

Drinking Water Protection Committee

Meeting Notes

Monday, 7 May 2018 – 11:00 to 1:30 pm

The Tap House

Present: Richard Witham, David Young, Lilly Noble, Margaret McLaughlin, John Lindsay, Lesley Flowers, Richard Denton, Linda Heron, Elaine Porter, Naomi Grant, Sarah Allen

1. Review of 14 April 2018 Meeting Notes

- All action items were followed up on.

2. Water and Wastewater Master Plan (MP) – Environmental Report

- In general, all agreed that we will support the Master Plan; however, we also agreed that we need to recommend ways of strengthening it and identify any gaps
- 100-year storms are happening every 10 years now
- Emphasize importance to Council of fully funding the recommendations in the MP
- **Water Issues**
 - Maintaining the David Street Plant is the preferred alternative
 - Identified that Ramsey Lake is a vulnerable water supply and may not be sustainable into the future due to water quality threats
 - Acknowledges the risks but doesn't address how to minimize those risks
 - The Garson Wells have detectable levels of tetrachloroethylene and must be monitored
 - Valley wells were identified as sufficient capacity up to 2031; however, additional capacity is required to service growth to 2041 - not sustainable
 - What is strategy if Valley wells fail – no look at worst case scenario
- Policy for Water and Wastewater reviews are recommended to be included in the Official Plan
- **Gaps - deficiencies:**
 - Extra emphasis on mitigation of risks to Ramsey Lake
 - Mention the other values, i.e., private intakes, swimming & fishing
 - Mitigation of environmental risks: blue green algae, sodium, chloride
 - No mention of private drinking water intakes, but it is a Master Plan for City Water and Wastewater infrastructure
 - MP says will wait until next time to address conservation of water – need to do it now
 - More emphasis on water efficiency to address vulnerabilities in source quantities
 - Need more efficient use to reduce water consumption
 - How can we reduce water usage – conservation
 - Encourage low flow toilets, shower heads, etc.
 - More emphasis on climate change
 - Should ensure resiliency of water and wastewater treatment now and far into the future
 - Must look beyond 2041 for true resilience to a warming climate with more drought and extreme rain and flooding
 - Improve targets, timelines and resources – what about the environment

- **Wastewater Issues:**
 - Encouraging to see that Sudbury WW Facility will have tertiary treatment to be in compliance with their Certificate of Approval
 - Should also ask for tertiary treatment at the Walden WW Plant
 - Copper Cliff Facility will be switching over to the Sudbury WW Plant
 - Need longer term planning – they’re putting lift stations in flood plains
 - MOECC guidelines say don’t put wastewater infrastructure in flood plain
 - Are there alternative locations
 - Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) is a big issue
 - Could improve enforcement of I & I mitigation
 - Water & Wastewater staff have been working hard at disconnecting downspouts in Lively and Sudbury
 - Smoke testing and issuing notices to property owners to disconnect downspouts by a certain date
 - Emphasize more natural infrastructure

Action: Lesley and Lilly will work on a draft submission to be circulated to the entire Board for input and approval before the 16th of May – due to the tight deadline.

3. Road Salt Discussion Survey Results

- Reviewed Feedback on GSWA Road Salt Discussion Forum – **Addendum 1**
- One person responded 3 times on each of the questions – ranting mostly
- Some good comments
- Need for better control of time allotted to each person asking a question or making a point

Action: Richard W will check to see why LimeSurvey is allowing people to access it multiple times.

- GSWA will do more on road salt when the Ramsey Lake Sub-watershed Study is released – likely released in 2 or 3 weeks
- Committee is also working on a Road Salt Pamphlet
- Potential water quality study to assess/monitor the sodium and chloride levels in Ramsey Lake
- Should contact Anoop at Conservation Sudbury to discuss a possible study – are they already working on what is needed
- Charles Ramcharan also mentioned a water quality study needs to be done on Ramsey Lake

