

Minutes of Meeting
Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance (GSWA) General Meeting
Thursday, October 13, 2016

Living with Lakes Centre, Room LL102, Ramsey Lake Rd., Sudbury

I. Call to Order

Chairman Margaret McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

2. Roll Call of Stewards/Participants:

Lori Adams (Long Lk.)	Larry Hautamaki (Silver Lk.)
Rod Chambers (McFarlane Lk.)	Linda Heron (Vermillion R.)
Alex Cieslewicz (Richard Lk.)	Dave Hodge (St. Charles Lk.)
Susan Darling (Long Lk.)	John Lindsay (Minnow Lk.)
Joel Dickinson (Simon Lk.)	Margaret McLaughlin, Chair (Fairbank Lk.)
Norm Eady (Wanapitae Lk.)	Claude Nadon (Wanapitae Lk.)
Lesley Flowers (Vermillion R.)	Richard Witham (Long Lk.)
Terry Fortin (Fairbanks Lk.)	Nicole Wittke (St. Charles Lk.)
Dave Fuvino (Simon Lk.)	Sandi Willock (Grant Lk.)
Lin Gibson (Conservation ON, NDCA)	David Young, Treasurer (McFarlane Lk.)
Denise Goodmurphy (Whitewater Lk.)	

3. Approval and Adoption of Agenda

Motion to approve and adopt agenda moved by David Young and seconded by Alex Cieslewicz.

CARRIED

4. Presentation on “Algae Skimmer”, Simon Lake by David Furino and Joel Dickinson from the Simon Lake Community Stewardship Group (SLCSG):

The history of algae production and previous strategies attempting to restore the water in Simon Lake to a humanly acceptable odour and algae content were described. Funding proposals to the CGS and the MOE by the SLCSG to repair the damage were denied. The SLCSG request that the GSWA support them in their proposal to the City of Sudbury to purchase a mechanical harvester via Healthy Community Initiatives (HIV) funds, but operated and maintained by the CGS, to remove algae from Simon Lake.

A letter to the Mayor circulated prior to the meeting from the Vermillion River Stewardship (VRS) stated that such a short-term approach to removing algae from the lake “would place the downstream riverine ecosystem at risk of further proliferation of invasive species or contamination”. The letter recommended priority upgrades and capacity be built into stormwater and wastewater and suggested that a vacuum and boom approach to remove algae should be explored as a short-term solution instead.

Margaret McLaughlin offered to send a summary of the SLCSG proposal to all participants and also forward any communication received from the CGS (Stephen Monet).

A Motion in Principle (MIP) that: “The GSWA endorses the SLCSG’s request for the City to remove algae from Mud, Simon and McCharles Lakes, and that whatever method is chosen must result in minimal environmental impact, with special precautions in place to prevent the spread of Eurasian Milfoil and contaminated sediment into the downstream waters.” was moved by Dave Hodge and seconded by Richard Witham.

CARRIED

5. Approval and Adoption of Minutes:

Motion to approve Minutes of June 20, 2016 General Meeting by Lori Adams, seconded by David Young.

CARRIED

Motion to approve Minutes of Sept. 26 Board of Director's Meeting by Dave Hodge, seconded by Alex Cieslewicz.

CARRIED

6. Matters Arising From the Minutes

None.

7. Treasurer's Report

David Young reported a balance of \$7,760.47. Account Entries since June 20, 2016 included:

Jun 21& Aug 30 Membership 6) Simon Lk. 7) Lk. Panache	40.00+
July 19 #51 Lori Adams (Long Lk.) Invasive Species Sign Posts	142.34-
Sep 19 #52 David Young (McFarlane Lk.) Invasive Species Sign Posts	163.24-
Oct 7 Membership Ramsey Lk.	20.00+
Sept 26 #53 Anishwabe Kweg Water Walk 2016 (not yet cashed)	100.00-

Motion to approve the report.

CARRIED

8. Executive Report:

- a) Boat washing/Invasive Species Info June 23rd event:
 - originally planned for Lake Panache but moved to the Lake Ramsay Boat Launch due to distance
 - considered a success because of good turnout, positive media presence (CTV, CBC, Sudbury Star, and Kicx92 and their reportage.
 - The new City/GSWA-sponsored "Stop Invasive Species" sign was unveiled.
 - Will try something different because our events need to be newsworthy.
- b) Distribution of "Stop Invasive Species" signs (unveiled at above June 23rd event):
 - The City installed eight (8) signs at their public boat launches
 - Thirteen (13) signs were distributed to local stewardships: Long Lake – 2 signs, Wahnapiatae – 2, Vermilion River – 3, Fairbank Lake – 2, McFarlane Lake – 2, Panache Lake 1, Richard Lake- 1. Most are now up. Sign recipients are sending a picture of their installed signs.
 - There are 8 signs remaining if more are needed elsewhere.
 - Getting posts and hardware from Nedco to install the signs were at times difficult.
- c) Official Plan review – PART I, Water and Natural Environment joint submission to CGS from VRS, CLS and GSWA.
 - Highlights – Thanks to Linda Heron and Lilly Noble for their contributions.
 - SUMMARY: i) Emphasize the main watersheds in CGS are not just the French and Spanish R. systems
 - ii) Watershed-related issues should be addressed from watershed-based planning approach; therefore, Vermilion River and Wahnapiatae should be named for watershed studies
 - iii) Watershed studies should not just be stormwater management studies
 - iv) General input was that more watersheds should be included.
 - v) Septic tank inspections: Change language from "Encourage" back to "ensure" regular inspections
 - vi) Part 2 of the Review will concern Sewage Bypasses"

d) Lake Water Quality (LWQ) Program:

