

**Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance Inc.
Annual General Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2014, 7 pm to 9 pm**

Vale Living with Lakes Centre, Ramsey Lake Road, Sudbury, ON

Lesley Flowers opened the GSWA AGM at 7 pm.

I. Participants and Roll Call of Lake Stewardships

Paul Sajatovic – Conservation Sudbury

Terry Fortin – Fairbank

Shannon Dennie – Junction Creek

Ron Swiddle – Long Lake

Richard Witham – Long Lake

David Young – McFarlane

Lin Gibson – McFarlane

Rodney Chambers – McFarlane

John Lindsay – Minnow

Tim Walker – Penage

Lily Noble – Ramsey

Elaine Porter – Ramsey

Alex Cieslewicz – Richard

David Furino – Simon

Jessica Tann - Simon

Jillian Smith – St. Charles

Lesley Flowers – Vermilion River

Linda Heron – Vermilion River

Richard Paquette – Whitewater

Guest – Larry Hautamaki

13 stewardship groups represented; quorum achieved

III. Agenda

Motion to approve and accept agenda moved by Lin; seconded by Jessica

CARRIED

IV. Minutes

Motion to accept March 2013 AGM minutes moved by Dave F.; seconded by Linda

CARRIED

IV. Treasurer's Report (Refer to Addendum)

Year-End Unaudited Report for the Period March 4, 2013 to March 17, 2014

Account Activity / Summary of Revenues and Expenditures

Current Balance: \$6016.11

Motion to approve treasurer's report moved by Dave Y.; seconded by Lily

CARRIED

V. Executive Report (Refer to Addendum)

Chair Lesley Flowers gave an overview and summary of GSWA meetings and events from April 2013 to March 2014.

VI. Report of the Nominating Committee

Nominations Chair Lin Gibson compiled a 2014/2015 list of returning directors and vacancies to present to the membership. Vacancies included: 1 secretary and 1 director.

Motion to accept list of directors and vacancies and to begin nominations moved by Nominations Chair Lin Gibson; seconded by Linda Heron

CARRIED

Nominations from the floor for role of secretary: Rod Chambers from McFarlane Lake

Nominations from the floor for role of directors: Ron Swiddle let his name stand

Executive:

Chair: Lesley Flowers accepted for 2014

Co-Chair: Jessica Tann accepted for 2014

Secretary: Rodney Chambers accepted for 2014

Treasurer: David Young accepted for 2014

Directors:

Linda Heron accepted for 2014

Ron Swiddle accepted for 2014

Margaret McLaughlin accepted for 2014

Shannon Dennie accepted for 2014

Lily Noble accepted for 2014

Alex Cieslewicz accepted for 2014

Elaine Porter accepted for 2014

John Lindsey accepted for 2014

Jillian Smith accepted for 2014

Summary:

- Rodney Chambers moved into new secretary/director position
- Jillian Smith moved from secretary to director position
- Ron Swiddle remains in director position

All directors accepted and CARRIED.

VII. AGM Adjournment

Motion to adjourn GSWA 2014 AGM moved by Linda; seconded by Shannon

CARRIED

Special General GSWA Inc. Meeting

Additions to Agenda:

- Discuss support for CLS rain garden workshop
- Discuss septic info booklet produced by Fairbank Lake

1. Milfoil Report Response (Refer to Addendum)

- Chair Lesley Flowers gave an overview of the draft report (including observations and proposals) created by the sub-committee review
- Comments and Suggestions to draft report:
Lin – control sites not part of the plan; GSWA will remain an active partner
Alex – improved signage (buoys) on stocked sites

Motion to accept draft of observations and proposals by Richard; seconded by Alex

CARRIED

2. Water Level Control – Paul Sajatovic (Conservation Sudbury)

In past GSWA meetings there has been concern regarding high lake levels in area lakes, particularly Richard Lake. Active beaver activity and a rainy fall exacerbated high levels in Richard Lake during October 2013.

Conservation Sudbury monitors 3 watersheds: Wahnapiatae, Vermilion/Onaping, and Whitefish.

