

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG
Minutes of a Meeting
SHERBROOKE LAKE COMMITTEE
New Ross Fire Hall
Thursday February 18, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Larry Hagell Committee Member, Chair
Jack Wentzell Committee Member, Vice Chair
Garth Bangay Committee Member
John Budden Committee Member
Lennis Corkum Committee Member
Douglas Moore Committee Member
Allan Veinot Committee Member
Mark Wentzell Committee Member

STAFF: Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation
Chasidy Veinotte-Dorey, Administrative Support
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO

REGRETS: Murray Coolican Committee Member
Rex Veinot Committee Member

MODL- Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
MODC- Municipality of the District of Chester

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Larry Hagell called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the Agenda:

- Petition to Council from Greg Stokes

Moved by Jack Wentzell, seconded by Mark Wentzell that the agenda be approved as amended. Carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by John Budden, seconded by Mark Wentzell, that the Minutes of the January 14, 2016 Sherbrooke Lake Access Advisory Committee be approved. Carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There is no Business Arising from the Minutes at this time.

5. ADDED ITEM

Petition to Council from Greg Stokes

Larry- When the petition was posted online, it very quickly referred to a number of roads around the lake. It seemed as though the road associations were indorsing this; all of these road associations contacted Mr Stokes and asked to be removed. We were informed that he will not do so.

6. PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS UPDATE

An update of the consultation process was discussed.

The following points were reiterated by Trudy:

- Survey was launched in early January and will run for 5 weeks; closing next Sunday at midnight.
- Paper copies can be picked up here this evening for anyone who would like one.
- Open Houses; the first open house was cancelled due to weather but has been postponed to take place on Monday, February 22 at the New Ross School.
- Second open house, in Halifax, had 82 people sign in. But we estimate those numbers it to be closer to 100 people in attendance.
- Third open house was last night in Parkdale/Maplewood. Sign in last night showed 66 people in attendance.
- The consultants with Upland will compile all the data. The results do not come to myself or any committee members. Upland does this and will then compile it in a summary format which will also include making 4 designs. If anyone cannot make an open house and prefer to fill out a paper copy, we can mail them out. The option of doing the survey by phone can also be available.

Trudy turned the floor over for questions from the committee.

Garth- The consultants who rap this process up, when do we get it?

Trudy- Their contract ends the end of March, we should have it by then.

Garth- Can we have it a week or two early in case of questions or changes?

Trudy- I will check on that.

Garth- Does the report come to this committee?

Trudy- Yes, but this will be a public document end of day. It will come to this committee, then be a public document. Are there any other comments?

The consensus of the committee was that they were very impressed with the turnout the open houses has brought and are looking forward to seeing the results from Upland once the data has been collected.

7. UPDATE RE HISTORY/KNOWLEDGE OF THE LAKE WORK

Trudy- At the last meeting, a draft table of contents was presented. There are 4 people who may have shown interest in doing the work. I have drafted a request for a quote and I am hoping to secure someone soon.

Garth- When we hired the other consultants and put the RFP out, did we indicate the budget?

Trudy- Yes. If anyone has any comments, please let me know ASAP.

8. REVIEW WORKPLAN

Trudy reviewed the work plan to the committee and members in the audience on a flip chart. This work plan can be found in the Agenda Package. Some of the highlighted points mentioned are as follow:

- 5 outcomes in plan.
- First was to research and identify site options.
- We have identified a number of site options. (when you see land negotiations on the agenda, this is in-camera discussion)
- Whatever site Council chooses at the end of the day, becomes public.
- This lines up with our report to Council and we hope to present this piece to the public however this would first be an in camera discussion first.
- This is on-going and we are pretty good at meeting the target.

Larry- I think within the next few months we will be going before council as we are well on the process of our site selection.

Garth- Is it based on one assessment?

Trudy- We hire a professional appraiser. There are a number of factors that effect this. An example would be considering what is near/around the piece of land.

Larry- Before the process can take place, we have to go to Council for funding. We can't do that on our own.

Trudy continued on with reviewing the work plan. The following points were mentioned:

- We had Barry Clarke come in and do a presentation.
- Kings County could not come but a brief presentation at the last meeting was done.
- MODL Council has approved up to \$20,000, MODC has approved up to \$5000 and the province approved \$12,000.
- 7 proposals did come in. Interviewed 4 of those 7. And references checks.
- Site visits were conducted at Aylesford Lake and Raven Haven. We may still get more in. This will be presented as part of the report as well.
- Ultimately, it is up to Council on which route they want to take with site and features.

Trudy- In February of 2015, the committee was appointment. The first meeting was held in May but it was just an orientation. I feel it has been very progressive and a lot has been accomplish in a short period of time thanks to the dedicated volunteers we have.

Larry- I feel confident that we will meet it. The length of our meetings now aren't as long as we have been and will continue moving forward. We had a lot more to talk about in the beginning. Now we are getting shorter as we are farther along in our meetings. We try to alternate between 2 municipalities for meetings. A lot of what we are is all in thanks to Trudy and what she has done so far and we need to top it off to her.

9. DISCUSSION- TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR FINAL REPORT

Trudy- As we are going through the consultation process and public houses; and now that it is coming to a close, we need to think forward and decide what final report will look like. This is another reason why I went over the work plan first to help jog memory. For example, we should have a background piece; how did it get started. We need to put ourselves in the shoes of someone who knows nothing and we want them to have a clear picture.

