

**Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park  
Management Advisory Board Meeting  
Monday June 20, 2005 – Peterborough**

**Meeting Summary – Approved**

**PRESENT:**

Kim Dunford  
Murray Kidd  
John Marsh  
Tom Flynn  
Lorne Sellick

Dana Dvorak  
Wendy Lyttle  
Thomas Cole

Dave Coulas (OP/MNR)  
Nancy Wilson (MNR)  
Jenny Fay (OP/MNR)  
Kim Harris (OP/MNR)  
Pam Lawrence (OP/MNR)

**REGRETS:**

Wally Hobbs  
Kathy Reid  
Don LaCombe

Meeting called to order at 4:15.

**Review and Approval of Meeting Summary (May 16, 2005)**

- Summary was reviewed by group.

**MOTION:** To approve the Meeting Summary as an accurate reflection of May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Mover: John**

**Seconder: Tom**

**Carried.**

**Stantec Update**

Project began in early May. In mid May project notification was given through a mail out from Ontario Parks. Our company attended both of the Open Houses, one on May 28<sup>th</sup> in Apsley and June 4<sup>th</sup> in Buckhorn. In mid June our displays were placed on the Ontario Parks Website as a result of requests made through the public input process. Our company will be seeking input until mid July.

There is a high level of public interest in the area as we had over 100 people attend the Apsley Open House and over 200 people for the Buckhorn Open House. To date we have received over 70 comment sheets and written submissions. Plans are also available for viewing in Bancroft at the MNR office.

**Access road alternatives that are currently under consideration.**

- Four alternatives on East and West side of the park
- The do nothing alternative on the East and West side of the park would mean continuing to use existing access roads to the park.
  - In order to compare alternatives the Class EA process requires, as a benchmark, to start with a do nothing alternative.
- Currently, four of the alternatives use existing roads.
  - **West side - Example 1:** Beaver Lake Road to a point that is in the vicinity of Bottle Lake and Sucker Lake.
    - *Example 2:* Mississagua Lake Dam Road to a point that is at the southern shoreline of Mississagua Lake.
  - **East side – Example 1:** Anstruther Lake Road just west of Wolf Lake and possible introduction of a new road extension into an area that would provide access to the eastern shore of Anstruther Lake. This alternative would also be expanded to use a little bit more of Anstruther Lake and include access to the public launching site that is already in existence.
    - *Example 2:* Long Lake Road to access the eastern tip of Long Lake.

- Currently, two new access road alternatives.
  - West side – North of Catchacoma could potentially lead to Bottle Lake.
  - East side – McGee Lake off of Highway #28.

Most of the input received to date has been from cottagers/private property owners. Have not received a lot of input from the public that would be visiting the area.

### **CHALLENGES**

- Finding a balance between ecological integrity and addressing some cottager concerns.
- Keeping the public informed.
- Setting up a framework that will enable visitors and “residents” to coexist respectfully in the long term.

Cost is a factor in the evaluation process.

Statement of Purpose of New Access Roads:

***“To provide access to the park that maximizes opportunities for recreational activities within the park and minimizes potential conflicts between park users and private property owners, while not seriously compromising ecological integrity along access routes.”***

The roads study is running parallel to the park management process. Stantec will not recommend a road to where it won’t be useful, etc. Stantec will compile a report addressing repair costs of existing roads and costs for new roads. Cost estimates will be available after a preliminary evaluation is completed.

Traffic counts will be done on the Canada Day long weekend for a 48 hr. period.

Board needs to follow the direction in the Charter and legislation that two new roads **may** be developed and the Minister’s decision has to come through the public process.

**Motion:** To receive Stantec’s presentation.

**Mover:** Dana

**Seconder:** Wendy

**Carried.**

### **Superintendent Update**

- Thank you to Board Members who attended the Open Houses. Important for the Board Members to be out there. The Open Houses were well attended. Close to 300 people in attendance for both Open Houses. Good questions, well informed.
- Website is an incredible tool to provide information to the public.

Messages from Open Houses – **From Board Members**

- Western access point etched in stone referring to the Charter. The Charter has the critical phrase – “***May***” – The legislation states that the Minister will make the final decision as to the location of the road on the West side of the park. The Charter also states that there will be a public process to determine the location of the access road.
- Beaver Lake road was a topic. Fifty/fifty do not support Beaver Lake road as an access road. Fifty/fifty indicated that they would support a parking lot at the end of Beaver Lake road on Park property.
- Dominant observation. Concern regarding impacts on cottage roads and private property.
- Concern that the voice of non local people would not be heard.
- Concern that the park would lead to more people.
- How can I volunteer? How do I become a member of a subcommittee?
- Generally a very positive atmosphere. People were surprised at how sophisticated the displays were. Staff were very professional.