Staffing Changes:

- Lana Haslam on temporary assignment until Dec. 9; Taylor Menard is new Co-ordinator
- Ann Labranche, LWQ Intern, has accepted permanent position with Library services

e) Second Ave. Construction Issue:

- GSWA and five (5) others have continued to request a Part 2 Order regarding this violation
- No communication from the City

f) Railway report:

- A letter was sent to various agencies including MOT & TSB & replies were received
- The GSWA will present the rail safety report in Nov. or early Dec. meeting with the Mayor
- The GSWA has joined the Safe Rail committee

9. Old Business

a) Watershed Advisory Panel – Does not meet in Summer; Sept. meeting cancelled – next meeting is Oct. 20th; 5- 7 p.m. in room C-11, Tom Davies Square; Some agendas and meeting notes are available at <https://www.greatersudbury.ca/living/lakes-facts/watershed-advisory-panel/>. The following will be on the agenda: i) terms of reference re watershed study and ii) hauled liquid waste rebate. Lin Gibson suggested that the SLCSG present again at the WAP meeting; the SLCSG would be available to present at the Nov. meeting.

b) Lake Wahnapiatae Boat /Trailer Washing Project: Claude Nadon reported that a pressure washer had been acquired at a low cost and set up for public access at the marina but met with little use. They plan to get it onto their website and promote its availability for next year.

c) Long Lake Ont. Municipal Board (OMB) Issue:

- House was about 80% built by time the zoning application appeared in the Sudbury Star
- Both the GSWA and the LLSC sent letters of protest, but no reply received
- The house is in an 'unorganized township' section of the lake
- The exception to guidelines actually comply with city ordinances but not MOE regulations
- Other lakes reported that the City no longer issues letters; they only report these applications in the newspaper
- The GSWA will add this issue to the list of items for discussion with the mayor

d) Website: If anyone has photos or information to add to the website, please send to Margaret.

10. New Business**a) GSWA input to municipal budget:**

- The municipal planning budget is now on-line but items are broad and/or vague
- Lesley Flowers wrote a basic draft letter as a starting-point, but did not get further input
- Claude Nadon will revise Lesley's letter using bullet points, keeping it to one page
- Margaret will send Claude figures for stormwater and sewage bypasses

b) Meeting with Mayor:

- Margaret hopes to set the date for a GSWA meeting with the Mayor in Nov. or early Dec.
- Five Issues need to be addressed with the Mayor:
 - i) Discuss concerns with Sudbury's fresh water system

- ii) Instil the future danger to our water systems due to Invasive Species and BGA (P)
 - iii) Enlist support for the Railway safety issues
 - iv) Ensure stormwater/bypasses awareness; funds must be allocated to infrastructure
 - v) City must notify stewardships of building code variances prior to construction
- c) Hauled Liquid Waste Rebate:
- Margaret will again circulate letter from Ann Labranche re holding tank rebates
 - Lin Gibson provided feedback that McFarlane Lk. Stewardship Members feel it is discriminatory
 - Margaret indicated that it is because holding tanks need to be pumped so much more often
- d) Projects – Future direction:
- Margaret indicated that following the meeting with the Mayor there appears to be few issues
 - She queried whether the GSWA participants wish to have fewer or quarterly meetings
 - Lesley indicated that GSWA's constitution mandates 4 General meetings and 1 AGM annually, so if we determine to meet less often than that we must propose to amend the constitution
 - Various participants tended to agree that the City or Ministries would be more inclined to work with and/or support an umbrella organization for recommendations and resolution of issues
 - There are now only 10 of 12 Board Members who attend meetings; Margaret suggested they could meet by email; also no one has expressed willingness to Chair, required by March.
 - A Membership drive should occur; participants are asked to recruit more lakes
- e) Pipe lines – a role for GSWA?
- This topic was deferred to next meeting due to time.
- f) Emergency Services & Lake Assoc. - Issues?
- When accidents happen on waterways, different emergency services seem to use different maps even though some stewardships supply emergency services with maps annually
 - Signage is inadequate on some lakes
 - It was advised that callers learn to stress whether life is threatened in any way when calling 911
- g) Milfoil Solution(Dave Hodge requested addition to Agenda) (NOTE: Fall Green Gathering deferred)
- St. Charles Lake Members Dave Hodge and Nicole Wittke presented what other lakes have employed successfully for milfoil control, which is weighted jute burlap. They provided statistics, costs and details on several studies and projects; Stephen Monet promised written response.
 - Plants indigenous to the area do grow through the taut burlap but milfoil cannot
 - They suggest Googling "Blue Sea Lake Assoc.", "ABV des7" and "Lovering" for further information.
 - Margaret will email everyone with further information on this project
 - Monday, Dec. 12th is the tentative date for a specific presentation regarding this milfoil project
- h) Change of Executive Mar. 2017
- Shannon Dennie has had to resign position as GSWA Secretary (and her position on the GSWA board) due to a change in employment.
 - Members are encouraged to indicate their willingness to assume the roles of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary well before the March deadline.
- i) Future Meeting Dates: The next 2 General meetings are scheduled for Mon., Jan. 9th and Mar. 20th, 2017; Mar. 20, 2017 will be the AGM.

11. Adjournment :

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20