Trudy put forth this question to the committee and asked all members for their input.

Garth- I agree with that. Right at the beginning. The second piece should be history on the lake.

Allan- Findings on the survey and what public has requested.

Doug- Section from upland.

Lennis- Consider mandate of this committee and provide options.

Jack- History, briefing of whole thing and how it moved through Council.

Garth- Stand-alone reports, consultants, history and we can extract from those in the executive summary. Background history, public perspective and focus groups. Issues to be considered, based on this committees views, this is what we want to tell you. We have a role. We aren't just pulling information in and passing it along.

Mark- Document is for Council but it will become a public document.

Trudy- Yes, except for land negotiations.

Mark- If it is going to be a public document, we need to have a lot of detail.

John- We have to make sure any person can look at it and understand all the information.

Garth- We make recommendations and options and many reports like this need to include next steps. Detailed design, detailed cost and so on.

Trudy- It is in uplands contract to design 4 designs. It's up to Council if they agree on any of those 4 options.

Larry- It's important that this is a public document so we need to have enough history so that any person can follow. We could put numbers in there of our potential sites for example. We did have a subcommittee and identified every parcel around the lake that we thought could be a possibility. We took no assumptions and didn't leave anything out. We didn't just focus on one or two sites, we looked at all of them.

Jack- We don't know yet where we are going to land or what we will have. This project could be a number of years before it gets completed. It could be a phased in process over a number of years.

Larry- Always have been doing multiple things at a time and this is no difference.

Trudy- Best practises was part of the work plan. Part of those best practises could be in the appendix. This would show all the detail and thought put into the work plan.

Focus Group Discussion

Trudy- We have to determine how many focus groups we want, who to invite and what subjects to talk about. Budgeted for 1 but can stretch it to 2 if we feel it is necessary. Who should we invite?

The following were mentioned:

Department of Environment
Department of Fisheries
RCMP
Department of Natural Resources

The committee agreed on the agencies mentioned here tonight.

A public member also stated that Department of Highways may want to be considered.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is TBD based on when we receive information back for review from Upland. Once a date has been confirmed, it will be posted on the MODL website. A suggestion was made to have the meeting at a location south of the 103.

11. PUBLIC INPUT (15 MINUTES)

Ron Seaney- You're excluding the most important department of all which is Inland Fisheries Division for Provincial Fisheries. They offer grants under the recreational fishery program which is money that is generated from fishing licenses. I also would like to state that Councillor Dorey is trying to restore access to the lake that was lost in previous Councils which is not an easy task and continues to be an uphill battle. Last evening I read every note from the Parkdale public meeting. 90 percent were genuine concerns which is encouraging. The propaganda from the Halifax meeting, originates from a source I'm ashamed of. This individual said they don't want public assess as it will create more pollution and crime. This person knows the difference. We have got two parks; and a third one being developed and this has not increased pollution or crime.

Next issue, algae on lake, the organization that's doing the studies on water quality; are they going to check in on things like septic systems that may be faulty? It certainly is not public participation as we cannot get on the lake. If there is algae there now there is probably septic systems that need to be checked. If we learn nothing from what is happening now on the LaHave River which has been destroyed from not only straight pipes but faulty systems. This needs to be

addressed too. It is an important issue. There may be sewage going into lake now. This sums up my points other than if you are looking for money to develop this and you want to stay away from public funding, the sport fishing fund would provide a fair amount of money as we have accessed it several times in the past. Thank you very much.

High Harper- Chester (cottage on Sherbrooke Lake)

When you were going through the table of contents, it seems to me giving the deteriorating water quality on the lake, it has not improved since I have owned the land. I recently sent an email to a Truro paper from a Doctor from Dal talking about algae bombs on a number of lakes in Nova Scotia including smaller lakes as well.

It would just seem to be that good governance would dictate to have a chapter in final report about doing an environmental impact study on adding a public access to the lake and what continuing efforts will MODL and MODC do in terms of water quality monitoring. If we are going to make a commitment and put in another factor that could deteriorate the water quality more, good governance would say if something happens, we could take action.

Jocelyn Wentzell- Bridgewater (cottage on Sherbrooke Lake)

Environment is not a responsibility of MODL. If MODL is going to go forward with something that is going to effect the environment it has to be a MODL responsibility too. If and when there are any clean ups that have to be done this should not be on our shoulders.

Trudy- No we do not have DOE in the MODL but this does not mean to say we are not concerned with environmental impacts. MODL does not own the lake; the province does.

Warren Veinotte - Newburne

Are you guys overstepping your boundaries of what this committee was set out to do? You are now getting into land negotiations.

Trudy- Part of responsibility of this committee is to follow the mandate (*Trudy read the mandate from the Terms of Reference*).

Garth- We should find out if this will require a screening or full impact study. A call to the Department of Environment should tell us this.

12. IN CAMERA ITEM AS PER THE MGA 22 (2) (c) – LAND NEGOTIATIONS

Moved by John Budden, seconded by Mark Wentzell that the Committee go In Camera In Committee. Carried.

The purpose of the In Camera meeting was to deal with Land Negotiations, in accordance with section 22 (2) (a) of the Municipal Government Act.

Moved by Lennis Corkum, seconded by Doug Moore that the Committee return to open session. Carried.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss at 9:10 p.m., it was moved by Doug Moore, seconded by Garth Bangay that the meeting be adjourned. Carried.