- Wahnapiatae dams:
Dams are operated by Ontario Power Generation
Wahnapiatae serves as an important reservoir – a balance must be struck

- Vermilion/Onaping dams include:
 One run-of-the-river dam
 Three flood dams
 A complex Vale dam system
 An Onaping Lake dam operated by Domtar

Dams can be a contentious topic, however, there have been no major dam failures in Greater Sudbury. Backed-up water that does not affect infrastructure or public safety is considered a low priority by the City of Sudbury. The City of Greater Sudbury *will* respond to beaver dams, ice blockages, and debris blockages if they impact on municipal infrastructure or public safety. Private property, however, is responsibility of private property owner. Furthermore, private property owners are liable for damage extending beyond their property to neighbouring land.

If Spring 2014 proves to have reasonably slow warming and moderate rainfall, flooding should not be a major concern. A rapid transformation of conditions, however, could be problematic considering the amount of snowpack and ice. A flooding contingency meeting will be held between the city and its stakeholders.

3. Clean Water Act

Motion to exclude reference to the Clean Water Act in GSWA brochure and website moved by Linda; seconded by Terry

CARRIED

4. Rain Garden Workshop – March 31, 2014

Coalition for a Liveable Sudbury (CLS) has received a RBC Blue Water Fund grant to host a rain garden workshop for landscape contractors and designers. The grant, however, will not likely cover all required costs. Thus, CLS would like GSWA's support to fund this event.

Motion to support this initiative in the amount of \$200 (another \$100 contingent on demonstrated need) with participation privileges by 2 GSWA members moved by Dave Y.; seconded by Shannon.

CARRIED

5. Septic Information Booklet by Fairbank Lake (Terry Fortin)

A septic 'best practice' information booklet has been made into a generic format suitable for all lakes. It is close to completion and will be available to GSWA in electronic form at no cost. Fairbank Lake stewards would graciously accept small monetary contributions or extra printed copies from interested lake stewardship groups in exchange for distribution.

Discussion:

The information in the Hutchinson Report states that large amounts of Phosphorus can be removed from a functioning septic system. Should this be incorporated into the booklet? Alternatively, Fairbank and GSWA could jointly present the revised pamphlet to the Lake Advisory Panel; it could then be produced without extra cost.

6. GSWA and Science North Event: Climate Uncertainty: Water, Water Everywhere OR...

April 24, 2014

The event will feature talks on climate, water, and gardening. There will be available space for stewardship exhibits and/or advertising or water sharing displays. See Jessica Tann for more information. Event advertising will ensue via Science North press releases, Facebook pages, and lake stewardship groups.

7. Questions / Comments

- The GSWA website is currently inactive.
ACTION ITEM: Contact Alyssa.
- The third Monday of both February and May are holidays, and therefore, inconvenient meeting dates for many members.
Motion to change GSWA meetings to the 2nd Monday of February and May moved by Linda; seconded by Alex
CARRIED
- Guest: Are blue-green algae being “dumped” into Hannah Lake?

Chair Lesley Flowers adjourned the Special General GSWA Meeting at 8:50 pm.

**Next GSWA General Meeting:
Monday, May 12, 2014**

**Next Board of Directors' Meeting:
Monday, April 14, 2014** (Room LL102 at Vale Living with Lakes Centre)

Minutes prepared by Jillian Smith (GSWA Secretary)

Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance
Final Year-End Unaudited Treasurer's Report for the Period March 4, 2013 to March 17, 2014
 Presented at the March 17, 2014 Annual General Meeting By David Young, Treasurer, GSWA executive

