

**Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park
Management Advisory Board Meeting**
Monday, April 18, 2005

Meeting Summary – Approved

PRESENT:

Kim Dunford	Thomas Cole	Nancy Wilson (MNR)
Wally Hobbs	Tom Flynn	Jennifer Fay (OP/MNR)
Don LaCombe	Murray Kidd	Kim Harris (OP/MNR)
Lorne Sellick	Dave Coulas (OP/MNR)	Graham Cameron (OP/MNR)

REGRETS:

John Marsh
Kathy Reid
Wendy
Dana Dvorak

Meeting called to order at 4:17 p.m.

Welcome to 2 new Board members, Tom Flynn and Tom Cole.

Review and Approval of Meeting Summary – (March 21, 2005)

MOTION: To approve the Meeting Summary as an accurate reflection of March 21st meeting.

Mover: Don

Seconder: Wally

Carried.

Superintendent Update

- Welcome to Tom Flynn and Tom Cole as the newest members of the MAB.
- The Superintendent and a Board member attended the most recent Stakeholders of the Kawartha Highlands (SGKH) meeting. Prior to the meeting the superintendent wrote the group and asked them if they would facilitate a meeting between the Park Superintendent and the Cottage Association presidents. The SGKH has agreed to do this, and is setting up a meeting for this spring. Ontario Parks is putting together a package to give to the presidents for them to hand out to their members. At the meeting, the superintendent informed the SGKH about the Park's schedule for the summer.
- There has been an application submitted by the Long and Loucks Lake Cottagers' Association to increase the launching fees at the Long Lake Landing (which is under a land use permit). Staff of Ontario Parks have not had a chance to look at the application yet, but will be considering it shortly.
- The Superintendent attended a meeting held by the South Eastern Zone Office. A topic addressed at this meeting was the Occupational Health and Safety Act. The Ministry of Labour have the authority to write tickets on the spot in the field without going back to the office.

Question: The Public Appointment Secretariat website states that, for membership on the Board "Knowledge and/or experience with park management issues in south central Ontario would be an asset." What does this mean?

ACTION: Ontario Parks to get clarification on this

Question: When will a letter be sent to Land Use Permit (LUP) holders regarding the moratorium on building improvements/additions, which would be in place until management planning is completed?

Answer: We will not send out a letter until the Park is regulated and we have control over the site. The letter will also serve to let people know that regulation has occurred.

ACTION: When the camps are surveyed, locations of the privies should be documented – an inspection sheet will be created which will include this information.

MOTION: To receive Dave's update

Mover: Don

Secunder: Wally

Carried.

Ecological Integrity Subcommittee Update

A plant ecologist with Peterborough Green-Up has joined the sub-committee. A change in representation from Ontario Parks has occurred. At the last meeting, discussion was held around considering the larger picture in looking at maintaining wildlife corridors, and how the timber harvest outside the park will affect the wildlife movement.

Local citizen/naturalists have expressed interest in providing assistance with monitoring efforts.

The subcommittee still has holes in its membership with regards to birds and fish. In the upcoming field season it will be necessary to map out the ecological zones in the park. This must be done at a very fine resolution if it is to be useful. Therefore, 400 plots will be surveyed this summer.

The proposed State of the Ecological Integrity Report now has a new format. The subcommittee decided that it is important to change the approach somewhat so that it is in plain language. Members of the subcommittee have been invited to the Open Houses.

MOTION: To receive the submission of the Ecological Integrity Subcommittee

Mover: Murray

Secunder: Thomas

Carried

Roads and Trails Subcommittee Update

The snowmobile trail mapping was completed this winter by a contractor, which finished off the winter work.

There are a few weeks of mapping to be completed by ATV this summer and then all the trails should be mapped.

MOTION: To receive the update for the Roads and Trails Subcommittee

Mover: Wally

Secunder: Tom Flynn

Carried.

ACTION: Ontario Parks staff to dig up files containing cultural information about the recreation camps.