- At the beginning of the process, some cottagers believed that the area becoming a park would devalue their property, now their outlook has changed.
- Enquiries for maps of the area.
- Individuals requesting maps showing trap lines, bait fish areas, bear management areas, etc. ATV recreational use and access. Equestrian not dealt with in the Charter and will be addressed through the management planning process.

### **Superintendent Update (Cont'd)**

- A year ago people were coming and asking what is happening and now I'm hearing people coming forward with a variety of options.
- Collective bargaining – ratification vote on June 28<sup>th</sup> on a possible agreement.
- NORKLA only east side cottage presidents – met on Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>. West side to have meeting in the near future. Follow-up as directed by the Board to make contact with these organizations. Post cards given with the appropriate information highlighted.

**Motion:** To receive the superintendent's update.

**Mover: Tom Flynn**

**Secunder: John**

**Carried.**

### **Summer Operations**

- Memorandum of Understanding Garbage Agreement in place with the Township of North Kawartha for Long Lake Lodge and Anstruther Marina. This agreement was established to determine the amount of garbage coming out of the area from the campers. There are two garbage bins, one at Long Lake Lodge and one at Anstruther Lake Marina. There are recycling bins at each location. Interior litter bags are supplied for people that are going into camp – Long Lake Lodge and Anstruther Lake are both registering campers that are going in – bright yellow – cottagers will also be able to put the garbage into these bins. Collectors will be able to count the number of bright yellow bags in the bins. Long Lake and Anstruther are willing to sort the recycle materials for us. Want to get a handle of the amount of garbage coming out of the park and what percentage is being produced by campers.
- Two Ontario Ranger Camps and Stewardship Rangers will be doing canoe routes in the Park this year. Ontario Rangers from Moose Lake will be doing the Cold Lake, Cox Lake and Stop Log Lake canoe route July 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. Stewardship Rangers out of Haliburton will be doing the Bottle Lake and Sucker Lake canoe route on July 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Machesney Lake Junior Rangers will be doing four canoe routes in the park. These groups will be ensuring that privies are in the proper locations, that there is only one fire pit per campsite, picking up garbage, etc. Our staff will be doing the same when we are in the field.
- No camping signs will be posted on small islands within the park. This is a temporary measure until the management plan is complete. The small island on Crab Lake has been posted as No Camping. People can be charged for camping where it is posted no camping and can also be charged for camping on a site that is not posted as a camping site.
- Conservation Officers have agreed to carry out enforcement in the park this summer.  
***ACTION ITEM: Contact numbers to be provided.***
- A new KIOSK has been installed at the Anstruther Marina. Sign without a map. Working on a new sign with a map embedded on it.
- On the east side of the park signs have been posted not to take glass into the interior of the park, concerns about broken glass in the interior.  
***ACTION ITEM: Post on the website.***  
Bottle ban is specific to a park, this could be implemented through the Management Plan.
- Beaver Lake Cottager's Association had asked for a smaller KIOSK to be located at the end of Beaver Lake Road. Ontario Parks has recently been approached by the same organization to hold off on the installation of this KIOSK.
- Invitation extended to accompany Ontario Parks staff to do some campsite inventory, etc.

**MOTION:** To accept Operations update.

**Mover:** Murray

**Seconder:** John

**Carried.**

### **Planning and Communications**

- Mailing of the Terms of Reference with Invitation to Participate has been completed. Posted on the EBR on Friday June 17<sup>th</sup>. There is a 45 day comment period. (2990 packages mailed)
- Website – Comment received at Open House that under permitted use text it was mentioned, however, recreation camps were not mentioned. Park Management Planning – Roads EA maps, there are side bar links there now, planning chart highlighting stages, EBR link will be there as well, Terms of Reference, two new maps for boundary regulation are there. How to get involved – two current opportunities for input have been placed there. Roads EA – July 12<sup>th</sup> and the Terms of Reference invitation to participate (45 days).

