



BEDFORD WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes
January 12, 2005

PRESENT: Mr. Lawrence White, Vice Chair
Mr. Lem Murphy
Mr. Kevin Dean
Dr. Sankar Ray
Mr. Doug Murray
Ms. Kate Hadden
Mr. Cedric Pilkington
Mr. Rick Hattin
Ms. Elaine Loney
Ms. Deborah Gillis
Mr. David Gorsline (7:20 p.m.)
Deputy Mayor Len Goucher

ABSENT: Mr. Don Lowther, Chair (regrets)
Mr. Will Matheson (regrets)

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Angus Schaffenburg, Planner II
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant
Mr. Chris Miller, Ph.D., President,
Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Society
Mr. Bob MacDonald, Halifax North West Trails Association

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Nauss Room, LeBrun Centre, Bedford.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Mr. Murray, seconded by Mr. Murphy the minutes of November 10, 2004 be approved as circulated. MOTION PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 8.3 Infill on Shore Drive
- 8.4 Volunteer of the Year
- 8.5 Letter - Regional Planning

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

4.1 Infilling of Moirs Pond

Deputy Mayor Goucher indicated that he had no further update at this time, other than to advise that the parties are still talking.

4.2 Kearney/Quarry/Paper Mill Dams

Deputy Mayor Goucher advised that a Private Members Bill to establish a Commission is being prepared to be put forward in the next sitting of the Legislature. He noted a concern which had arisen pertains to a comment by a representative of DFO that they intend to put fish ladders at all three dams. Deputy Mayor Goucher added that the property is not owned by DFO.

4.3 Paper Mill Lake - Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Program

Mr. Pilkington advised that he received a copy of a letter which had been addressed to Chris Elliot, AMEC, from the Environmental Services Division of Capital Health. He read the letter which advised that they had identified a discrepancy with proficiency testing in regard to the Board's Total Phosphorous UVL analysis and, because of this, Capital Health has stopped offering the analysis until the root cause has been determined and corrected. Mr. Pilkington pointed out that the letter notes that someone would be contacting AMEC with regard to compensation; however, to date no one has contacted

AMEC.

A discussion ensued as to availability of other labs which would carry out phosphorus testing.

At 7:20 p.m. Mr. Gorsline entered the meeting.

It was agreed that Mr. Schaffenburg and Mr. Pilkington would follow up and make inquiries as to testing facility alternatives.

4.4 Storm Water Management: Union Street Area

Deputy Mayor Goucher noted that Atlantic Superstore has donated \$7,000 to assist with flood reduction in the area.

In response to a question, Deputy Mayor Goucher indicated that it would cost \$500,000 to fix the problem entirely, but staff is not prepared to do this at this time. He added that for \$20,000, a two-foot retaining wall could be constructed as an interim measure. He suggested that with the funds from Atlantic Superstore, he may be able to contribute some from the Councillors capital fund, and perhaps get the Province to provide some funding as well.

A discussion ensued and it was **MOVED by Mr. Hattin, seconded by Mr. Gorsline that a letter be forwarded to North West Community Council, with a copy to the HRM's Director of Environmental Management Services, and Minister Peter Christie, MLA, Bedford, advising that HRM staff should initiate interim measures to prevent flooding in the Union Street area, and provide a staff report on a permanent solution. MOTION PASSED.**

4.5 Paper Mill Run

No update to report.

4.6 Parker's Brook

A brief discussion ensued as to whether this item should be removed from the status sheet. It was agreed to leave this item on the agenda and discuss whether it should be removed at the Board's next meeting

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS:

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

None.

8.4 Volunteer of the Year

Deputy Mayor Goucher referred to a letter from the Bedford Volunteer Recognition Committee requesting the Board to nominate a member for Volunteer of the Year. Mr. Cedric Pilkington was unanimously chosen as the Board's nominee.

7. REPORTS:

7.1 SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

7.1.1 Water Quality Inventory Committee

Nothing to report at this time.

7.1.2 Paper Mill Lake Advisory Committee

Deputy Mayor Goucher indicated he would have a report for the Board's next meeting.