4. Septic Social

- [Presentation](#) and [photos](#) are posted on the GSWA website Blog
- Winner of the Septic Pump-out was Ian & Barbara Robb, Richard Lake
- Event was excellent with the best attendance at any event
- A subject of interest
- Ed said he would attend a future DWPC meeting to talk about mandatory septic inspection – once a new Council is in place
- Lilly will deliver to Charles his thank you card and gift certificate
- A future Septic Social could have more hands-on games
- Perhaps charge \$20 a table for contractors – they expected to pay something
- \$5 charge for entrance, but risk reducing number of people attending
- Budget was underspent by \$211.07 – **Addendum 2**

5. Committee Involvement

- A comment was made that some Board Members feel left out and uninformed about some issues Committees are working on
 - To ensure Committee Meetings are open to all Board Members, the Board should be notified of the time and location of all Committee meetings, so any Board Member can attend if they wish – either on a temporary or a full-time basis

Quick statistics

Survey 796221 'Feedback on GSWA Road Salt Discussion Forum'

Results

Survey 796221

Number of records in this query:	15
Total records in survey:	15
Percentage of total:	100.00%

Field summary for a1

I found the information presented to be informative and detailed.

Answer	Count	Percentage
strongly disagree (A1)	1	6.67%
disagree (A2)	1	6.67%
uncertain (A3)	5	33.33%
agree (A4)	6	40.00%
strongly agree (A5)	2	13.33%
Comments	8	53.33%
No answer	0	0.00%
Not completed or Not displayed	0	0.00%

ID	Response
3	I thought that John Gunn's use of the beakers was an excellent visual.
7	The meeting was chaired by people who were totally unfamiliar with the salt issue and looked to the audience for answers to simple questions.
9	Information was not formatted towards any one of a number of "solutions", There was no MOTION brought with resolve at end of the mtg.
10	Information was not formatted towards any one of a number of "solutions", There was no MOTION brought with resolve at end of the mtg.
11	Information was not formatted towards any one of a number of "solutions", There was no MOTION brought with resolve at end of the mtg.
16	Not a strong panel representation of expertise other than academic personnel. City reps should have been there
22	Not full. Representative
23	Information from Dr. Gunn was most relevant

Field summary for a2

I found the presenters to be knowledgeable and credible.

Answer	Count	Percentage
strongly disagree (A1)	1	6.67%
disagree (A2)	0	0.00%
uncertain (A3)	2	13.33%
agree (A4)	10	66.67%
strongly agree (A5)	2	13.33%
Comments	6	40.00%
No answer	0	0.00%
Not completed or Not displayed	0	0.00%

ID	Response
7	See previous comment.
9	My impression is that the presenters are "living off the problem(s) and not offering pragmatic, practical SOLUTIONS.
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16	However Panel should have been expanded to government and city expertise
22	Mostly academic

Field summary for a3

I would be interested in participating in future activities focused on this issue.

Answer	Count	Percentage
strongly disagree (A1)	0	0.00%
disagree (A2)	1	6.67%
uncertain (A3)	1	6.67%
agree (A4)	7	46.67%
strongly agree (A5)	6	40.00%
Comments	6	40.00%
No answer	0	0.00%
Not completed or Not displayed	0	0.00%

ID	Response
3	Yes, this is affecting our drinking water.
7	It is doubtful that much progress can be made unless the approach changes. There is a saying that doing the same thing over and over again while expecting different results is the definition of insanity. A different approach is definitely needed.
9	All constituent organizations, associations need be brought together, NOT JUST ON ONE PAGE, BUT IN THE SAME ROOM. Otherwise, we need brace for the hindsight judgment of "lecturing on navigation while the ship goes down".
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23	I would only take part if was to develop a collaborative plan to manage salt in our environment.

Field summary for a6

Can you suggest ways we might improve these type of educational events?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Answer	12	80.00%
No answer	3	20.00%
Not completed or Not displayed	0	0.00%