***ACTION ITEM: Clarification on the EA roads – put into the introduction of the EA roads process.***

**Motion:** Receive and acknowledge correspondence regarding west access road.

**Mover:** Tom Cole

**Seconder:** Tom Flynn

**Carried.**

- Regulation notification letters are being prepared to send to those individuals who sent in comments regarding the boundary.

**MOTION:** To accept planning and communications update.

**Mover:** Dana

**Seconder:** Wendy

**Carried.**

### **Board Work Priorities**

- This is a reminder of work priorities laid out as a result of a meeting between Board members and MNR/Ontario Parks staff.
- ***Please refer to the Approved Meeting Summary of December 12, 2004.***
- Some Board Member terms are going to expire in August, therefore, the direction and work priorities of the Board need to be accurately reflected.

### **Main Focuses of the Board**

- Ecological Integrity is the priority based on the legislation. The Board recommended that a subcommittee be established and develop a Terms of Reference. This has been completed and the subcommittee is well on its way to developing a frame work for a State of the Resources Report. There is still a lot of work to be done and ecological integrity is at the top of the list.
- Park Management Plan is the overriding direction document on how the park will be managed in the future. This will be what the Board presents to the Minister. All aspects of the work that the Board is currently undertaking feed into the development of this document. Ontario Parks has the responsibility of writing this document and the Background Information Document which will be prepared in the fall.
- Management Options Document. It is the hope of Ontario Parks Staff that the ecological integrity subcommittee, provincial government and federal government will be able to work together with the Board to develop this document.
- Major part of the work for this year has been the Roads and Trails Inventory. The subcommittee will have the draft recommendations prepared for an Open House which will be held next summer. LUP holders will be sent a letter for additional input regarding the roads and trails. A concern was raised regarding a snowmobile club posting signs on the Wolf Lake Cottage Road.

***ACTION ITEM: A member of the subcommittee will look into this.***

- Advertising and Marketing. Website/Newsletter. Another newsletter will probably be put out. Involvement in open houses and maintaining the website.
- Potential Access roads. In process.
- Fees structure. Board is not there yet. This will come out of the Management Planning piece of work.
- Future role of the Management Advisory Board will shift after management planning is complete.

**Recommended that at the next meeting there should be a “brainstorming session” to determine what the next steps are regarding roads and trails and ecological integrity. What are the components in the Management Plan? The Board needs guidance in determining zoning for the park. How is the site presently being used and what impacts are occurring on the environment?**

**MOTION:** To accept review of Board priorities.

**Mover:** Lorne

**Seconder:** Wendy

**Carried.**

### **Other Business**

Letter to the Board regarding organized archery in the park.

**MOTION:** To receive letter.

**Mover:** John

**Seconder:** Dana

**Carried.**

Congratulations to the Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Local Stakeholder Committee who were the recipients of a 2005 Canadian Environment Award.

***ACTION ITEM: Board member to do a letter of congratulations.***

Board Member highlighted the fact that there needs to be a Cultural/Historical Resources/Integrity Subcommittee for the Kawartha Highlands. Board member to prepare a Draft Terms of Reference for this subcommittee for the next meeting.

**MOTION:** To strike a subcommittee for Cultural/Historical Resources and Integrity. Chair will be John Marsh. Members to be determined at a further date. List of potential members will be presented at the next meeting.

**Mover:** Wendy

**Seconder:** Murray

**Carried.**

Board member presented a draft letter for the Honourable David Ramsay addressing a number of issues discussed during the Management Advisory Board Meeting held in May 2005.

**MOTION:** Further to the meeting held in May we now accept the draft letter that will be sent to the Honourable David Ramsay subject to some minor changes.

**Mover:** Wendy

**Seconder:** Murray

**Carried.**

Discussion regarding upcoming Board vacancies.

**MOTION:** The Management Advisory Board recommends the reappointment of current members who are interested in continuing to preserve continuity on the Board because of the nature of the mandate that they are required to fulfil.

**Mover:** Tom Cole

**Seconder:** Wendy

**Carried.**

Aboriginal groups. Ontario Parks staff have met with the Curve Lake Rights and Resources Committee and will be meeting with Kawartha Nishnawbe in the near future.

**MOTION:** To receive Ontario Parks update on Aboriginal meetings.

**Mover:** Wendy

**Seconder:** John

**Carried.**

**Next Meeting: July 18, 2005**

**4:00 – 9:00**

**Adjourned: 8:55 p.m.**