

**Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance Inc.  
General Meeting Minutes  
November 19, 2012**

**I. Call to Order**

- Lesley Flowers called the general meeting of the GSWA to order at 7 pm on Monday, November 19, 2012 at the Vale Living with Lakes Centre, Sudbury.

**II. Roll Call of Lake Stewards**

- Participants:

Lesley Flowers	Vermilion River	Alex Cieslewicz	Richard
Sherri Johnson Purdo	Vermilion River	Richard Paquette	Whitewater
Shannon Dennie	Junction Creek	Jillian Smith	St. Charles
Margaret McLaughlin	Fairbank	Jack Fraser	Long
Lin Gibson	McFarlane	Nigelle Fredette	Panache
Dave Young	McFarlane	Jessica Tann	Simon
John Lindsay	Minnow	Brad Bowman	Minnow
Elaine Porter	Ramsey	Ron Dubuc	Four Lakes

**III. Approval and Adoption of Agenda**

- Approval and adoption of amended agenda moved by Lin and seconded by Margaret. Motion unanimously approved.

**IV. Minutes and Matters arising from October 15, 2012 Meeting**

- Dave reports a successful Comedy Night fundraising; thus, he withdrew the motion to consider Nevada tickets as a future initiative as stated in the October minutes.
- Directors' and Officers' liability insurance has been purchased.
- A GSWA Sub-Committee is scheduled to meet with a MNR manager and a supervisor of enforcement on December 3 at 2pm in MNR offices. Discussion will concern lake activity, early removal of ice huts, a fee-based system of registration, and other enforceable and non-enforceable issues. The city's LAP has similar concerns but has not yet been successful in securing an earlier hut removal date. Consequently, the LAP, together with the City of Sudbury, has put together a brochure for ice fishing guidelines.
- Approval of minutes moved by Jessica and seconded by Shannon. Motion unanimously approved.

## **V. Treasurer's Report**

- As of November 19, 2012, \$7179.00 was held in the GSWA Inc. BMO account.
- As of November 19, 2012, \$7017.78 was deemed the net profit after expenses from the GSWA November 8th Comedy Night.
- An additional 12 tickets were turned in after completion of the Treasurer's Report rendering an additional \$240.00 profit.
- Approval of Treasurer's Report moved by Ron and seconded by Alex. Motion unanimously approved.

## **VI. Fundraiser Feedback**

- Ron inferred that a 'Comedy Night' was a relatively easy event to host as a fundraising initiative; Elaine suggested that designated tables were, at times, confusing for guests; Lin advised that an enhanced media presence should occur at subsequent events.

## **VII. Storm Water Management**

- John passed around the pamphlet produced by the Minnow Lake CAN and Restoration Group.
- Brad (a member of the Minnow Lake Restoration Group since '85) spoke in regard to the pamphlet, the topography of Sudbury, and storm water management issues. To paraphrase:

*The topography of Sudbury and the city's smelting history is such that when we build on rock, storm water inevitably enters our waterways. Thus, more land should have been deemed park/resource land. The situation, however, is such that developers now have rights and support of the OMB. Thus, a submission to the city's official plan on proper storm water management is essential. Minnow Lake has reached effluent capacity and the standards currently in place are insufficient. OMB appeals fall on deaf ears and the official plan does not support Minnow Lake efforts. Ecology plays a role; the cost of ecological remedy will be horrendous. Nevertheless, development pressure is on and has seemingly has the ear of council.*

*A major concern: heavy metals will re-emerge in our lakes. The city is archaic in storm water management water treatment technologies. Yes, Junction Creek mine and mine point sources discharges have improved, but storm water is now the major threat. The city has not recognized this problem; has not demanded protection or best management practices. Furthermore, developers do best practice minimums only. Minnow protects Ramsey. The city could be approaching a crisis: a Nepawhin remedy retrofit could cost 5 million; Minnow, 10 million; Ramsey, 20 million – a heavy taxpayers' burden. All this versus tertiary treatment costs...*

- Lin's response paraphrased:

*Conservation Sudbury is mandated by the province and has provided input to the city's official plan. Recommendations include: low impact development, an update to the 2003 document re: storm water; and protection of water resources.*

- Brad would like to see a Ramsey Lake watershed plan along with sub-watershed plans for lakes such as Minnow. In other words, have a rework of storm water policies within 2 years to bring municipality standards up to those of southern Ontario.
- Discussion ensued regarding buffer zones, wetlands, and various grassroot approaches to enhance water quality via storm water management. John and Brad initiated a conversation about affirmative action and laying evidence to obligate Environment Canada to investigate a claim of lake neglect. Alex pointed out that the GSWA has always worked collaboratively with the city. Brad agreed that laying scientific evidence on the issue would be a last resort.
- Lesley and Lin suggested a sub-committee formation to gather more information re: storm water management and to support a "made in Sudbury" solution for Minnow Lake. The storm water sub-committee will include Shannon, Margaret, Lesley, John, Elaine, and Sherri.

#### **IX. Vermilion River Announcement**

- The Vermilion River group applied for, and received, a \$103 000 Trillium grant to do elemental and bacterial sampling at 23 sites. Sherri acknowledged that these samples would provide baseline data for the VR as the Cliffs project moves forward. Brad noted that the Ministry and Vale already has this data, but will need more information to decide how to best manage these loads in the future.

#### **X. Eurasian Watermilfoil Report – 2012**

- A brief overview of the Enviroscience report

#### **XI. Septic Fees**

- Fees are scheduled to increase in the spring of 2013

#### **XII. Correspondence**

- Naomi Grant from CLS requested that the GSWA be a central contact for residents with shoreline and dumping questions. Lesley maintains that this request is best left with Conservation Sudbury and the MNR. The GSWA will remain a voice for watershed health and best lake practices.

### **XIII. Other**

- Navigable Waters Act/ Fisheries Act: Perhaps Dr. Charles Ramcharan could speak to us re: removing teeth from federal legislation in the new year.
- Arsenic in Long Lake: A long-standing problem but now highlighted as a drinking water issue. Reclamation?
- GSWA reaction to Lake Laurentian road proposal: After a brief discussion, Richard moved that the GSWA form a position to oppose the new road; Shannon seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

### **XIV. Adjournment**

- The GSWA general meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm by Lesley Flowers with the next regularly scheduled general meeting to be held February 25, 2013.

*Minutes prepared by Jillian Smith – GSWA Secretary*