

**Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park
Management Advisory Board Meeting
Monday October 30, 2006 – Peterborough**

Approved Meeting Summary

PRESENT:

Kim Dunford
Thomas Cole

Tom Flynn

Betty Zyvatskaskas

Rick Meridew

Murray Kidd

Don LaCombe

Wendy Lyttle

Julia Madden

Mary Anna Zakula

David Coulas, OP

Nancy Wilson, MNR

Brent Stewart, OP

Graham Cameron, OP

Pam Lawrence, OP

REGRETS:

Wally Hobbs

Guest

Bruce Bateman, Zone Manager
Southeast Zone, OP

Meeting called to order 4:08 p.m.

Introductions:

- Betty Zyvatskaskas – New board member. Cottage owner on Anstruther Lake.
- Bruce Bateman – New Southeast Zone Manager, Ontario Parks.
- Brent Stewart – Acting Senior Operations Technician for Kawartha Highlands.
 - Seven years experience at Killbear Provincial Park. Positions included: Park Warden and Operations Technician. Assistant Park Superintendent at Killarney Provincial Park.

Review and approval of meeting summary (September 25, 2006).

Motion: To approve the meeting summary as an accurate reflection of the September 25th meeting.

Motion: Don LaCombe

Secunder: Julia Madden

Carried.

Superintendent Update:

- Review Code of Conduct – Board represents the interests of the park, not individual interests
- Change in the structure of meeting summaries
- Hydro road – result of storm damage
 - Hydro is comfortable with the parks' standards of environmental rehabilitation
 - Hydro will contact the park before any work is done in the future

Motion: To receive the Superintendent update.

Mover: Murray Kidd

Secunder: Tom Flynn

Carried.

Presentation by the Board:

- Board function – As defined in the Charter: “The Management Advisory Board shall provide advice to the Minister with respect to the planning and management of the Park including:
 - The identification of roads or trails that are to be approved as pre-existing roads and trails for the purposes of this Act;
 - The preparation of the management plan for the Park;
 - Park fees;
 - Matters relating to the long-term sustainability of the Park;
 - Capital expenditures, and
 - Such other matters as may be specified by the Minister.”
- Background of MAB members
- Joint efforts of KHSSP staff and the MAB – established user friendly website; Terms of Reference complete; Background Information Document complete; 2005 and 2006 – three sets of Open Houses; Management Options Document complete; Inventory of roads and trails complete; subcommittees established – Roads and Trails, Ecological Integrity, Cultural Heritage; ongoing communication to all stakeholders that the committee be transparent
- Other activities – MAB members have participated in the collection of trail data; collection of data from ELC plots; visited various areas of the park; attended meetings by other signatories of the Charter, etc.
- Board Concerns – support staff for KHSSP; yearly momentum peaks and declines due to contract terms and conditions; funding
- Charter Commitment to Ecological Integrity vs. MAB concerns – the Board and OP staff have worked very hard around the commitment to the protection of the EI of the park; MAB urged Ontario Parks to secure biologist position in order to make knowledge-based decisions which speaks to the Charter itself; MAB members have been educated on EI which is paramount to the planning process
- Purpose of invitation to the South Eastern Zone Manager – hear the accomplishments of the KHSSP staff and MAB to date; hear concerns regarding funding, how can the Board achieve the goals in our mandate?; demonstrate the needs for permanent long-term staff support; MAB needs to demonstrate to stakeholders that upper management of Ontario Parks is committed to continue supporting the Charter and the KHSSP staff as a high priority within the Southeast Zone.

Ecological Integrity Presentation:

- See previous meeting summary – September 25, 2006

Presentation Discussion:

- Current government has set three priorities: Education, Health Care and Community Social Protection. Ontario Parks budget is managed on a system wide basis.
- Board requested that the Southeast Zone Manager receive their suggestion/pleading for finances/funding as their concern for the preservation of this land and achievement of their mandate. Follow through on the Governments’ commitments of a fully operational park. The Board wants to see this park succeed.
- Ecological Integrity is now part of Bill 11 but is the overriding priority for the Kawartha Highlands.
- Current staff need to be commended for their work but now require additional long-term positions in order to deliver the direction negotiated/agreed to in the charter.

- Management Plan needs to be based on scientific information. If the board were to base our decisions on anecdotal evidence as opposed to scientific evidence, we would be seen to not have done due diligence and open ourselves up to potential actions. We have a responsibility to do this properly.

Motion: To accept the presentation of the MAB.

Mover: Julia Madden

Secunder: Don LaCombe

Carried.

Public Input from MAB Questionnaire:

- Board member presented summarized input from the MAB questionnaire.

Motion: To accept presentation of public input received from the MAB questionnaire.

Mover: Murray Kidd

Secunder: Thomas Cole

Carried.

Public Input from Management Options Questionnaire:

- MAB was presented preliminary summary of public input from the Management Options questionnaire. Additional work is required to summarize comments attached to questionnaire. In total, 367 completed questionnaires were received.
- In addition to the presentation material, also highlighted that “we need to consider all comments as well as our other priorities as outlined in the Charter.”
- Brought forward that some members of the MAB work with OP staff on a more complete document prior to bringing it to the entire board.

Motion: To receive presentation of the preliminary summary of public input from the Management Options questionnaire.

Mover: Mary Anna Zakula

Secunder: Rick Meridew

Carried.

Other Business:

- Chair and member of the Board met with OFAH to discuss concerns relating to the park.

Next meeting: Monday December 11, 2006

Motion: Meeting adjourned 7:50 p.m.

Mover: Rick Meridew

Secunder: Tom Flynn

Carried.