

**DARTMOUTH LAKES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
September 27, 2006**

PRESENT: Ms. Audrey Manzer, Chair
Ms. Catherine Lunn, Vice Chair
Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand
Mr. Mark McLean
Mr. Pierre Clement
Ms. Christine Hoehne

ABSENT WITH
REGRETS: Dr. Ron Beazley
Dr. Mark Trevorrow
Mr. Peter Connor
Councillor Gloria McCluskey
Dr. Hugh Millward
Ms. Stephanie Bird

STAFF: Mr. John MacPherson, Planning & Development Services
Ms. Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER	3
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES	3
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES	3
4.1	Dartmouth Crossing Update	3
5.	NEW BUSINESS	4
5.1	Presentation re: Shubenacadie River - Heritage Designation, Shubenacadie Canal Commission	5
5.2	Chairman's Report	6
5.3	Staff Update	6
6.	ADDED ITEMS	6
6.1	General State of Lake MicMac	6
6.2	Trunk Sewer Line Connecting Dartmouth Crossing and Lake Shore Park	
6.3	Sewage Problem Above Russell Lake	7
7.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	7
8.	ADJOURNMENT	7

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:22 P.M.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 31, 2006 and July 12, 2006

May 31, 2006:

MOVED by Mr. Pierre Clement, seconded by Ms. Catherine Lunn that the minutes of the May 31, 2006 meeting of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board, as distributed, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

July 12, 2006:

Corrections: Item 5.1.1, page 8, the second motion should read Morris Lake not Russell Lake. Recommendation #2 under the same motion should also read Morris Lake. Under #1 (middle of page 8) annual average phosphorus threshold levels should be for Morris Lake not Russell Lake.
Item 4, page 6: spelling error "phosphorus".

Mr. Mark MacLean commented that Ms. Murphy is to be commended for doing a great job on the minutes from a complicated meeting.

MOVED BY Mr. Mark MacLean, seconded by Mr. Pierre Clement that the minutes of the July 12, 2006 meeting of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Additions: 6.1 General State of Lake MicMac - Ms. Catherine Lunn
6.2 Sewer Line - Ms. Christine Hoehne
6.3 Sewage Problem Above Russell Lake - Mr. Pierre Clement

MOVED BY Dr. Klaus Hellenbrand, seconded by Ms. Catherine Lunn that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Dartmouth Crossing Update

- Colour photocopies of the area, from a previous meeting, were circulated to the Board for reference at this time.

Mr. Brian White, Environmental Design and Management Limited (EDM) presented a verbal update on Dartmouth Crossing.

Mr. White responded as follows to comments from the Board:

- Hydroseeding was done behind the Wal-Mart building along the banks of Frenchman's Brook to start vegetation. Within two years, willow and other trees will be added along the bank to create a natural ecosystem.
- Quarry Road: this is the site of the first culvert on the property. He advised that this will be a service lane, not an access road.
- Frenchman's Brook: water now tumbles down over the cliff and creates a little backwater area where a spawning habit has been created at the new dyke. Two pipes in the catch basin placed under the dyke go in diffusers to the spawning bed. Head level: 4' difference in elevation. Good habitat for trout spawning.
- Topsoil will be brought in and wetland plants added.
- Some asphalt piles (left over from the former quarry site) are being removed from the stream and as much vegetation as possible left.
- The culvert will accept clean rooftop water from the Wal-Mart building to aid with flushing opportunities in the wetland area.
- He outlined the plan for Frenchman's Brook which will be more of a meandering stream where the ditch was with a new channel where the steep grades are located.
- Cattail Marsh will be restored.
- Confirmed that the only storm water coming into the brook will be from the rooftop. The stream has a natural flow and high volumes during spring runoff will see the wetlands fill up and then the run off will go to the old channel with flushing through that area from the rooftop water. He advised that the system was so highly disturbed that they had to figure this system out for themselves.
- The channel has been designed to handle catastrophic conditions (such as the waterfall collapsing in).

Mr. Pierre Clement commented that continuous flushing from the rooftop to clear the stream is great.

