

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES APRIL 27, 2005

PRESENT: Ms. Audrey Manzer, Chair
Ms. Catherine Lunn
Councillor Gloria McCluskey
Dr. Don Gordon
Mr. Peter Connor
Ms. Stephanie Bird
Dr. Mark Trevorrow
Dr. Hugh Millward
Dr. Ron Beazley (7:10 p.m.)

REGRETS: Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand
Mr. Pierre Clement
Ms. Christine Hoehne

STAFF: Mr. John MacPherson, Planner
Mr. John Sheppard, Manager, Environmental Engineering Services
Mr. Tony Blouin, Manager, Environmental Performance - Water
Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Connor referred to page 5 of the February 23, 2005 minutes and his suggestion that the developer install a cut off trench in the inceptor swale. He requested that his comment that this would be useful during demolition be included in the minutes.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Dr. Millward that the minutes of the February 23 and the March 30, 2005 meetings, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Later in the meeting, Dr. Millward referred to the environmental section of the Morris/Russell Lake Secondary Planning Strategy being distributed to members of the Committee and requested that staff provide the information to the Committee.

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

Mr. Connor referred to the discussion regarding development on Frenchman Lake's Brook and requested an update.

Mr. MacPherson indicated that the development was still at the concept stage, but that he would provide an update at the next meeting.

MOVED by Mr. Connor, seconded by Ms. Lunn that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Regional Planning Presentation

As Susan Corser was unable to be present, Dr. Millward provided a brief update regarding the Regional Plan noting that the draft plan is now being presented to Council. He went on to note that following a thorough review, Council will endorse the Plan for public consultation. Dr. Millward noted that an intensive consultation process will be held over the next two months and after incorporating the public input, staff will bring the Plan back to Council for public hearing.

Referring to significant policies within the Plan, Dr. Millward commented that a 20 meter buffer

(both publicly and privately owned) around lakes and watercourses is proposed. Dr. Millward indicated that this policy will apply HRM wide. He went on to suggest that the rd request the presentation given to Council on the watershed management policies be presented to the Board.

Dr. Millward noted that although some policies are region wide, others will be implemented through the various Municipal Planning Strategies (now referred to as Community Plans). He indicated that the existing Municipal Planning Strategies will amended to conform with the Regional Plan, and consequently, implementation of the Plan will take a number of years.

4.2 Presentation - John Sheppard, Manager, Environmental Engineering Services - Overview of Stormwater and Wastewater Management Plan

- A presentation dated April 27, 2005 entitled Stormwater and Wastewater in Halifax Regional Municipality was distributed to the Board.

Mr. John Sheppard, Manager of Environmental Engineering Services, gave a presentation of HRM's Stormwater and Wastewater Management Plan. Mr. Sheppard introduced Mr. Tony Blouin, Manager, Environmental Performance - Water and Mr. Ian Guppy, Senior Environmental Engineer, Easter Region.

Mr. Sheppard's presentation included the following key points:

- The overriding factor is that from an operational perspective when the system does not work well, there is a severe impact on the watercourses in HRM.
- A review of HRM owned Stormwater and Wastewater Infrastructure.
- A review of the replacement value of the infrastructure.
- Approximately \$540 million is proposed to be spent over the next 25 years.
- The bulk of the \$540 million is earmarked to bring and keep HRM's infrastructure into compliance with Provincial and Federal regulations
- The exception is \$30 million which has been allocated to Water Resource Management Program.
- A review of the costs included and those that are not included in the \$540 million
- A review of specific stormwater and wastewater initiatives in the area of jurisdiction of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board.

A copy of the presentation is on file.

Note was made that Sullivan`s Pond is extremely low and that leakage from the pond has been a problem in the past.

Mr. Tony Blouin, Manager, Environmental Performance - Water, gave a brief update of the

Water Resource Management Study and the action plan which has been developed. Highlights of Mr. Blouin's presentation included:

- The service boundary is to be modified
- The Regional Plan will identify servicing preference
- Protection of watercourses and wetlands will include a basic 20 meter buffer with amount of additional buffer dependent upon slope
- The Regional Plan, Community Plans, the Redbook and By-Laws will ensure implementation
- Major watershed studies, flood plains studies, and a pollution prevention program are necessary
- Recognition that appointed HRM boards and community groups have an interest in the lakes
- Enforcement is to be addressed.

Mr. Blouin noted that he would provide to the Board an update of the action plan.

Ms. Manzer complimented staff on the very interesting and informative presentation noting that HRM has come a long way in terms of protection of lakes and waterways.

Mr. Sheppard committed that staff will provide an annual update in April of each year.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Presentation - Proposed Business Park Plans for "Dartmouth Crossing" (Extension to Burnside) - Environmental Design Management (EDM)

Mr. Brian White, Environmental Design Management (EDM), utilizing a PowerPoint presentation outlined the proposed business park plans for Dartmouth Crossing.

Mr. White's presentation included the following:

- An orientation to the Countryview lands (known locally as the Whebby quarry) utilizing aerial photos
- The proposal before the Committee is the most recent development plan
- Concept approval has been received re the subdivision and the development of the site
- The Department of the Environment requires a reclamation plan and the development plan is the final step in that process
- Key features of the plan:
 - 100 foot buffer either side of Grassy Brook
 - Frenchman's Brook is at far end of site and not impacted
 - Mainstreet with a "streetscape" feel incorporated in the development

- Plans for Frenchman's brook restoration not yet complete, but certainly is considered to be important
- Preparation of the site included the successful relocation of an osprey nest. Osprey have since returned to the nest.
- Fish passage and low flow problems (groundwater and surface) is to be improved
- Timeline for tentative approval is early June

The matter is to be included on the agenda of the June meeting for consideration of the detailed plan.

Note was made that this development is as of right.

A discussion ensued with note being made that given the amount of pavement and rooftop area included in the proposal, efforts should be made to retain the water on site, particularly after any major rain event, allowing for a slow run off.

The Chair pointed out that the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board had been formed in 1971 around, among others, around the issues of the quarry and sedimentation in Frenchman's Lake and Lake Micmac.

5.2 Russell Lake West Development Agreement - Lake Monitoring Program

- A memo dated April 20, 2005 from Paul Morgan, Planner was before the Board for consideration.

Mr. Morgan advised that Policy ML-30 of the Morris Russell Lake Secondary Planning Strategy calls for a water quality monitoring program the specifics of which are to be negotiated in consultation with the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board. Mr. Morgan indicated that Jacques Whitford, on behalf of Clayton Developments, has submitted a monitoring program. The program has been accepted by Tony Blouin, Manager of Environmental Performance for HRM.

Mr. Mike Hanusiak, Senior Vice President, Clayton Developments, reiterated that the Development Agreement called for comprehensive water sampling and monitoring of Russell Lake. Clayton Developments will underwrite the cost for a long term program which will be arms length from the company.

Ms. Susan Belford, Jacques Whitford provided an overview of the proposed testing/monitoring as contained in the April 18, 2005 correspondence to Tony Blouin.

Dr. Gordon suggested that the baseline testing program include:

- sampling water as it is flowing into the wetland from Norman Newman Drive
- sampling in the pond upstream of the berm (north west arm of Russell Lake)
- sampling north and south of the berm (causeway)

Note was made that the Evergreen subdivision has been and continues to be a major source of silt in Russell Lake.

A further brief discussion ensued following which Ms. Manzer thanked Ms. Belford for her overview.

6. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** - None
7. **STAFF UPDATE** - None
8. **ADDED ITEMS** - None
9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - May 25, 2005
10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Sherrill Murphy
Legislative Assistant