

HALIFAX WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
April 16, 2008

PRESENT: Dr. Wayne Stobo
 Ms. Ellinor Williams
 Mr. Derrill Hynick
 Mr. David Ripley
 Dr. Barry Thomas
 Mr. Nathaniel Smith
 Mr. Walter Regan
 Mr. Scott Harron
 Councillor Mary Wile

REGRETS: Mr. Ross Evans

STAFF: Mr. Brian White, Planner
 Ms. Barbara Coleman, Legislative Assistant
 Mr. Tony Blouin, Manager, Environmental Performance (Water)

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6: 36 p.m. in Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 19, 2008

Corrections to the minutes:

- Nathaniel Smith's name should be moved to the Regrets column
- page 6 - Item 8.3 3rd paragraph should read "there not be any changes to the existing setbacks"
- page 4 - 7.1 Should read, "Does HRM have the legal authority" not HWAB
- page 4 - 7.1 Should read, "what is the responsibility of the Board if HWAB's advice on water quality sampling is ignored? "
- page 5 - second last bullet should read, "plans to take out much of the deadstalk from the setback area."

Discussion ensued as to how the next few edits should be made.

Staff advised the Board that the edits should be made stating what the golfcourse staff advised they would consider or what they would do. These edits are:

- only natural organic turkey compost will be used which is biodegradable
- backsloping would be considered as an additional mitigative measure in order to protect the lake and wetlands
- Bullets 3 and 4 should remain the same - that is the response we got
- plans to take out much of the dead stalk from the setback area
- not opposed to completing water testing water samples at least once a year.

Further edits to the minutes are noted below:

- Page 6, second bullet, "oil/grit separator" should read, "the installation of the grit separator which was of an interest to the Board was not currently being considered"
- Page 6, last bullet, "green roofs are going to be pitched overall designed", remove bullet.
- Page 6, 1st paragraph, should read, "three 10,000", not, "three !0,000".

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- Page 6, 1st bullet, should read, “the quality of the architecture would meet or exceed the buildings already there in Glen Arbour Way”
 - Page 6, Item 8.1 3rd paragraph, second sentence should read, “setbacks of the Sackville”.
 - Page 6, Item 8.1, 3rd bullet should read, “on the portion of the”

MOVED BY, Mr. Walter Regan seconded by Ms. Ellinor Williams that the minutes, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Agenda items for next Month are:

- G Website
- G Access Rd - Little Sackville River
- G Speaker - Ms. Anna McCarron (completed her Master’s Degree on this Board.) Dr. Stobo to invite her to present at the next meeting, keeping in mind that the presentation may need to be cancelled should the agenda be too cumbersome.

Update on Septic Tanks in HRM - Report went to Council on July 31, 2007 - It was asked if the Legislative Assistant would send out the report, Septic tanks in HRM dated July 31, 2007 in the next agenda package.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

5. DEFERRED AND STATUS SHEET ITEMS

5.1 NS Water Resources Management Strategy NS Water Resources Management Strategy

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/enla/water/WaterStrategyHow.asp>

Dr. Stobo gave a brief overview of the background of this topic noting the following:

- This discussion had started when HWAB started looking at Moody Lake. The discussions on Moody Lake have not been completed and if there is time tonight to continue the discussions, it will be done
- Board members were tasked to go off and read the documentation relating to the above-mentioned website
- Mr. Tony Blouin, Manager, Environmental Performance (Water) was at the last meeting and as there was not enough time to cover all the topics that Mr. Blouin could advised the Board on, he was invited back for this month’s meeting.
- Previous discussions were held by HWAB that if one is to do an assessment on a waterway these are the types of things that you should be doing.

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- it was felt that something should be put together and sent to Council on this matter.
 - although this is not the area of responsibility of Mr. Blouin's, it is well within his area of expertise and would be helpful for him to speak to the Board on the topic.

Discussion ensued with the following results:

- The consensus of the Board is that the province is nowhere near completing a Water Strategy for the Province. They seem to be at the question and answer stage with no real direction.
- Mr. Blouin advised the Board that HRM will be submitting comments on the Strategy by June 1, 2008. HRM will be making comments in line with the Water Commission. Dr. Stobo asked if these comments could be sent to all the Watershed Boards not just HWAB. Mr. Blouin agreed.
- Mr. Blouin suggested that HRM would be interested, should HWAB decide to pursue this, in any comments that HWAB would have to offer.