In response to Ms. Audrey Manzer, Mr White advised that the issue of oxygen depletion in Grassy Brook happened on another landowners property and he would normally not

comment. He did comment that the bridges built on this property, which required permits from the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, also required monitoring of the stream (Grassy Brook). He advised that the work is operated under the jurisdiction of a Ministerial order therefore, daily monitoring of the streams has been done since August 2006. The Consultants and staff on site did notice in late July/early August that there was a problem with the fish. Fish were rapidly moving down stream due to depleted oxygen. He deferred explanation of the reasons for the depleted oxygen to staff and investigative authorities. He added that from the highway only their project is visible and therefore people were looking to them as the cause of the blooming algae and dead fish. Mr. White advised that he is confident that he has complied with all permits and regulations. He invited the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board to visit the site.

Ms. Manzer commented that the flushing system, as outlined by Mr. White, would be interesting to have written up as a solution if it is successful.

Ms. Christine Hoehne commented that she has walked the pedestrian bridge on the Subenacadie Park side and is impressed with how nice and green the area looks.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Presentation re: Shubenacadie River - Heritage Designation, Shubenacadie Canal Commission

- An Information Package from the Shubenacadie Canal Commission was circulated to the Board at this time.

Mr. Bernie Hart, Executive Director, Shubenacadie Canal Commission, raised the following points during his presentation on the Shubenacadie Canal System:

- The vision of the heritage river / waterway designation is one of “seven lakes and two rivers joined by nine locks and a number of man-made cuts including the corridor bounding the waterway - its natural and human heritage.”
- Designation as a Canadian Heritage River System (CHR) is a formal proclamation that a river has a recognized set of natural and/or cultural values of Canadian importance. It also means that the provincial government and stakeholders, are committed, through a plan or strategy, to maintain these values over the long term. CHR designation usually results in increased monitoring and better coordinated waterway management.
- The Shubenacadie Canal Commission is in the process of applying for Canadian Heritage River status for the Subenacadie Canal Heritage River. The province of Nova Scotia sponsored a background paper that will be sent to the Heritage River

Board (HRB) who will determine if the province can apply for heritage status. The process will take approximately three years. He explained that an ad hoc Committee would be selected by the province on which he would like to see representation from the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board, HRM, Colchester County, Ducks Unlimited and major groups along the water way.

Ms. Audrey Manzer, Chair of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board, pledged full cooperation for this initiative.

Mr. Hart further advised that the long range plans for the Shubenacadie Canal Commission are:

- to stabilize and restore historic works.
- enable small boats to pass through the waterway with a minimum of portaging by taking measures to maintain appropriate water levels through the use of control structures.
- provide park areas along the waterway particularly associated with the historic works and representative natural area.
- link all communities via the Trans Canada Trail and be one of its offshoots.
- facilitate the opportunity for schools along the corridor to cooperate in joint projects leading to a better understanding of and protection for the waterway.
- He emphasised the importance of considering the entire canal system when doing any work on the locks or canal as an increase or decrease in water level would have an affect on the complete system.

The Board thanked Mr. Hart for his presentation.

The Board also commented that determining water levels throughout the system will be an interesting process as the issue, in the past, has brought communities to dispute.

5.2 Chairman's Report

Ms. Manzer advised that:

- She had sent an e-mail to the Board members in regard to what happened at the Community Council meeting and invited the Board to remain after the meeting to discuss this further if they wish.
- She has been in communication with Mr. Tony Blouin, HRM Manager, Environmental Performance (water), in regard to the Grassy Brook item (stockpiling of soil at top of Commodore for work on the sports field). The matter has been resolved satisfactorily but should never have occurred.

The Board requested a report from Mr. Blouin in regard to the cause and cure for the matter. Mr. John MacPherson offered to follow-up with Mr. Blouin.

5.3 Staff Update

Mr. John MacPherson, Planner 1, Community Development, advised that he will have the appropriate staff persons respond to issues raised by the Board for the October meeting.

6. ADDED ITEMS

6.1 General State of Lake Mic Mac

The matter was raised by Ms. Catherine Lunn. **Deferred** to the October meeting.

6.2 Trunk Sewer Line Connecting Dartmouth Crossing and Lake Shore Park

This issue was raised by Ms. Christine Hoehne. Members of the Board commented that:

- The clearing is very wide and looks like a road right of way.
- It would be nice to have some trees/vegetation planted.
- As it is, the area is an eyesore.

Mr. MacPherson advised that he will have development engineering speak to the issue of landscaping for this area.

6.3 Sewage Problem Above Russell Lake

The matter was raised by Mr. Pierre Clement. **Deferred** to the October meeting.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 2006 at 5:15 pm.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Chris Newson

Legislative Assistant