7.2 STAFF REPORTS:

Mr. Schaffenburg advised that a public information meeting would be held January 19 pertaining to an application by O.L.L. Leasing and Holdings Limited to amend the Bedford Municipal Planning Strategy. He noted this matter will also be forwarded to the Board.

In response to a question by Mr. Dean with regard to information on Bedford's storm scepters, Mr. Schaffenburg advised that he had made inquiries, and is expecting further information. He indicated he will continue to follow up on this matter. It was agreed this item would be placed on the status sheet.

8. ADDED ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

8.1. Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Society

Mr. Bob McDonald and Mr. Chris Miller, Ph.D addressed the Board and gave a presentation with regard to the Blue Mountain - Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Area. Mr. McDonald advised that he was a member of the Halifax North West Trails Association, and Mr. Miller was president of the Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Society. Copies of their presentation were circulated.

In the presentation Mr. Miller noted that the Blue Mountain - Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Society works toward retaining a natural area near the communities of Mainland North Halifax so that residents can enjoy the outdoors, undertake a vast array of recreational pursuits, and learn about nature and the environment. In this regard, Mr. Miller explained they want crown-owned lands in the vicinity of the Blue Mountain - Birch Cove Lake designated as protected under Nova Scotia's Wilderness Areas Protection Act.

Mr. Miller indicated that they have the support of the MLA of the area, various interested groups, and many residents. He added they were seeking the support of the Bedford Waters Advisory Board in preserving these lands for public use, in light of the fact that area serves as the headwaters for the Kearney Lake/Paper Mill Lake and Nine Mile River watersheds.

Mr. Miller and Mr. McDonald responded to questions.

Mr. McDonald pointed out that they had two requests of the Board. First, a motion in support of preserving the area as a Protected Wilderness Area; and secondly; support of a petition they are circulating which supports the designation of the crown land in Birch Cove Lakes Blue Mountain area as Protected Wilderness Area.

Further discussion ensued and Mr. Miller and Mr. McDonald were advised that with regard to the Rules of Order the Board follows, when a presentation is made at a meeting, a motion is not made at that time. The matter is brought forward to the next meeting, at which time the Board will have had an opportunity to review and discuss it.

The Chair thanked Mr. Miller and Mr. McDonald for their presentation and advised that this item will be on the agenda of the Board's next regular meeting.

8.3 Infill on Shore Drive

Deputy Mayor Goucher advised that the situation of infilling at 230 Shore Drive came up again before Christmas, adding that the infilling was continuing. Deputy Mayor Goucher noted the various government departments and agencies he followed up with to try and get this worked stopped. He noted that Transport Canada issued two Notice to Stop Work citations, however they were ignored by the property owner. Deputy Mayor Goucher added that he spoke with Geoff Regan, MP, Halifax West about the matter and Mr. Regan had indicated that Notice to Stop Work was not a legal citation.

A discussion ensued with questions being raised in regard to the stage at which HRM would have jurisdiction to take action on this matter.

Deputy Mayor Goucher also advised that concern was expressed to him that there is a 30 ft. municipal right-of-way on the north side of the property that is being blocked.

Mr. Schaffenburg advised that he would check on this aspect and investigate whether any building permits have been issued.

Following further discussion, it was generally agreed that the matter should be brought to the attention of North West Community Council.

It was MOVED by Mr. Hattin, seconded by Mr. Murphy that the Chair of Bedford Waters Advisory Board forward a letter to North West Community Council advising that the work being carried out at 230 Shore Drive appears to be in conflict with the Grade Alteration Bylaw and the Navigable Waters Protection Act,

and request that Community Council ensure it is brought into compliance with these regulations. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.4 Letter from Regional Planning

A letter dated December 21, 2004 from Susan Corser, HRM Regional Planning was submitted.

The Chair advised that Regional Planning is requesting a meeting with the Board either at its next regular meeting or in conjunction with other committees to provide an update on the progress of the Regional Plan.

It was agreed that the Board would meet with a representative of the Regional Plan at its next regular meeting. The Legislative Assistant was asked to follow up with Ms. Corser, and to request information on the presentation and that it be circulated with the agenda packages.

8.2 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

This item was deferred to the Board's next meeting.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held February 9, 2005.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant