

Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park  
Management Advisory Board Meeting  
Monday November 24, 2008

Approved Meeting Summary

**Present**

Kim Dunford  
Don LaCombe  
Wendy Lyttle  
Ted Spence  
Tom Cole

Betty Zyvatskas  
Julia Madden  
Rick Meridew  
Heather Brooks-Hill

David Coulas (OP)  
Jennifer Fay (OP)  
Kim Harris (OP)  
Krista Fergusson(OP)  
Nancy Wilson (MNR)

**Regrets**

Murray Kidd

Meeting called to order at 4:10 p.m.

**Review and approval of meeting agenda.**

**Motion:** To receive meeting agenda.

**Mover:** Don LaCombe

**Second:** Heather Brooks-Hill

**Carried.**

**Review and approval of meeting summary (August 11, 2008).**

**Motion:** To receive meeting summary as an accurate reflection of meeting held on August 11, 2008.

**Mover:** Wendy Lyttle

**Second:** Don LaCombe

**Carried.**

**Declaration of any conflict of interest.**

None declared.

**Chair Update**

- Welcome to 2 new board members. We are still short one member hopefully filled before too long
- Personally very impressed with final Park Management Plan. Congratulations to all members past & present for their contributions
- As well great job to OP and MNR staff with congratulations to Nancy Wilson for all her authoring and hard work on this plan
- Would like to hear from all MAB members regarding any feedback received relating to the release of the PMP:
  - Summary from all members is that the overall response has been mostly positive from the plan itself.
  - Most contentious issues are not surprisingly based around the proposed amendment to the hunting regulation. This issue seems to be quite present in most discussions as some would like to have seen the same process for the fall hunt as was given to the spring hunt (starting later to avoid Labour Day as is the case with end the season before Victoria Day).
  - The Access road use is still a concern on the West side of the park.

Discussion around the Access Road use and the fact that these roads are municipal roads. People believe there will be an increase in traffic on these roads but there are no new campsites proposed for development and existing sites will be controlled through a reservation system. This will see a decrease in park traffic as there will be better regulation of campsites.

- The release of the plan in October has some wondering if people are even aware of its release as most cottagers and park users were gone by that time. It has also been important to members to ensure that people are aware the PMP and the hunting amendment are two separate items and need to submit comments on the EBR etc as soon as possible.
- A lot of feedback that members are hearing/receiving are coming from the press.

Discussion surrounding the written and EBR comments thus far. Dave addressed that we don't see the EBR comments until review period is closed but are aware of approx. 300-400 e-mail/written correspondence to Ontario Park's main office.

- Would like to take this time to relay the loss of a few contract employees to permanent positions in the Bancroft District office. They have been key players thus far and will be missed.
- Introduction of new acting park clerk on until the end of March tasks will be to help with documentation/paperwork from preparation of PMP as well as assisting with the financial end of things
- For the benefit of new board members and new OP staff all present to provide brief intro of themselves.

**Motion:** To receive the chair update.

**Mover:** Rick Meridew

**Second:** Tom Cole

**Carried.**

### **Superintendent Update**

- Focusing mostly on the release of the PMP now that is complete will be focusing on implementation
- Jenny to provide operational update:
- Busy fall season with some service contracts in place
  - Park boundary signs have been installed (85 to date) on ATV trails
  - Some signs may seem slightly off but wanted to error on the side of caution and be sure the signs were inside the park boundary (some specific target areas will be surveyed for confirmation of boundary)
  - Information Kiosks newest one installed at Tucker's Rd Access pt
  - Getting water crossings inventoried (for culverts or maintenance)
  - Picnic table installation to c/s hopefully in January/February
  - Some survey work may take place in the near future in anticipation of upgrades to access points
- Enforcement Issues
  - Had to remove garbage from military bridge access point (furniture-couch etc)
  - Graffiti on Wolf Lake privy signed by "a local" had to be removed
  - One major charge laid "constructing an illegal trail" person charged has been helpful in restoring area and reasoning was they were unaware they were not allowed to do it.
- Hunting
  - Good moose hunt but deer hunt not so successful

