

LOCAL CITIZENS' COMMITTEE MEETING
Sault Ste. Marie District
Monday, November 19, 2007 - 5:30 p.m.
SSM REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mike Thompson, Interim Chairman, called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 5:35 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made for the benefit of Katie Pearson of Northwatch.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Andy Pedersen, seconded by Bill Vanderburg. Motion carried.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2007 MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Allen Prodan, seconded by Deane Greenwood. Motion carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2007 MEETING

1. Ron sent members a draft of the ad for the General Public member. Donna Ryckman-Rooney suggested that the LCC web site be mentioned in the ad. Members present agreed and approved the ad.
2. Ron was to make arrangements with Sault College to change the name of the LCC Award. Ron is dealing with the College but the deadline for changes passed back in May. Ron will continue to work with the College on the name change.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received since the last meeting.

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Guest Speaker - Nathan Mudge - Values Maps

Nathan provided a power point presentation on values mapping and the options for map products. The maps used include "real time" updates for a variety of values

captured on the maps. Nathan used the Resources Users layer as a demonstration. All maps will be updated by December 5th to coincide with the newspaper ad for the Invitation to Participate notice. Mike Thompson mentioned that it is important that members review the maps to ensure that all the values are captured. This information is used to produce the AOC maps for field operations.

Members can view these maps at the District Offices in Sault Ste. Marie and Wawa and also at the Clergue office. It is best to call ahead to ensure that the appropriate staff are available. There was some discussion on the best map scale and the availability of a CD for the maps. Nathan or MNR will produce 8 CDs for the LCC members. It is important for the members to indicate what layers they require on these maps. Ron agreed that MNR would send out a menu that members could pick what layers they wanted to see on these maps.

ACTION: Ron to arrange for the preparation and distribution of the map menu.

2. Current FMP Update - Clergue/Forest Industry Staff

Mike Thompson provided an update of Boniferro Mill Works operations. Henson's operations in Block 6304 (Christina West) are on-going and will continue throughout the winter.

Avery's operations in Block 6303 (Christina North) are now completed. Avery is currently operating in Block 7401 (Vixen) and will continue throughout the winter.

Pierre Dumas' operations in Block 6306 (Leonard) are scheduled to commence when freeze-up occurs.

The emergency repairs on the Carp Road, Pipe Lake Road and Mile 67 Road are now completed.

Gary Raines mentioned that the emergency repairs on Mile 38 Road and Tilley Lakes Road are all completed. MNR is currently reviewing the Engineer's report on repairs for the Tribag Mine Road.

Tom Crosswell stated that most of St. Marys operations are in the Wawa portion of the forest. Henson's harvest operation in Block 7400 (Hargraft) is on-going. They will be moving to block 7519 off the Ranger Lake Road for the winter.

Midway is operating in the Bass Lake area and upgrading the Stuart Lake Road in order to access Block 7510 (Roddy Lake). Meakin is carrying-out the red pine thinning in Gaudette Township off the Whitman Dam Road and will be completed by the end of December. Paul Foisy asked if the operation was to be completed by that time to ensure that there would be no conflict with the snowmobile trail. Tom was hopeful that the operation would be completed on time.

Tom also stated that limited silviculture activity occurred in the last month. Cone picking has been completed with a total of 3.1 hectolitres of black spruce and 20 hectolitres of jack pine collected.

Tom provided members with an update on the forest industry. He stated that significant curtailments have occurred within the forest industry over the past month that will have a negative impact on operations in the entire Algoma Forest. This is being caused by the indefinite closure of Weyerhaeuser's OSB plant in Wawa and the

temporary shutdown of Buchanan's sawmill in Dubreuilville. These mills receive wood from harvest contractors operating on the Algoma Forest. Closure of these mills will have an impact on local operations which will have more difficulty marketing species such as aspen, white birch and jack pine. This will also reduce the amount of money that is being contributed to the forest renewal trust fund. The fund is adequate for the current year.

