

Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park
Management Advisory Board Meeting
Monday August 11, 2008

Approved Meeting Summary

Present

Kim Dunford
Don LaCombe
Wendy Lyttle

Betty Zyvatskauskas
Julia Madden
Mary Anna Zakula

David Coulas (OP)
Jennifer Fay (OP)
Kim Harris (OP)
Pam Lawrence (OP)

Regrets

Tom Cole
Rick Meridew

Meeting called to order at 4:15 p.m.

Review and approval of meeting agenda.

Motion: To receive meeting agenda.

Mover: Don LaCombe

Second: Julia Madden

Carried.

Review and approval of meeting summary (May 12, 2008).

Motion: To receive meeting summary as an accurate reflection of meeting held on May 12, 2008.

Mover: Don LaCombe

Second: Betty Zyvatskauskas

Carried.

Declaration of any conflict of interest.

None declared.

Chair Update

- Appreciate the Board's patience for return of the final management plan for their review.
- Minister's letter received advising that the roads and trails network has been approved. Copy of letter given to board members.

Motion: To receive the chair update.

Mover: Wendy Lyttle

Second: Betty Zyvatskauskas

Carried.

Superintendent Update

- Roads and trails network – Ontario Parks staff and the MAB have worked extremely hard on this project. The roads and trails network and appeal process have been approved by the Minister.
- Board appointments – Two Board member tenures end this month. Awaiting new appointments.
- Biologist successful in obtaining the Species at Risk Biologist position for Bancroft District MNR.
- A number of enforcement issues have gone before the courts and there has been some closure on these. Details to follow in the operations update.
- Ontario Parks now has delegation of authority to sign off on LUPS and work permits at the Superintendent level. The Public Lands Act no longer applies to Kawartha

Highlands. This is a new process for us and we are working with the District to get these processed as soon as possible.

- Kawartha Highlands Management Plan will be the first management plan to be signed off by the Minister.
- FIPPA request received by our office in January 2008. This request has been ongoing and has progressed to a court arbitrator who determined that the cost estimate provided was accurate.
- Municipal councils – Sent letter to North Kawartha and Galway, Cavendish and Harvey Townships requesting that their councils appoint a liaison to communicate directly with the park. Held a meeting with the Zone Manager and townships. Galway, Cavendish and Harvey have appointed the Reeve and Deputy Reeve and North Kawartha has appointed the Reeve and Counselor at Large.
- Attended the Cavendish Ratepayers Association meeting held in June. Questions were positive.
- Have provided information updates for cottage association meetings.
- Minister briefed by Ontario Parks staff on June 11th and July 9th on outstanding issues within the plan. Managing Director will deliver the plan directly to the Minister.
- Discussion on funding. Board has sent a letter to the Minister regarding funding and the topic was also discussed at the meeting that the Minister attended.
- Premier's office is being briefed by the Minister.
- The plan will be released for public review for 60 days. There won't be any Open Houses after the release of this document. Still aiming for release of the document at the end of August or early September.
- Discussion about the MAB's role after the release of the document. Part of the plan contains implementation priorities and these priorities are broken down into phases. Years 1-2, 3-5 and 5-10. In each phase, priorities are set out as identified in the Charter. The Board will still represent the public interest.

Motion: To receive the superintendent's update.

Mover: Wendy Lyttle

Second: Betty Zyvatkaukas

Carried.

Members Update

- MAB newsletter has not gone out to date. The Board made a commitment to the public to keep them informed. Will discuss further after the operations update and the roads and trails update.
- Comments heard from the west side are positive.

Operations Update

- Canoe route maintenance – Two Ontario Ranger camps and three Stewardship Ranger crews assisted Ontario Parks with canoe route maintenance. Six trips have been completed to date and two more groups are out this week. The Rangers will have put 181 worker days into canoe route maintenance in the park this summer.
- Campsite improvements – With help from volunteers, Conservation Officers and fire crews, 75 fire rings were delivered to campsites last winter and this spring. Fire crews and Ontario Rangers have installed 64 of the fire rings to date. New campsite signs have been installed.
- Enforcement – An individual received a fine in the amount of \$1,000.00 for failure to obtain a work permit in the park. July long weekend there was a charge and eviction on Cold Lake. August long weekend there was a charge on Long Lake for cutting live growth.
- Anstruther Lake Cottage Association has posted no camping signs in partnership with Ontario Parks.
- Parking lot improvements will involve consultation, site planning and EA work.

- After the plan is released, Ontario Parks will begin developing the following plans: Park Operations and Lands Management. Other tasks ahead involve issuing boat cache permits, signage and campsite improvements.

Motion: To receive the operations update.

Mover: Betty Zyvatkaukas

Seconder: Don LaCombe

Carried.

Roads and Trails Update

- The pre-existing road and trail network was approved by the Minister of Natural Resources on June 11, 2008, as well as a 2-year appeal process.
- Ontario Parks is aware of outstanding trail pieces.
- Reviewed fee and permit structure for Ontario Parks.
- The subcommittee would like to start working on a Recreation Inventory Report. Subject matter for this report may be potential recreational use, trail etiquette (ethics), safety, signage, fee and permit structure, enforcement, trail maintenance standards, rehabilitation plan and stewardship, partnership opportunities.

Motion: To receive the roads and trails update.

Mover: Don LaCombe

Seconder: Wendy Lyttle

Carried.

New Business

- Newsletter – Message from the Chair, Species at Risk, operations update, roads and trails update, etc. Newsletter will be sent to the electronic mailing list.

Next meeting: Monday September 8, 2008.

Adjourn