- Large group that camped for the hunt were informed they will no longer be permitted to do so after this year
- Discussion around operations update
  - Picnic tables will not be anchored at this time. The installation of these tables will be to avoid campers constructing tables from trees near sites. Money for these are coming from current capital funds
  - Reservations system will not be in effect for 2009 but the hope is to have implemented for 2011.
  - Capital dollars allocated to begin signage etc for park and although normally the board would have no authority on capital spending projects but with the complexity of some of the issues it may be that the board may be consulted on some operational projects.
  - Through partnership with stewardship we were able to complete some Lake Trout DNA sampling as part of a larger District project this past season which is very exciting for the park.
- Municipal Meetings
  - Dave will be attending both meetings to answer questions on PMP and hunting regulation as well as Access Roads and will work with liasons in the municipalities, any member of MAB can join him at these meetings or assist or join in on any field work just let him know.
  - Priority will be on the implementation of this plan but will be more so focused into the new year after the 60 day inspection period.
- Financial Update
  - We have been constrained already with respect to travel
  - Not a great time for this when we are trying to get operational having said that we have been told this is a priority for this government so will hope for required funding but not exempt to restrictions and cutbacks.
- Staffing Updates
  - We have seen the assignment of 2 new board members
  - Although it is not the superintendents job to recruit we are having more say as to the skills and background that would be beneficial to this board. The third and final assignment is in the works and should see an appointment soon
  - Kevin Wilson from ADM office is moving on-the new incumbent comes to the position with renewable energy background.
  - Nancy Wilson has been on loan from the District for a while and will be permanently back with the District in the new year.
- Now that management plan is out we propose to hold meetings quarterly now instead of on a monthly basis unless urgent matters need to be addressed.

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

**Mover:** Wendy Lyttle

**Secunder:** Rick Meridew

**Carried.**

**Motion:** To formally recognize Nancy Wilson's hard work and effort in this process

**Mover:** Tom Cole

**Secunder:** Don LaCombe

**Carried.**

### **Overview of Park Management Plan**

- **Background-** Park Management Plan initiated in 2000. PMP will replace the interim direction provided for in the Charter and KHSSP Act.

- **MAB-** Established in 2003 through KHSSP Act provide ongoing advice on planning & management
- **Public Involvement**
- **Vision-** PMP was guided by the Vision
- **Mailing List-** currently sitting at 2761.
- **Notice of PMP Release-** Advertised in 5 papers: Bancroft Times, Bancroft This Week, Peterborough Examiner, Peterborough This Week and Lakefield Herold,
- **Open Houses-** Very Successful
- **MAB Advice-** resulted in improvements to plan
- **Aboriginal Engagement**
- **PMP-** Strikes to balance between protection and recreation
- **Goals, Objectives and Desired Outcomes section 7.0**
- **Adaptive Management Cycle**
- **Other changes-** were made to the plan based on comments received during the public review period
- **Key Management-** Cottaging, snowmobiling, Mountain Biking, Horseback riding, prohibition of use & possession of live baitfish, aircraft landing
- **Motorboats-** short term day use/ invasive species
- **Boat Caches-** register/where/why/who & decals/controls/ monitor broad spectrum of users.
- **Access Roads**
- **Hunting**

**Motion:** To draft a letter inviting the Minister to come back and consult with the Management Advisory Board before she arrives at a determination for the proposed amendment to the hunting regulation.

**Mover:** Betty Zyvatskas

**Seconder:** Wendy Lyttle

**Carried.**

### **Future Role of MAB**

The board was encouraged to review the plan but some additional work has been incorporated in the plan for the MAB. This will include:

- Administration of appeal process for roads and trails
- Boat Cache strategy
- Implementation of direction in plan

### **New Business**

- Conflict of interest issues-some members feel it is a conflict of interest to represent both the Management Advisory Board and other related groups. Kim and Dave will review the PSA and provide a decision to the board before the next meeting.
- In regards to MAB newsletter there has been nothing new to report and members feel they will wait for some “new” news before going forward with the newsletter.

Next meeting: Call of the chair.

**Adjourn**

