

**Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park  
Management Advisory Board Meeting  
Monday September 20, 2004 – Peterborough**

**Meeting Summary – Approved**

**PRESENT:**

Kim Dunford  
Janice Griffith  
Wendy Sue Lyttle  
Tom Flynn  
Wally Hobbs

Kathy Reid  
Murray Kidd  
Don LaCombe  
Lorne Sellick  
John Marsh

Dave Coulas (MNR)  
Nancy Wilson (MNR)  
Pam Lawrence (MNR)  
Kim Harris (MNR)  
Graham Cameron (MNR)  
Jenny Fay (MNR)

**REGRETS:**

Dana Dvorak

**GUESTS:**

Scott Bishop, Ontario Parks, Visual Marketing Specialist  
Anne Craig, Ontario Parks, Senior Marketing Specialist

**Meeting called to order at 4:25**

Review and Approval of Meeting Summary – (June 7, 2004)

**MOTION: To approve the Meeting Summary as an accurate reflection of June 7 meeting.**

**Mover: Wally**

**Secunder: John**

**Carried.**

Review of ACTION Items from June 7 meeting.

**Superintendent Update:**

- Board Appointments – No appointments have been put into effect at this point. Waiting to hear from the Minister's office regarding reappointments.
- Approved Terms of Reference, with letter from the Minister was sent to Kim. Copies will be made for the Board.
- The subcommittee for Essential Services in the Kawartha Highlands did not meet over the summer. The subcommittee will meet in the fall to identify what needs to be done regarding fire, garbage, etc.
- Dave met with the County and also the county planner. Discussed roles and responsibilities of the County and Ontario Parks. Dave will provide updates to the County during the process.
- The focus for field work has been on public health and safety, environmental health. Campsites with no pit privies on them – Junior Rangers and Stewardship Rangers have placed pit privies on campsites where they were needed. This is an interim measure only.
- Dave attended a number of Cottage Association Meetings over the summer, as well as different interest groups, trappers, pilots, etc. The general message taken to these meetings was that specific direction will need to be established in a Management Plan.
- Flight over the area with the Regional Director.
- Planning work has to be done now to meet the timelines outlined in the Charter.
- Ontario Government asking Ontarians to review and submit comments regarding the legislation for Ontario's parks and protected areas. Statement taken from It's in Our

Nature, ...”Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park. This park will be added to the protected areas network under the Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park Act, passed in 2003 after substantial consultation. The act applies only to this park. Therefore the Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park is not included in this review.” MNR will provide hard copies of this document for the Board to review.

#### **Trail Update:**

- To date there are 210 trail segments in the database
- All of the trails have been compiled in the government database. Also included on the map are trails that the public have provided.
- Two week time period this fall spent at various access points to obtain additional trail data. The access points were: Long Lake, Anstruther Lake Marina, Pencil Lake, Bottle Lake, Coon Lake, Wolf Lake, Mississagua Dam. This was an informal process.
- Various concerns were raised from the general public. The concerns are as follows:
  - Enforcement
  - Linkages to the OFC snowmobile trails
  - Hunt camp trails – concern about trail information being given to the public.
- Time frame of this task of submitting recommendations for an approved trail system to the Minister is one year from proclamation date.
- When does the Board wish to take these to the public via an open house?
- ***There needs to be a distinction made between roads and trails. DEFINITION REQ'D***

#### **Kiosk Update:**

- Coon Lake Cottager’s Association expressed concerns about having the KIOSK at that location and a decision was made to place the 5<sup>th</sup> Kiosk at the Mississagua Dam Access point. Their concern was that too many people were parking there in the winter. Private property owners will not have a place to park. Coon Lake cottagers have a legitimate concern as the parking area is small.
- Some cottage associations have been contacted regarding the use of the KIOSKS to post their information. The messaging from the cottage associations will be managed through MNR.

#### **Regulation Package Update:**

- Public consultation held in January and February of this year and also the aboriginal consultation component was carried out in March of this year.
- The Ontario Surveyor General’s office has gone through all of the title documents and has been able to prepare a map of the exterior boundary for review by the Sustainable Forest Licence (SFL) holder. The SFL had 30 days to review the final boundary and contact the Minister if they had any concerns.
- The Surveyor General completed the review and discovered a couple of outstanding issues. In 1905 there was an Order in Council that turned all of the dam structures over to the Federal Government. These dams were Anstruther, Bottle Creek, the drainage area between Rathbun Lake and Anstruther Lake and six on Stoney Creek. Anstruther Lake dam has been removed from the park boundary as well as Bottle Creek dam because they are still actively used to control water levels in the Trent Severn. Stone dams have been included in the Park boundary and are cultural heritage features.
- The regulation package has now left our office and is in the approvals system which ends with Cabinet Office and the Legislation/Regulation Committee for final approval.
- After the boundary is regulated, everyone who submitted comments regarding the boundary will receive a letter stating what has happened in the process and how their comments were considered.