ACCOUNT ACTIVITY

Date	Description	Disbursements	Deposits	Balance
<u>2013</u>	March 4 Balance			7117.62
Mar 26 & Apr 9	Membership 1) Junction Creek 2) Fairbank 3) McFarlane Lk 4) Long Lk 5) Ramsey Lk 6) Conservation Sudbury		120.00	7237.62
	Interest Feb & March, 2013		0.11	7237.73
Apr 16	Membership 7) Minnow Lk. 8) Simon Lk. [9) Bennet Lk.'s Membership previously credited]		40.00	7277.73
Apr 23	#12 ThinkGreen (Greater Sudbury Environmental Network)-Booth at EarthDay Festival..Originally issued cheque #7 was lost.	60.00		7217.73
Apr 30	Membership 10) "4Lakes" (Dixon, Hanmer Frenchmans, Joe) 11) Onwatin Lk.		40.00	7257.73
May 16	#8 Science North-Educational Event	300.00		6957.73
May 16	#9 Honorarium- Educational Event	50.00		6907.73
May 16	#10 Honorarium- Educational Event	50.00		6857.73
May 16	#11 Honorarium- Educational Event	50.00		6807.73
May 28	Membership 12) St. Charles Lk. 13) Richard Lk. 14) Penage Lk.		60.00	6867.73
	Interest April & May, 2013		.12	6867.85
June 21	Membership 15) Vermillion River		20.00	6887.85
Sept 24	Membership 16) Whitewater Lk (Azilda CAN)		20.00	6907.85
Sept 27	#13 Tim Walker..reimbursement for domain registration renewal	28.24		6879.61
Nov 8	#14 Insurance-Gougeon Ins. Brokers	864.00		6015.61
	Interest Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, & Oct, Nov. Dec 2013		.40	6016.01
<u>2014</u>				
	Interest Jan, Feb 2014		.10	6016.11

Summary of Revenues & Expenditures

	MARCH 2013 - MARCH 2014		APRIL 2012 - MARCH 2013	
Starting balance		7117.62		0
<u>REVENUES</u>				
Membership Dues	300.00		340.00	
Grants Received	0		1500.00	
Donations	0		70.00	
Interest	0.73		0.21	
Fundraising Profit	0		7517.37	
Other	0		0	
Total Revenues		300.73		9427.58
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
Insurance	864.00		1053.00	
Bank Charges	0		1.96	
Incorporation	0		155.00	
Public Outreach:				
Internet site	28.24		300.00	
Brochures	0		500.00	
Events	510.00		0	
Grants to others	0		300.00	
Other	0		0	
Total Expenditures		1402.24		2309.96

<u>Final Balance</u>		6016.11		7117.62
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Executive Report for GSWA Annual General Meeting
March 17, 2014
Living with Lakes Centre

The Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance has had another busy year.

April 2013:

Attended Spring Green Gathering
Board of Directors Meeting- formation of Private Source Drinking Water Committee,
Woodland Condo Development info
Took part in Earth Day – Display (at College Sacre Coeur)

May 2013:

Educational Event held on May 16 – Partnership with Science North – 50 in
attendance – Our Lakes, Rivers, and Creeks: Ask a Scientist.
GSWA general meeting – storm water management committee, preparation of
public budget input
Took part in Gardening Festival- lots of interest

June 2013:

Storm Water management committee met with Mr. Lautenbach
Well attended Budget Presentation to Council – pushed for Watershed Studies -
starting with Ramsey Lake – under development pressure.
Board of Directors meeting –

July 2013:

Private Source Drinking Water Committee met

August 2013:

Private Source water committee met with officials from Sudbury and District Health
Unit and also met one more time
General Meeting – stewardship presentations from Conservation Sudbury and
Junction Creek

September 2013:

Meeting of Storm water Committee
Meeting with Nick Benkovich – reached an agreement to publish on a monthly basis
notice of by- passes with an educational component on the city’s website starting
January 14th.
Took part in “Water Journey”

Meeting of Private source drinking water committee

October 2013:

Fall Green Gathering
Board of Directors meeting
Green Day at Laurentian

November 2013:

General Meeting- Stewardship presentations by Fairbank Lake and Vermilion River, report on Climate conference, water levels a concern

Lake Advisory Panel Meeting

Meeting about Long Lake Arsenic removal/mitigation

First meeting with Science North re: April event

January 2014:

Board of Directors Meeting – Milfoil report – response, approved recommendations of Private source drinking water report

February 2014:

Preparation of questions regarding Milfoil report

General Meeting: Milfoil Report

Lake Advisory Panel – Hutchinson Report

Develop response to Milfoil Report

Met with Sci. North –event planning

Met with new GSWA website manager – Alyssa Ferreira

March 2014:

Met with Sci. North

The strength of GSWA is the willingness of the membership to be on active committees which work through the research and are able to bring forward well thought out recommendations. This is how we will last as an organization and influence the changes we need to see in our city.