Communications Working Group

One more approval is pending for the website, and then it will go for French translation.

Hopefully approval will be obtained, and the website will be launched by the end of the week.

The website launch will be announced through the latest newsletter, which will be sent out electronically once the website is up and running.

The newsletter will be sent to the MAB members prior to the newsletter going out electronically to the public so that members will know that the website is up and running.

ACTION: Please review newsletter and get any comments or corrections to Nancy by Wednesday

Question: Is there a link back to the webhost from the website?

Answer: There is an Ontario parks email address that the people can write to and all messages will be forwarded on to us.

Advertisements/Media Release

Notices for Open Houses will be sent to:

Monthlies/Quarterlies, etc.:

507, Buckhorn Community Centre, Theresa Kelly, Bobcaygeon
Apsley Voice

Weeklies -2 weeks prior:

- Peterborough This Week
- Bancroft This Week
- Lakefield Herald
- Kawartha This Week
- Peterborough Examiner
- Bancroft Times
- posted at Municipal offices
- posted at Curve Lake, Flynn's Corners
- posted in the kiosks, at marinas

MOTION: To receive the update from the Communications Working Group

Mover: Don

Secunder: Wally

Carried.

Other Business

Access Roads Working Group

The evaluation committee has selected the preferred company, and the selection is currently going through the approvals process. There should be no delay to this process, and the consultant should be on board shortly.

Motion: To receive the update from the Access Roads Working Group

Mover: Tom Flynn

Secunder: Wally

Carried

Discussion was held surrounding the current situation involving contract talks between the Ontario Government and OPSEU.

ACTION: The Board would like to know what the Board's role will be in the event of an OPSEU strike – the superintendent will look into this.

Ecological Integrity 101

A discussion was held in order to start formulating what information the Board will require in order to make informed decisions regarding the Park with respect to Ecological Integrity.

What do you (the MAB) want to know in order to help you carry out your mandate?

- Where does the balance come between the way we use this area and the way other creatures use this area, and are there problems now?
- How do you know that a specific activity is affecting something else, and the effect is not part of a larger problem, e.g. ozone layer depletion?
- What information do we need so that assuming we are doing our best to preserve this area we can tell what the optimum number of park users are – do we set aside areas where no people are allowed to visit, how many campsites do we allow, etc.?
- How do we balance the desire to use the area with the desire to protect the area?
- How many campsites can each lake handle?
- Where are the best spots to locate campsites on a lake?
- What is the importance of indicator species such as crayfish – their abundance or lack thereof?
- How do we manage a site in a holistic fashion considering that there are so many private properties within the area that we don't have control over?
- Is there any incentive to get the private landholders to buy in and help manage the area in a responsible way?
- We have an opportunity to engage the adjacent landowners and get them to contribute to the management of the area and feel empowered.
- How does the quality of water change from the headwaters to the outflow of the park?

We can use the 5 W's to look at these questions. For example:

How do we balance human activities with ecological integrity?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Why should we do this? | -overuse will destroy EI |
| What needs to be done | - we want to use the area, but do not want to destroy/impact EI |
| Who does this affect? | -e.g. how do outboard motors impact EI and on what lakes? |
| use | -e.g. how about float planes? |
| When do we need to do this? | -everybody – park users – some questions pertain to people who use area often, some pertain to people who use area once in a while |
| that | -before management planning finished we need to identify areas that are potentially impacted |
| Where does this affect? | -for immediate management planning purposes, we may look at a smaller area (e.g. areas of human use) and for long term |
| monitoring | we may look at a larger area |

ACTION: For next meeting everyone is to think about stressors acting on the Park.

MOTION: To receive Ecological Integrity presentation

Mover: Murray

Secunder: Don

Carried

Next Meeting: Monday May 16, 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm

MOTION: To adjourn meeting at 8:19 p.m.
Mover: Lorne
Seconder: Don
Carried