

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance General Meeting**  
**Monday, January 9, 2017**  
**Vale, Ramsey Lake Rd., CGS Living with Lakes Centre, Rm. LL102**

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair, Margaret McLaughlin, called the meeting to order shortly after 7 pm.

***Roll Call of Stewards***

Rodney Chambers	(McFarlane Lake)	Punam Kumar	(St. Charles Lake)
Alex Cieslewicz**	(Richard Lake)	Margaret McLaughlin [Ch.]	(Fairbank Lake)
Susan Darling	(Long Lake)	Claude Nadon	(Wanapitae Lake)
Lesley Flowers**	(Vermillion River; Simon Lake)	Lilly Noble**	(Ramsey Lake)
Dave Furino	(Simon Lake)	Elaine Porter [Vice-Ch]	(Ramsey Lake)
Craig Hamilton	(Richard Lake)	Sandi Willock	(Grant Lake; Long Lake)
Dave Hodge	(St. Charles Lake)	Nicole Wittke	(St. Charles Lake)
John Lindsay**	(Minnow Lake; Ramsey Lake)	David Young [Treas.]	(McFarlane Lake)

---

\*\*Board of Directors attending      Regrets: Jillian Smith, Linda Heron, Larry Hautamaki.

**2. Approval and Adoption of the Agenda**

Motion for approval by David Furino, seconded by Lesley Flowers      MOTION CARRIED.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Oct 13, 2016 General Meeting**

Spelling Correction: Anishnawbe

Motion to accept the Minutes by Lesley Flowers, seconded by Dave Hodge.      MOTION CARRIED.

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

- a. Claude Nadon has revised the GSWA budget letter to the City.
- b. Discussion on the pipeline was deferred to a future meeting.
- c. No information has been received on the notice of completion on Second Ave. (8.e). John Lindsay advised that the Watershed Study should be completed before decisions are made on the project.
- d. No feedback has been received on the OMB hearing on the Long Lake construction (9.c)

**5. Treasurer's Report**

- a. David Young reported a current balance of \$6947.50.
- b. A change was made to drop the 'h' in Wahnepitae to conform to customary spelling. According to the City, the Lake is spelled without the 'h', while the town and river are spelled with it.
- c. In response to an inquiry about the need for fund-raising, David noted that he had not made a budget for future planning to determine this need.
- d. The likely need for GSWA funding for jute-burlap for milfoil control was raised.

Motion to approve the report by David Hodge, seconded by John Lindsay.      MOTION CARRIED.

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

### a. Input to the Municipal Budget.

Margaret will circulate Claude's letter to the membership.

### b. Meeting with the Mayor.

Margaret reported that it was a successful exchange of ideas with good communication. The Mayor brought along Nick Benkovich, Manager of Water and Wastewater Services and Stephen Monet, Manager of Environmental Planning Initiatives to good purpose.

### c. EW Milfoil Meeting Dec. 12, 2016.

Members expressed their appreciation for the amount of information provided by the presenters, Giorgio Vecco and Ron Perrins, and there was a generally positive response to the possibility for Milfoil control offered by this method.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### a. **EWM MEETING with the CITY, Jan. 10 strategic planning** (Please see the email sent to all members on Dec. 20, 2016 by Margaret containing the power point slides from the Dec. 12 meeting.)

-Alex Cieslewicz took charge of this part of the meeting, beginning with a summary of the technology. He suggested that an education event co-sponsored by the city would be an efficient way to get out the information on this topic and assess responsiveness of lakeside residents and the public at large.

A discussion ensued which covered the following topics:

- i) **Which lakes could benefit most?** It was suggested that St. Charles Lake, as a shallow lake, would benefit from the full application of this technology. On the other hand, questions were raised about how well it would work in networks of lakes with strong currents.
- ii) **The scope and extent of the application across and within lakes.** Discussions on these topics noted the need to target high traffic areas and to know how many individual property owners would be interested in collaborating on its application.
- iii) **The need for approval from the MNR on effects to fish habitats and the potential for re-establishment of native plant species.** Ours would be the first application of this milfoil reduction solution in the province of Ontario (as it has been applied only in Quebec to date).
- iv) **Potential costs of application and possibilities for ways to raise funding.** One way would be through grants from such organizations as TD Friends of the Environment or RBC Bluewater funds combined with money from other sources. Development of a local business to offer this service would likely lower costs in the long run as this milfoil control technique is a solution that needs to be reapplied periodically (possibly every 3 years).

### b. **Constitution – proposed changes.**

There was general consensus on these two changes (although not by vote):

- i) The wording and importance of having access to email were discussed.
- ii) Also discussed were the ramifications of allowing only one paid stewardship group per water body (as reflected in the Board of Directors meeting minutes from Nov. 7, 2016).

Margaret reminded us that the revised Constitution needs to be sent out as a Notice of Motion 30 days before the next AGM to be held in March. We will need members to consider running for the executive positions, particularly to replace Margaret whose term will have ended by the time of the AGM.

**c. Lake Ramsey Watershed Study, Stage 1 update.**

- Margaret noted that the very general level of information provided offered no explanations nor details on which we could provide feedback. Thus, this first consultation did not provide an opportunity for the GSWA and the public at large to make note of gaps or provide suggestions for the data collection process.

-There will be 5 information sessions altogether by March 18.

**d. Watershed Advisory Panel (WAP) meeting Dec. 15**

Stephen Monet gave a presentation on the pros & cons of 'Mandatory Septic Pump-outs' vs "Mandatory Septic Re-inspections" containing the following information:

- i) The Sudbury and District Health Unit (SDHU) is the principal authority for Sudbury & District & has no desire to enter into a mandatory re-inspection program other than in the Source Protection areas.
- ii) Burgess Hawkins of the SDHU emphasized that a septic system DOES NOT prevent nutrients such as phosphorus & nitrogen from entering a waterbody. While it may slow them down, they eventually end up in the lake. Setbacks of the field bed MAY be helpful.
- iii) Some municipalities have mandatory re-inspections but their requirements vary greatly and they mainly assess operation & maintenance rather than how the system was built.
- iv) In some cases, haulers are required to fill out a manifest which contains, among other information, whether the inside of the septic tank was "good" or "poor". Haulers are making assessments without the authority to ensure remedial action. If they did, they may be in conflict of interest and may lose business.
- v) Some areas such as North Bay have a mandatory pump-out bylaw in high-risk areas. The question arose: Does the CGS have the authority, or would it go ahead with a by-law for mandatory pump-outs especially when SDHU is the principal authority.

Overall, the city needs to decide what it is trying to accomplish with these requirements.

8. A motion to adjourn was accepted from Susan Darling at 8:55.

Minutes are respectfully submitted by Elaine Porter.