

Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park
Management Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, February 08, 2010

APPROVED Meeting Summary

Present

Kim Dunford
Julia Madden

Heather Brooks-Hill
Murray Kidd

David Coulas (OP)
Kim Harris (OP)
Travis Cameron (OP)

Guests

Kevin Callan: canoe author

Regrets

Tom Cole
Ted Spence
Wendy Sue-Lytle
Hazel Lambe
Kimberly Woodhouse

Meeting called to order at: 4:05 pm

Review and approval of meeting agenda.

Motion: To receive meeting agenda.

Mover: Murray

Seconder: Heather

Carried.

Review and approval of meeting summary (December 07, 2009).

Motion: To receive meeting summary as an accurate reflection of meeting held on December 07, 2009.

Mover: Murray

Seconder: Heather

Carried.

Declaration of any Conflict of Interest.

None declared.

Guest Speaker: Kevin Callan

Key points from presentation:

- reviewed type of backcountry user and need of type of business to cater to that user
- stats: looking for average 2 hr drive, no portages and 2 night stay
- stats: average age 25-36 young couples with children and 1st time users
- need to educate to build skills and knowledge
- education is better than enforcement, use internet, reservation system, staff
- canoeing increasing by 33%, manage/control demand

- bottom line, don't care how or where people go – just encourage them to get out
- Note: Kevin has 12 books out as well as a regular blog and articles in several popular outdoor magazines
- Kevin also supports and leads spring clean up work in the park set for mother's day weekend

Chair Update

- update on trapping activities, more coyote and wolf than fox
- lots of fisher sign, some marten
- not as much human activity this winter in trapping area
- trappers carnival in Apsley on March 6, 2010

Motion: To receive the chair's update.

Mover: Murray

Secunder: Heather

Carried.

Superintendent Update

- Welcome
- Regrets from members
- Two vacant positions / appointments are outstanding / encourage board to support folks interested in applying
- Introduced new Minister
- Reviewed MNR re-alignment structure and where Ontario Parks sits
- Staffing needs being worked on, two SEP positions possible for this year
- Ontario Fisheries Regulations – target of January 2011 for the baitfish ban to come into full effect. Align with other regulation package for May 2011
- Council meetings – superintendent will continue to provide updates and relationship building with neighbouring councils (Galloway-Cavendish & Harvey, North Kawartha, and Peterborough County).
- Funding – This year's focus has been on our Business Plan (5-Year Business Plan associated with the delivery of the direction of the Management Plan to bring the park to an operational status has been submitted) / recommendations were received for downsizing especially in this economic environment / we were very conscious of this direction / we presented a request for fewer dedicated full time staff rather than a lot of seasonal staff to provide for better continuity on the deliver of the management direction.
- Land Tenure – very large workload - greater scrutiny required for projects
- Lightening the footprint in Algonquin - update
- Gord Homes (CO on East side of Park) & Brian Alexander (CO out of Minden and covers the West side of Park) – invited, but unavailable / both have been very active in park, following up on situations, charges resulted because of their efforts
- Opened floor for guest speaker ideas / thoughts – trapping (trappers carnival – March 6 in Apsley / weekend of February 20 in west side) – suggestion from floor to invite a speaker from Curve Lake first nation

Motion: To receive the superintendent's update.

Mover: Murray

Secunder: Heather

Carried.

Park Project Overview

Dave provided a broad overview of priorities for 2010/11 with detail on work targets, business plan and capital plan, research projects, lands discussion, role of board and staff, etc.

Motion: To receive the park overview.

Mover: Heather

Second: Murray

Carried

New Business

- Sub-committee review – work permits: the park has started to issue work permits / it may be beneficial to have a third party's input on work permit requests ie. Board Members or sub-committee / could people think about this
- Spring newsletter – timely update on park development with support from MAB – park staff will work on something for MAB approval before June 2010
- Suggestion of paddle to be presented to former minister
- Meetings for the year Feb 8th/ May 10th/ Aug 9th/ Nov 8th – second Monday of the month

Motion: To adjourn

Approver: Heather

Second: Murray

Carried

Adjourned: 7:50 pm