The report, Mr. Regan prepared, *Water Quality in Moody Lake* dated April 1, 2008 is most pertinent to this discussion will be sent to all for the next meeting. The Board will review the documents to draft recommendations to the Province in conjunction with HRM. The recommendations will then be sent on to Mr. Blouin to send on to the Province.

5.2 WATER QUALITY SAMPLING INCLUSION IN DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS (BRING ITEM 6.2 FROM MARCH MEETING)

5.3 MEMO FROM DENISE SCHOFIELD, P. ENG, MANAGER - DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERING RE: WATER QUALITY MONITORING - BC SILVER (BRING ITEM 7.1 FROM MARCH MEETING)

5.4 BY-LAWS REGARDING TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES (BRING ITEM 7.2 FROM MARCH MEETING)

A staff report dated February 20, 2008 was before the Board.

The report deals mainly with the rock crushing aspect of crushing rock on site. It is efficient, economical and if done properly, is environmentally friendly. The problem arises when more rock is crushed than needed on site and transported off the site.

Discussion ensued. The real issue is when you combine the rock crushing with an asphalt plant. This could become a very real issue for the potential of petroleum products seeping into the water courses and becoming watershed issues.

Heavy machinery that produces a potential for fluid spills is another issue for the watershed; should they be placed near a watercourse. How far should they be set back from the watercourse?

If the rock that is being crushed is native to the land, then there is no problem except for the sediment.

Some of the recommendations that the Board would like to see in their report are:

- the Board recommends an undisturbed buffer of 30 metres be maintained around all watercourses. Similar setbacks should be maintained from storm drains.
- in areas where the runoff could enter the storm drain, there must be some mitigation, i.e., oil/grit separator

In the discussion portion of the report, it should talk about the use of the heavy equipment, i.e., rock crushing equipment and the sediment that would be involved and asphalt plants emitting petroleum products and the setback from a watercourse that would be necessary. The importance of the undisturbed buffer zone is also important to note. Mitigation of any damage should be taken.

Mr. Regan will draft the report.

5.5 REPORTS TO BE WRITTEN

5.5.1 LOST CREEK GOLF CLUB

Discussion ensued with the Board agreeing that Ms. Williams would draft the report and bring back to the Board for review.

The following recommendations are to be adopted into the report.

- HWAB is pleased to note that they are following the fertilizers standards
- Consider backsloping where there is less than 30 metres of buffer or wetlands to enhance the filtering or 'cleansing' of runoff
- Sampling of Beaverbank Lake inlet and outlet of the lake done at the preconstruction stage and again testing in May and then in September/October for a period of three years. Conclusions to be sent to the Manager, Environmental Performance (Water)
- In order to reduce the need of fertilizer the dispersal of the septic could be discharged over the fairways. This would also provide irrigation.

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- the proponent had indicated that they will be removing deadstalk from the buffer zone, this disturbance should be kept to a minimum in set back areas

5.5.2 GLEN ARBOUR WAY REZONING

Discussion ensued with the Board agreeing to Mr. Smith drafting the report. This report will then be sent to Dr Stobo for his review.

- if a third building is to be built, it should be in the close proximity to other buildings in the lower right hand corner of the lot
- oil grit separator should be used to handle the runoff from the parking area
- disbursal field should be 100 ft or 30 metres from Mason Mills Pond
- septic tanks pumped out every three years or more frequently if required

Discussion ensued on green roofs. Up to this point, HWAB has not had any discussions on this topic and more discussion/research would be needed. Brian White, informed the Board that at last Peninsula Council meeting that part of the required green area of a property can be moved to the roof. No standards were set up by the Community Council.

The Board agreed that green roofs would not be part of the recommendation for this report.

5.5.3 WATERCOURSE SETBACK, SACKVILLE DRIVE

A staff report dated March 18, 2008 was before the Board.

Discussion ensued with the Board agreeing to Dr. Stobo drafting and submitting a memo to Council. A copy will be sent to the Legislative Assistant to distribute amongst members

6. **NEW BUSINESS** - none
7. **CORRESPONDENCE** - none
8. **REPORTS** - none
9. **ADDED ITEMS** - none
10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - May 21, 2008**
11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Barbara Coleman
Legislative Assistant