ID	Response
3	I thought that it worked well with lots of questions from the audience.
7	The question answers itself. While the purpose of the event was indicated as a discussion, the fact of the event was, as indicated by this question, an attempt to educate. However, seemingly everyone in the room was already well educated on the issue.
9	Format an Agenda where there are pragmatic, practical solutions presented with Motions presented at meeting end with Resolve to be implemented. I am able to accept use of "educational" in your question so long as it is tied NOT just to "consciousness raising", but to elevating the well defined issues in a way it becomes an insistent part and parcel of the Public Agenda.
10	Format an Agenda where there are pragmatic, practical solutions presented with Motions presented at meeting end with Resolve to be implemented. I am able to accept use of "educational" in your question so long as it is tied NOT just to "consciousness raising", but to elevating the well defined issues in a way it becomes an insistent part and parcel of the Public Agenda.
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12	The presentation was fine.
13	No
14	A Chair should control the time taken in the meeting with people who go off onto other tangents; meeting attendees should be warned they will be cut short if they try to bring politics or subjective criticism into the discussion.
16	Data collection from all sources and studies to be compared.
18	More structure with action plans as far as what is going to be done next and detailed options for what participants can do to help.
19	I felt that this meeting was very informative.
23	Just manage the agenda better & limit questions & comments to no longer than two minutes only with 2 opportunities to speak per person. Let's leave the rants to the comedians!

Field summary for a4

What future action should GSWA take in regards to this issue?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Answer	12	80.00%
No answer	3	20.00%
Not completed or Not displayed	0	0.00%

ID	Response
3	keep pressuring Council to protect our drinking water.
7	The event did not appear to have any real agenda towards addressing how to get the problem raised to a higher level in the community. With the problem already well known and well defined, focus should move towards how to effectively chunk it up one or two levels.
9	<p>Strike a DELEGATION of knowledgeable persons to sit down and begin conversation with the public agencies/officers, with suasive ability to bring these groups on board (Dist Health Unit, Heart and Stroke, Diabetes, Municipal Water Authority and Management, Ministry of the Environment, and Ministry of Health, provincially with their federal overlaps. This kind of networking need be precedent for inter-agency co-ordination based on DISCOURSE.</p> <p>But there would seem to be "systemic" inhibitions to raising any viable issues. For example shortly after the Lac Megantic disaster, I counted 200 + or - Black tanker rail cars going through our Downtown junction rail yards several weekends in a row.. I wrote the Office of Emergency Management, the Office of Mayor and the Police Services, asking if any one/agency was monitoring this traversing of our community by Bakken Oil Field Product. After non-receipt of acknowledgment or reply, I found a dept receptionist who was sympathetic, and she secured the then Heade of Emergency Management to accept my call. The RESPONSE from that officer was that the Govt of Canada had promised to advise all such offices across Canada, at six month intervals, RETROSPECTIVELY, as to the movement of such materials in the previous period (!). Duh ! Hello ! There was no acknowledgment of Ramsey imperiled by catastrophic rail spill owing to the double track abording that lake's North Shore, or of residents on Greenwood/Torbay whose properties abord the railway, or of those neighbourhoods in the West End.</p> <p>You may wish for Thomas Price to make a presentation on his project which would shield Lake Ramsey from any catastrophic rail spill. He is a quite astute practical Visionary, based on his life long employment by Inco Engineering.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, John Rutherford (67 Indian Road, since 1972) Tel. 705-522-8584, mornings.</p>
10	<p>Strike a DELEGATION of knowledgeable persons to sit down and begin conversation with the public agencies/officers, with suasive ability to bring these groups on board (Dist Health Unit, Heart and Stroke, Diabetes, Municipal Water Authority and Management, Ministry of the Environment, and Ministry of Health, provincially with their federal overlaps. This kind of networking need be precedent for inter-agency co-ordination based on DISCOURSE.</p> <p>But there would seem to be "systemic" inhibitions to raising any viable issues. For example shortly after the Lac Megantic disaster, I counted 200 + or - Black tanker rail cars going through our Downtown junction rail yards several weekends in a row.. I wrote the Office of Emergency Management, the Office of Mayor and the Police Services, asking if any one/agency was monitoring this traversing of our community by Bakken Oil Field Product. After non-receipt of acknowledgment or reply, I found a dept receptionist who was sympathetic, and she secured the then Heade of Emergency Management to accept my call. The RESPONSE from that officer was that the Govt of Canada had promised to advise all such offices across Canada, at six month intervals, RETROSPECTIVELY, as to the movement of such materials in the previous period (!). Duh ! Hello ! There was no acknowledgment of Ramsey imperiled by catastrophic rail spill owing to the double track abording that lake's North Shore, or of residents on Greenwood/Torbay whose properties abord the railway, or of those neighbourhoods in the West End.</p>

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- 12 While it seems that GSWA is focused on lake ecology I believe that when a lake or river is a drinking water supply the emphasis should be placed on making that source safe for drinking. At the minimum GSWA should bring up the problem with the city and be an advocate for safe drinking water for all Sudburians.
- 13 None - its like trying to slam a revolving door.
- 14 Write a letter to the City and post it in the Sudbury Star
- 16 Be the forum first and after all data collected and summarized present to city Wayershed Advisory Panel for endorsement and then city Council prez.
- 18 A follow up on what is being done to address the issue with opportunities for the community to help (whether it is spreading educational messages, what they can do at home and work, etc.). Provide resources for members to use in their lakes/water bodies to address the issue.
- 19 This was the first meeting I have attended. I believe public awareness will result in public support and our politicians will do what the public thinks is important so they can get re-elected.
- 23 Help set up a joint community committee which includes city & provincial reps.

Field summary for a5

What other water issues should GSWA prioritize?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Answer	12	80.00%
No answer	3	20.00%
Not completed or Not displayed	0	0.00%

ID	Response
3	EuroAsian Water Milfoil FerroChromite Smelter in Coniston
7	Supply/demand. The City has already defined a supply/demand issue that will need addressing in the next ten years. At the same time the City Economic Development Department is actively pursuing industry and entertainment facilities that will place an unachievable demand on the limited supply available in the Sudbury district. South Africa is already suffering from the failure to predict a shortfall in supply. Sudbury should not create a situation where we are the next City in the World to run out of water.
9	Survey Auto Service Managers perplexed with the failure of vehicle electronic systems relating most probably to the municipal usage of magnesium chloride on our roadways. We have had to rebuild our Jeep Patriot (2008) THREE TIMES NOW, electronically (relays). I am told that hi line vehicles are particularly susceptible to this problem, givento the reliance and the emphasis given to highly susceptible and complicated electronic circuitry.
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12	Beyond drinking water quality GSWA should continue its studies into ecosystem damage done by human activity. While recognizing that Sudbury has geological, geographical and historical challenges when it comes to maintaining and improving water quality in our rivers and lakes I believe that there has been for decades a lack of action to do much beyond talking about problems. Everyone seems to want to live on lakeshore even though that is a leading cause of lake degradation. With 330 lakes in Greater Sudbury is seems that we are unwilling to leave some undeveloped to serve as drinking water reservoirs. We carelessly fill in wetlands for development which means less natural filters for recharging aquifers. We allow urban sprawl rather than concentrating development and dealing with drainage water effectively. In the end our problems are problems of stewardship and a unwillingness to set priorities that ensure long term health and well being for the people that live here. I retired here 14 years ago from Burlington Ontario. Over my time living here I have become more and more alarmed by the ineffectual city staff and councils that seem out of their depth. I have very little confidence in them and so it puts more pressure on groups like yours to push them in a right direction.
13	Quantity and use
14	milfoil/lake water quality being affected by anything
16	Contine a focus on Eurasian Milfoil; continue advocaY for septic inpections
18	It depends on the current most pressing issues. The water quality issues should be identified and prioritized from water chemistry analysis reports and subwatershed studies, etc. - categorizing the issues with a level of priority and means to address the issue/ action plan is important for effective management of water issues.
20	Road Salt Infiltration into Lake Ramsey.
23	State of the art sewage treatment without any chance of by pass occurring.

Septic Social Event Expenditures May 5, 2018 by David Young, Treasurer of GSWA:

	<u>Actual Money Spent</u>	<u>Proposed Initial Budget</u>
Returnable damage deposit	100.00	100.00
Rental of Lockerby Legion Site	56.50	56.50
Cofee&Deserts (Supplied by legion)	113.00	227.00
Cookies (bought by David)	10.72	
Gift to speakers (Lilly)	90.00	100.00
Door prizes (Lilly)	54.21	50.00
Door prize towards Septic Cleanout	250.00	250.00
Sound System Rental (provided by John)	0.00	50.00
Other Miscellaneous	0.0	50.00
Sub-Total	674.43	883.50
-Minus Deposit	-100.00	-100.00
Total	574.43	783.50