applications will be acquired.

Mr. Clement asked if there were other lakes where there have been weed problems and citizens groups being formed. Mr. Deacoff indicated that he is in charge of all the lakes within HRM and was not aware of any other committees at this time.

8.2 Russell Lake Total Phosphorus Levels 2010

Mr. Deacoff gave a presentation on the Russell Lake phosphorus levels. This was a follow up to high levels observed in August 2009. The end result was that the samplings done in 2010 were lower than each of the previous average results from 2005 to 2010.

He indicated that recent samplings revealed that other lakes in Dartmouth and elsewhere in HRM have experienced much higher levels in 2010. The cause for this increase is unknown at this time and HRM is investigating with support of local experts.

Mr. McLean asked if there had been any graduated sampling from the north and south ends of the inlet which is a long way to Russell Lake. Mr. Deacoff indicated that it had not been done for this sampling.

The Board asked how long would Clayton Development pay for testing in Russell Lake. Mr. Deacoff indicated that any developer would be responsible for 12 months after the last construction but Clayton Development informed this Board at meeting last year that they have money set aside in a legacy fund which could be used for water testing and monitoring.

Mr. Deacoff indicated that HRM does not have money or resources to further monitoring.

The Board asked Mr. Deacoff what his guess was as to why these levels are high throughout HRM. Mr. Deacoff indicated that it was hard to say as these lakes are located all over HRM and those lakes which do not have high levels do not have any unique factors which would explain the samplings.

Mr. Connor asked if it could be water temperature Mr. Deacoff indicated that this was one of the areas which will be investigated.

Mr. Clement indicated that big wind events could affect the Phosphorous levels in lakes because it could mix up the water from below thermocline.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE – April 6, 2011

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Ms. Sharon Webber Legislative Support