The April to September compliance report summary was handed out to members present. There were two non-compliance issues on the south portion of the Algoma Forest. The first was a poorly installed culvert on the Domtar Road at Hazel Creek which has now been repaired to standard. The second was a minor trespass caused by the failure to mark the harvest boundary.

Tom also handed out the updated amendment and revision package to members present.

3. FMP Planning Update - Clergue

Nathan stated that the Invitation to Participate is on track for December 5th. The planning inventory was submitted, returned with comments and re-submitted. This is the only step that needs to be completed prior to the Invitation to Participate. The planning team will continue with monthly meetings and the next project will be the Objectives and Strategies.

4. LCC FMP Update - Jeff Hinich

Jeff provided copies of his report to the members present. There was some general discussion on the Forest Benefits meeting which will take place between April and May of 2008. This is a new requirement for the planning team. It involves a general scoping meeting that will involve the two LCCs at one session. An outline of the Forest Benefits package and what is expected from LCC members would be beneficial.
ACTION: Nathan to obtain this information from Forest Management Branch.

5. Communications Plan - All

There was nothing to report. Mike Thompson recommended that this section in the agenda be dropped as it can be included in the "All Sector Reports" section. Members present agreed.

6. All Sector Reports - All

Each member reported their current activities with their sector. Jeff Hinich stated that he has notified the Chamber of Commerce of the Algoma Forest FMP Invitation to Participate timelines. They will include this in the Chamber News. Andy Pedersen will mention it at the Prospectors Meeting on Thursday night. Lester stated that the next Trappers meeting is in April. Ron mentioned that if he wanted to do a mailout he could request funding assistance from the LCC. Brad Jourdin stated that he would mention it at the next regular local union meeting. Allen Prodan said that he would send letters to the high schools and college.

Brian Anstess stated that he dealt with different groups and would come up with a plan to notify them.

Bill Vanderburg said that he will consider using the OFAH.

Paul Foisy will notify the snowmobile clubs and if anyone knows of any ATV clubs to let him know.

Donna stated that she has mentioned this to the Naturalists at their October meeting.

Nathan offered to make a presentation at one of their meetings.

Mike Thompson stated that he puts the notice in with the employees pay cheque.

Jeff Hinich asked about the other sectors representatives that do not regularly attend LCC meetings. He specifically mentioned the Tourism rep and the Forest Industry - Softwood Users rep. Brad Jourdin offered to talk to the St. Marys Paper management staff.

ACTION: Ron to contact the Tourism rep.

Brian Anstess gave a PowerPoint presentation on the recent happenings at the Algoma Highlands Conservancy and specifically the sale of Stokely Creek Lodge.

Donna handed out a copy of the latest Sault Naturalists news letter.

7. LCC Budget - Ron Reffle

Ron handed out a copy of the LCC Budget report.

8. Election of Chair - All

Ron asked for nominations. Andy Pedersen nominated Mike Thompson. Allen Prodan seconded the nomination. Mike agreed to let his name stand. There were no other nominations. All members present supported the nomination by a show of hands. Mike Thompson is now the new Chair of the Algoma LCC.

7. New Business

- a. Katie Pearson from Northwatch handed out a poster advertising the November 28th session entitled "Getting Started: An Introduction to Forest Management Planning". There will be two showings (3:00pm and 7:00pm) at the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library.
- b. Ron requested that the members let him know who is attending the December 4th LCC Christmas Dinner Meeting at Gran Festa. Clergue, Mike Thompson and Bill Vanderburg had already responded. Deane, Jeff, Donna, Paul and Brian stated that they would be attending. Allen will be out of town. The rest are to let Ron know no later than November 28th. There was some discussion on who else was to be invited.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Andy Pedersen, seconded by all members. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 4th at 5:00 pm at Gran Festa in the Bay East Room.

Ron Reffle
Recording Secretary
Local Citizens' Committee
Attachments