

BEDFORD WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD
February 11, 2004

PRESENT: Mr. Don Lowther, Chair
Mr. Kevin Dean
Mr. Brad Gibb
Ms. Kate Hadden
Mr. Richard Hattin
Ms. Elaine Loney
Mr. Doug Murray
Mr. Lem Murphy
Dr. Sankar Ray
Mr. Lawrence White
Councillor Len Goucher

REGRETS: Ms. Deborah Gillis
Mr. Brian Hoyle

STAFF: Mr. Angus Schaffenburg, Planning and Development Services
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Municipal Clerk's Office

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 14, 2004

The Chair noted that Brian Hoyle's name was not listed as being present, and asked that the official copy of the minutes reflect his attendance at the meeting.

On a motion **MOVED by Kevin Dean, seconded by Lem Murphy the minutes of January 14, 2004 were approved.**

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

The following item was **moved** to the first item on the agenda:

8.1 Presentation - Sackville Rivers, Mr. Gary Glidden

The following item was **deleted** from the agenda:

7.2.1 Stormwater Management Plan - Neighbourhood B, Bedford South/Wentworth.

The following item was **added** to the agenda:

8.5 Ministerial Order Establishing Interim Planning Area

The agenda, as amended, was approved on a motion MOVED by Mr. Lem Murphy, seconded by Mr. Brad Gibb.

8. ADDED ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

8.1 Presentation - Sackville Rivers Association, Mr. Gary Glidden

The Chair advised that he recently attended two information meetings on preserving Parker's Brook. He indicated that he believed the Board would be interested in this work, and, therefore, invited Mr. Gary Glidden to give a presentation.

Mr. Glidden addressed the Board and outlined the project, noting: they will assess Parker's Brook; raise public awareness of the needs of the stream; and develop a proposal in terms of what can be done to improve the stream. With regard to work that has been done to date Mr. Glidden highlighted the following aspects:

S samples sent to Saint Mary's University to test for water quality, sedimentary analysis, and chemical analysis.

- S historical data on the stream has been gathered.
- S the habitat has been determined to be good.
- S embeddeness has been determined to be at approximately 50% and this is a concern; would like to see it 35% or less.
- S Oxygen and Ph levels are good; in fact, Ph seems high and are at a loss to explain such a high Ph level. One possible explanation is the amount of liming done on the Ridgevale Subdivision.
- S tests were carried out in December and the group is aiming to have additional testing carried out on a regular basis.

Mr. Glidden responded to questions from the Board.

The Chair thanked Mr. Glidden for his presentation and also noted that a citizens committee on the project has been established, and Brad Gibb is a member of this group. He added that Mr. Gibb will be able to keep the Board informed of the progress of the project.

The Chair added that at one of the meetings he attended on Parker's Brook, he spoke with a woman who worked in the area of fish habitat, and she indicated she would be willing to come and speak to the Board. The Chair suggested that it would be an informative presentation and asked the Board members if they wanted him to arrange a time for her to come to a Board meeting, to which **it was agreed**.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/STATUS SHEET:

4.1.1 Infilling of Moirs Pond

Councillor Goucher noted that Debbie Gillis has completed a legal opinion RE easement and he, Debbie, and Kevin Dean will review it.

Mr. Kevin Dean indicated that meetings were ongoing, however progress was quite slow.

4.1.2 Kearney/Quarry/Paper Mill Dams

Mr. Rick Hattin advised that he was reviewing the report, noting that it was quite technical in nature and once he was finished he would provide his comments to the Board.

4.1.3 Paper Mill Lake - Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Program

Councillor Goucher noted he received a call from Don Mason today and was advised that the test results would be faxed to him within a week.

4.1.4 Storm Water Management: Union Street Area

Councillor Goucher noted that he met with staff recently on this matter and it was suggested that one way to resolve the problem was to levy an area rate, however he noted that this would involve another district.

4.1.5 Paper Mill Run

The Chair advised that about a month ago HRM staff visited the site in question, but due to the cold weather they were unable to get a good understanding of the situation. He added that staff is going to continue to investigate and, as well, Annapolis Group is going to take a look at the Run.

4.1.6 Spruce Island

A copy of the Town of Bedford Grade Alteration By-law was submitted in relation to this item.

The Chair advised that this item could be removed from the agenda, given that Department of Fisheries and Oceans have investigated and are satisfied that the work was restoration work, and there has not been any significant alteration of the land.

A discussion ensued with regard to the Grade Alteration By-law and how it is administered, and **it was agreed** that HRM staff, i.e. Denise Schofield and Alex Quinn would be requested to attend an upcoming meeting of the Board for further discussion on the Bylaw.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None.

7. REPORTS:

7.1 SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

7.1.1 Water Quality Inventory Committee - none.

7.1.2 Paper Mill Lake Advisory Committee - none.

7.2 STAFF REPORTS:

7.2.1 Stormwater Management Plan - Neighbourhood B, Bedford South/Wentworth

This item had been deleted from the agenda.

8. ADDED ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

8.1 Presentation - Sackville Rivers

This item had been dealt with earlier in the agenda.

8.2 Parker's Brook

Mr. Brad Gibb advised that, given Mr. Glidden's informative presentation on the Parker's Brook, he had nothing further to add at this time.

8.3 Harbour Solutions

Mr. Brad Gibb advised that he was a member of the Halifax Harbour Watershed Restoration Coalition. For the information of the Board he elaborated on Coalition, noting their main focus is with regard to remediation efforts in the Harbour. He added that they have secured funding for a facilitator to the end of December and they are looking at different funding options, one of which will be to approach the Municipality. Mr. Gibb advised that it's advantageous for the Board to have a representative on the Coalition because it gives it access to a huge number of organizations that could be helpful, and as well, the Board can offer it's expertise to the Coalition, particularly in the area of water testing.

8.4 Updated Board Members List

A BWAB membership list in accordance with FOIPOP guidelines had been submitted.

The Chair advised that he requested a current membership list be circulated to the Board for their review and revisions as necessary. He asked that any errors or omissions be noted and passed on to Sheilagh Edmonds for updating.

8.5 Ministerial Order Establishing Interim Planning Area

This item was added to the agenda.

The Chair advised that Dr. Sankar Ray added this item to the agenda, and was recommending the Board write a letter to the Mayor advising of it's support of the Municipality's action regarding the recent moratorium on development.

A discussion ensued and Mr. Rick Hattin questioned where the Watershed Resources Management Plan stands in relation to his. He pointed out that it was his understanding that it was going to be a cornerstone in the overall regional master plan. Further discussion ensued and it was noted that the last time the Board had heard anything about the Watershed Resources Management Plan was last August when it was presented to Council, and at that time staff indicated it would become a part of the master planning process.

Subsequently, it was, **MOVED by Mr. Rick Hattin seconded by Mr. Kevin Dean** that the Chair forward a letter to the Mayor, with copies to Paul Dunphy, Austin French, and John Sheppard, advising that the Board supports HRM's position with regard to the 90 day moratorium. In addition, the Board strongly suggests that the planning document which results from this process should be based on Watershed Resources Management Study.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, March 10, 2004

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant