

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

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**HALIFAX WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**January 21, 2004**

**PRESENT:** Dr. Wayne Stobo, Chair  
Dr. Barry Thomas  
Mr. Keith Manchester  
Dr. Sankar Ray  
Mr. Walter Regan  
Mr. Lawrence White  
Dr. Spencer Lee  
Ms. Janis Rod  
Mr. Frank Hope  
Ms. Ellinor Williams  
Mr. Gerry Samson  
Mr. Darrill Hynick  
Ms. Christine Smith  
Mr. Ross Evans  
Mr. Jim Holmes

**REGRETS:** Dr. Shannon Mala Bard

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ms. Susan Corser, Planner  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### **1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

### **2. ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE NEXT AGENDA**

The Chair advised of the following item to be placed on next month's agenda:

#### **Proposal for a Sackville Waters Advisory Committee**

### **3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

The Chair introduced Mr. Derrill Hynick and Mr. Gerry Samson, advising that they were newly appointed members to the Board. Mr. Hynick representing, District 15, and Mr. Samson, representing District 2.

The Chair also introduced and welcomed Ms. Anna McCarron as an observer to the Board's meetings. He explained she is working on her Masters Degree in Urban and Rural Planning at Dalhousie University and the HWAB is one aspect of her thesis research. Ms. McCarron briefly reviewed her work and the role the Board will play in her study, noting that the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board will be a case study

### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NOVEMBER 19, 2003**

**MOVED by Frank Hope, seconded by Janis Rod** the minutes of November 19, 2003 be approved. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **5. DEFERRED BUSINESS**

#### **5.1 Westgate - Sewage Treatment Plant**

Mr. Walter Regan advised that he and Dr. Stobo are currently working on this, and will have

something to report back to the Board in a month or two.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Update on Testing Results**

Ms. Ellinor Williams advised that, previously the Board had been keeping track of testing results, but it has seemed to fall by the wayside, and she questioned if the Board intended to continue tracking test results.

After a brief discussion, Ms. Williams and Ms. Corser agreed to update this information and provide it to the Board in a table format.

### **6.2 Water Quality Reports for Hail Pond**

Two reports RE: Water Quality Report for Hail Pond, Stoneridge on the Park Subdivision, dated May 2003 and September 2003 were submitted at the Board's November meeting.

The Board members reviewed the reports and had several questions which they agreed to forward to staff for further explanation. Specifically:

- C Clarification on the 'Total Coliform' in the context of what was the upper limit?; Was it quantified at a higher level?; Why are the Coliform counts are high (i.e. there have been reports that there was an odour problem)?
- C Total Phosphorus - micrograms per litre? What is the detection limit? Was it tested at the Victoria General?
- C Copper and Zinc - How is it that the reporting value is below the detection limit?

### **6.3 Proposed Condominium Development, Parcels A, B, and C, Glen Arbour Golf Course and Residential Community**

The following documentation was submitted in relation to this item:

- S a letter dated November 25, 2003 from Willard J. D'Eon, MPH, P.Eng., CBCL Limited to Mr. Frank MacNeil, P.Eng. Nova Scotia Department of the Environment.
- S Conceptual Stormwater Management Plan for Parcel A, B and C Condominium Project Glen Arbour by Annapolis Group dated November 2003.
- S excerpts from the Glen Arbour Development Agreement pertaining to

Setbacks, Private Sewer Design, Construction, and Installation, Water Services, and Environmental Protection.

Ms. Susan Corser, Planner, advised that the consultant for Glen Arbour would like to make a presentation of their proposal to the Board. She suggested the Board review the information this evening and draw up their comments/questions and have them ready for discussion and invite the consultant to make a presentation at February's meeting.

The Chair concurred, and suggested the Board record its questions/comments for the consultant. Mr. Walter Regan volunteered to record the questions and comments.

Prior to reviewing the submitted documentation Dr. Thomas questioned whether the Board or HRM received a response to the letter it sent to the Audubon Society in October, pertaining to the certification of the Glen Arbor Golf Course by the Society.

The Chair indicated that no response had been received, and that if Dr. Thomas provided the Society's e-mail address to him, he would follow up on this matter.

The Board members entered a lengthy discussion regarding the submitted information on the wastewater collection and treatment criteria and conceptual stormwater management plan for Parcel A, B, and C of the Glen Arbour Condominium Project. The following questions/comments arose during the course of discussion:

- C The Board is supportive of the concept of a single sewage treatment process.
- C Supportive of tertiary treatment process.
- C Nutrient outflow conform to NSDEL regulations and HRM bylaws for wastewater discharge; and operated and maintained by a certified wastewater treatment operator.
- C Testing - how do they intend to monitor the nutrient content of the effluent?; where would they monitor it in order to protect the inflow into Thompson Run?
- C If there is going to be dispersion from the sand filter, given it is a clay based soil, how do they expect the land to do the filtering, and how would they intend to monitor the quality of the effluent entering Thompson's Run?
- C The Board would like more information on the function and the monitoring of the holding pond, i.e. how does the dispersion across the land and the holding pond fit together.
- C What is the backup plan in the case of loss of power or equipment failure?

- C The Board has concerns about low periods of water flow, and that maybe the continuous water flow in Thompson's Run is such that the Board questions whether it is capable of handling this nutrient inflow. The Board would like more information on how they are going to deal with the fluctuations of the water flow in the context of maintaining the regulations of NSDLE.
- C The Board would like to see a schematic of how the treatment system is going to work RE: the recirculating sand filter with the holding pond concept to the dispersal concept, prior to entering Thompson's Run.
- C The Board wants to ensure the total nutrients exiting Thompson Run into McCabe Lake does not exceed the NSDEL standards. How would they propose to ensure that?
- C Stormwater and septic outflow - How do they propose to regulate it from Thompson Run to McCabe Lake within the standards of NSDEL and HRM?
- C How do they propose that the current peak flows aren't exceeded?
- C Monitoring point at the south end of these parcels on Thompson Run, and at the confluence.
- C Explanation of the 5:1 dilution ratio.
- C Has consideration been given to slate rocks? Ground water recharge?
- C Impact to existing community of cumulative withdrawal on groundwater.
- C Given the fact that the adjacent community of Maplewood has gone onto Municipal water as result of a groundwater problem, and the situation of acid slate, what is their plan in the context of these potential problems.
- C Suggests a hydrogeological study be carried out to determine the current recharge rate in the context of being able to sustain a 176,000 litre/day withdrawal.
- C Stormwater plan - need to see that the stormwater is being directed to the upper reaches of Thompson Run.
- C What is GUDI Protocol?
- C If they are going to have water treatment in their water collection system, how are they proposing to deal with the backwash when the filters are cleaned.

C How will they deal with the by-products of the treatment process?

In addition to the questions above, the following comments/ requests were noted:

- S Susan Corser will ask the consultants to provide background information on the soil, i.e in terms of permeability of the soil that they are going to disperse into.
- S When the Board develops its recommendations, it will request reports on nutrient analysis, water quality reports; copy of gauging water flows.
- S When the Board develops its recommendations, it will include a request for some sort of bonding to ensure that proper maintenance is being done.
- S Rain water cisterns - Chair suggested that upon hearing the consultant's presentation, it is something they could consider recommending.
- S The Chair asked Sheilagh Edmonds to recirculate to the Board, its compiled recommendations in regard to the Annapolis Basin Group Glen Arbour Development Proposal.
- S Darryll Hynick will submit a copy of the Province's guidelines pertaining to sewage treatment and Sheilagh Edmonds will provide a copy of HRM's guidelines. This will be circulated in next month's agenda package.

**7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

None.

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - February 18, 2003.**

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**Bennery Lake Watershed Protected Water Area Designation**

A memo dated December 28, 2003 from Alan Brady, Manager of Wastewater Treatment, Environmental Management Services was submitted for information.

The Chair noted that Alan Brady had put forward a request for a Board member who lives in District 2 to sit on the Bennery Lake Watershed Committee. **It was agreed** that Keith Manchester would be the appointee to the Committee.

The Chair requested the Sheilagh Edmonds to advise Mr. Brady of the appointment.

### **Twinning of Highway 103**

Mr. Frank Hope referred to copies of information correspondence from the Western Regional Community Council regarding the concerns expressed by the Board about the Twinning of Highway 103, and advised that he was pleased of Community Council's action on this matter, however, the issue of the infilling of Cranberry Lake has not been addressed. Mr. Hope expressed concern that the Board's previous recommendations on this matter included addressing the infilling of Cranberry Lake, but to date, nothing appears to have been done in this regard. He emphasized that in order to get restitution for the lost habitat, the impact has to be measured before they start infilling

A discussion ensued and **it was agreed** that Mr. Frank Hope will draft a letter for the Chair's signature, which will be addressed to the Mayor. The letter will point out that action in the order of \$60,000 has been granted to the Sackville Rivers Association regarding restoration pertaining to Nine-Mile River; however, there appears to be an imminent impact on Cranberry Lake associated with this activity but there seems to be no remedial action or restoration plan in place.

### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant