



FRIENDS of the St. Clair River
Board of Directors Meeting, March 12, 2009
Minutes of Meeting

Present: Terry Burrell, Darrell Randell, Modris Zandburgs, Stewart Thornley, Kim Gledhill, Jan Dawes, Ken Hall.

Regrets: Brenda Lorenz, Archie Kerr, Clint Jacobs, Theresa Warren, Bela Trebics, Deb Trebics

1. Review of the 2008 AGM minutes.

Motion moved by Terry to accept the AGM minutes from Nov. 20, 2008. Secunder - Modris - Carried.

2. Business from Nov 20 AGM Minutes:

There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Financial Report – Terry Burrell, Treasurer

Discussion of the 2008 Auditor's Report was postponed to next meeting due to low attendance. Moved by Ken, S/ Stew – Carried.

Terry reported that a cheque for #20,000 was received from the MOE on Jan. 26th. Terry has opened a new ING savings account to accumulate interest savings. Balance in account as of Feb. 28/09 - \$55,869.36

Terry moved to accept his report. S/ Modris - Carried.

4. Activity / Project Updates:

CRIC Report – Stew Thornley

- Fish Tainting beneficial use impairment (BUI) being considered for de-listing by both Canadian and U.S agencies. No evidence of tainting has been recorded on Canadian side of the river. Ted Briggs (MOE) is checking with MDEQ officials to see if their side reports the same. It is hoped that the CRIC group will agree to announce delisting of this BUI after their meeting on April 9th.
- Walpole Island Water Treatment Plant
Sandra Koc at Environment Canada is investigating the status on this project.

- Wetland Evaluation Study
CRIC member Phil Vaillance is circulating a letter to Municipalities to collect information on this project.
- Chatham/Kent Watershed Management Plan
Review of current projects and plans within the area under review by CRIC. Zoning issues have been identified as a possible hurdle for advancement of some initiatives.
- CRIC sub-committees are working on implementation work plan items. Meeting March 13th to discuss status. Habitat and Non-Point Source committees meeting March 13th. Delisting criteria being reviewed by groups to apply newest scientific information. Environment Canada (Jody ???) taking the lead.
- RAP Steering group looking at the full Lake Huron to Detroit River corridor as focus of efforts moving forward.
- Spills BUI – no spills reported for over two years, no shutdowns of water intakes. CRIC looking for closure of this BUI for possible delisting.
- E-Coli Monitoring _ MOE and Lambton Health Unit to conduct seasonal testing at Canaterra Park and Regan Park. Ongoing efforts to determine the actual source of e-coli pollution. Waterfowl identified as primary source in some areas.
- Sediment Report from ENVIRON to be presented to CRIC on April 9th.

Tile Restriction Project in Port Lambton – Darrell Randell

- Darrell reported that it appears the tile restriction project has stalled, MOE funding for the next stage of the work is being reviewed.

Communications Activities Report – Ken Hall

Website Report

783 “direct” hits since our meeting in November. See detailed web activity reports from EBTech for January and February at www.webreports.ebtech.net

Username: www.friendsofstclair.ca, password: whatever

Regular site maintenance – 2 additional news items in media room

- FOSCR and BPAC minutes to members section
- No news from Janice re new FOSCR – US website

Youth River Awareness Contest

Goal: increase student knowledge on issues affecting the river and the BUI status and draw their attention to the FOSCR website and FOSCR/BPAC programs

Budget: \$2,500, spent to-date \$2106.77

- Contest ran from January 1/09 to Feb. 28/09
- 158 entries, 72 correct responses. Select winners tonight
- Winners: **Adrian Graf, Ken Charron, Emily Ness** selected at meeting by random draw.
- **Actions:** contact winners, arrange presentation of prizes, write media announcement and distribute, post winners (picture) on website

Interpretive Signs

- Delivered to Sarnia City Hall and Pt. Edward by Ken
- Darrell arranging Spring installation and downriver parks
- Sign already installed at Centennial Park just north of Flag Court

St. Clair River RAP Display

- Completed, cost \$1799.99
- Well received at SCRCA AGM in Wallaceburg
- Phil Vaillance request to use display at Sarnia Library for film viewing March 21st, Ken will deliver along with Fact sheets and Magnets
- Similar display produced for DRCC Natalie Green
- Potential to do one for Lake St. Clair Management Plan
- Opportunities to use the display??
Ken has arranged for display to be viewed at SLEA annual meeting May 27th.

Recognition awards for D. Craig and G. Johnson

- Complete, cost \$181.46
- Presented to D. Craig at SCRCA AGM Feb. 19th
- Johnson presentation to be determined, Ken has the award.

New Items

- Earth Fair invitation
Ken mentioned opportunity to participate at Goodall's Park event April 17 and 18.
Motion by Terry to participate, second – Stew – Carried.
- Earth Day event in Sarnia (Energy Exchange, Christian Street) April 22.
Motion by Terry to participate, second – Stew – Carried.

River RAP – Kim Gledhill / Jan Dawes

- Kim and Jan performed the River RAP for the committee, it was very well received. Plan under discussion to create a video of the performance and share it with educators and interested groups in RAP locations across Ontario.
- Suggestion to perform RAP at BPAC meeting on March 25th.
- Budget for video set at \$10,000.00. Looking for shared funding from FOSCR and St. Clair Regional Conservation Authority (50/50 split)
- Motion by Terry to approve funding if SCRCA supports the project for 50%. Seconded by Stew – Carried.

Environmental Defence Fund Grant opportunity – Darrell Randell

An application for funding will be submitted for financial support of the Habitat restoration project on Smith Line - \$20,000

5. Requests/Recommendations from FRIENDS to BPAC:

- At the next BPAC meeting identify facts that show the health of fish populations in the river are improving.
- Request performance of River RAP before BPAC

6. Other Business

- No new business brought forward

7. Adjournment

Motion by Terry to adjourn. Time: 9:20 PM. S/ Ken - Carried.

There was no date set for the next meeting.

Acting Secretary
Ken Hall
04/28/09