Next year we will focus on the recommendations of those committees as we work towards meeting our goals – safe private source drinking water, state of the art storm water management, improved public knowledge of ways to safe guard our lakes and rivers. We need to work at better use of the website and social media.

Finally a dynamic organization is one in which leadership changes and grows. We will need a new Chair of GSWA in 2015. Of course I will then be active as past chair but we really do need to keep life and change in GSWA. Be ready to step up!

Thank you

Respectfully submitted by
Lesley Flowers, Chair GSWA



March 19, 2014

GSWA response to the Enviroscience 2013 Milfoil Report to the City of Greater Sudbury

On February 17, 2014, the Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance hosted the presentation of the report by Kyle Borrowman (Enviroscience) with an introduction of the project by Stephen Monet, Manager of Environmental Initiatives for the City of Greater Sudbury. As a result a sub-committee was formed to prepare a response for the general membership of GSWA to consider and then upon editing/approval have presented to municipal council.

Observations:

- It was felt that a three year project was not long enough to see significant results especially given the hot and sunny 2012 summer which spurred intense Eurasian Water Milfoil growth.
- GSWA is disappointed in the results reported and in the quality of data presented in the report. Really only one lake, St. Charles showed a significant reduction in Eurasian water milfoil (EWM). We are disappointed that control sites (necessary for comparison of data) were stricken from the original plan in order to meet the budget.
- There has been some controversy about the selection of weevil stocking sites and generally it was felt that stewardship groups of the individual lakes should be part of the discussion when choosing sites and the ultimate choices and reasoning should be communicated to the stewardship group.
- Better stewardship of lakes with a EWM issue was also discussed. The reduction of boat traffic in EWM areas, the provision of shoreline buffers for increased success of overwintering of weevils, the collection of floating stems and discontinuation of cutting by lake front residents was suggested.

- Education of the public about EWM was also discussed since many are not aware that their actions directly impact the growth of EWM.

Proposal:

- First we recommend continuing a Eurasian water milfoil abatement project but with some important differences. We would like to see all lakes that were part of the 2011 to 2013 pilot project, with the exception of Simon Lake (algae prevents proper seeding of weevils) monitored for the 2014 season. We would like to see a small number of sites seeded with weevils and then data collected through rigorous sampling methods with control areas built into the investigative design. We would like to see the monitoring, seeding, data collection and interpretation supervised by an independent scientist with expertise in biological investigations. GSWA is committed to remain an active partner in this initiative through citizen engagement. A decision can be made upon completion of the 2014 project as to whether we should pursue this EWM abatement method any further.
- Secondly we would like to encourage support for the research by College Boreal led by Andre Ferron into the overwintering of weevils in the laboratory. Success would ensure availability of weevils earlier in the season.
- Thirdly GSWA recommends that the City of Greater Sudbury develop a Eurasian water milfoil Strategy or Policy. This would include strengthening the role of stewardship of all the lakes affected by EWM. It would also include by-laws to support that stewardship. The use of motor boats in milfoil abatement areas should be prohibited with improved signage provided around treatment areas. Boaters should be discouraged from disturbing all milfoil patches. Buffered zones on shoreline properties should be mandatory. There have been many initiatives to encourage a natural shoreline over quite some time, yet lawns and hard surface constructions still line our lake shorelines. Continued education especially regarding collection of floating EWM should also be part of the policy.

The Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance is still optimistic about the role a biological control might have in abating the growth of EWM. **We are proud that a group of lake stewards was able to work collaboratively with the city and that the council saw fit to support the project.** It is a testament to the importance our lakes have in our city and our recommendations are based on those values.

Submitted by Lesley Flowers
Chair, Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance Inc.