#### **Ecological Integrity**

Survey distributed to all members:

- Purpose of the survey is to determine the level of understanding that various members have with respect to this term. A series of tutorials will be developed for MAB to ensure that members have a working knowledge of this term (ecological integrity).
- Field trips will allow hands on sessions related to ecological integrity. The Board should have an intimate knowledge of the area.

### **Management Advisory Board Website (Scott Bishop, Ontario Parks)**

- From discussions and work done by the Board, a draft request for quotation was done for the MAB Website. MNR had the request reviewed to clarify certain terms and conditions by Scott Bishop, Ontario Parks Webmaster. Scott made the recommendation that the MAB website be setup and maintained through the Ontario Parks Website.
- KHSSP website would be accessible under the Non-Operating Parks link. At some time down the road, this would migrate to the Operating Parks section
- Information could be posted in a very timely fashion, as information does not go through the regular communications approvals.
- Scott will provide a mock up with Ontario Parks guidelines for the MAB website.
- Board members, MNR/Ontario Parks need to review and agree on information that should be posted on the website.
- There is a certain legal obligation regarding language translation. Probably part of the description would be translated.

**MOTION: To strike a subcommittee for web content to be made up of Kathy Reid, Janice Griffith and Wendy Lyttle, Ontario Parks and MNR.**

**Mover: Wendy**

**Seconder: Murray**

**Carried**

### **Introduction to Park Management Planning Process**

- There are various levels of complexity of the management planning process. Sometimes there are no issues and low public interest in the site that is being regulated, therefore, the management planning process is simplified. There are some sites that require a complex plan because of complicated land tenure, user conflicts and/or high public profile. Kawartha fits into the complex plan group.

### **Stages of Management Planning**

1. **Terms of Reference** – time table, outline of process, who is involved  
- covering letter – 45 days before planning starts  
**Background Information Document** – MNR had report drafted in 2000 (Metek Report) for use by the Local Stakeholder Committee. Additional information has since been gathered, i.e. cultural resource inventory, life science inventory, earth science inventory, recreational inventory and user survey/social economic studies. The Background Information document requires editing and updating at this point. This report will be sent to the mailing list and there will be a 45 day review period.
2. **Management Options Document (MOD)** – This document identifies all of the major issues (i.e. access, infrastructure, visitor management) and provides Management Options for issues identified.
3. **Preliminary Management Plan (PMP)** – Review and discussion of public input on the MOD document result identification of the preferred options in the Preliminary Management Plan.
4. **Approved Management Plan** – Review of all public input from the PMP and modifications if necessary. This Plan is approved by the Minister of Natural Resources.

## **Roads**

The access roads have to go through a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process which incorporates public consultation as well. The roads EA will be embedded in the Management Planning process. A consultant will be hired to fulfil the requirements of the Class Environmental Assessment in tandem with the public consultation for management planning. MNR and Ontario Parks do not have the expertise to propose options for the access roads. The authoritative plan is the Management Plan and Ontario Parks staff need to focus on this to meet the timelines outlined in the legislation.

### **The Charter states...**

Limit on location of roads

*" The western public access road will follow a corridor that ensures the minimum length of construction within the boundaries approximately defined by Lots 16 to 29 in Concessions VIII, IX, X and XI in Cavendish Township.*

*The eastern Access road location is undetermined but should not be longer than 2 kilometres in length, beginning at the park boundary near Highway 28."*

It is important for the Board to develop a statement of purpose for these access roads. The Minister will make the final decision regarding the roads. The MAB will make recommendations to the Minister.

### **Two immediate tasks for the Board:**

- 1. To further define what MAB's role will be for the management planning process.**
- 2. To develop a Statement of Purpose for the two potential public access roads.**

## **Other Business**

### **MAB Field Trip Ideas**

- Major access points trip
- Trail data collection. This would help the board to see what the public is referring to as trails.
- Tour of Beaver Lake Road, Quarry/Forest Reserve, Alvar, proposed access road on west side of area
- Select a site that is unimpacted to use as a reference site for ecological integrity and compare to another site that would be deemed as heavily impacted.

### **Public Notices**

- Could Ontario Parks get direction/approval from the Board to advertise open houses, etc., in local media when necessary? ***Approval still needs to be given.***

## **Round Table Updates**

- Film crew on Cold Lake – constructed jumps on sand bar – private residents concerned
- Some of the hunter groups – would we release information from other camps – i.e. trails, etc.
- Paddling folks – Crab Lake – Posted on the tree is a journal anyone who uses the campsite enters something in their journal.

**Next Meeting:** Monday September 27, 2004 from 4:00 – 9:00.

**MOTION: To adjourn meeting**

**Mover: Wally**

**Seconder: Wendy**

**Carried.**