

LOCAL CITIZENS' COMMITTEE MEETING
Sault Ste. Marie District
Monday, November 20, 2006 - 5:30 p.m.
St. Marys Paper Boardroom

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Kerry Sinibaldi, Chairman, called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 5:35 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were not required.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2006 MEETING

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

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2006 MEETING

1. At the last meeting, members had some questions concerning the Regional Advisory Committees (RAC) which Ron was to provide answers. Ron stated that the establishment of RACs is referenced in the Class EA Approval for Forest Management on Crown Lands in Ontario and the Forest Management Planning Manual (FMPM). RACs do not represent all LCCs in the region but has representation of a long list of stakeholders. A copy of the list is attached to these minutes.
2. Art Osborne made contact with Louis Corbeil from Kapuskasing concerning Louis' presentation on LCCs and Stewardship and the proposal to form an association of LCCs in Ontario. Louis will be sending a letter to the chairs of the LCCs suggesting a meeting in Timmins in December.
3. Donna reported that the Forest Sector Day was well-received with a good turnout.
4. Jeff had provided members with three draft recommendations to the IFA team. This will be discussed later tonight.
5. Kerry had a discussion with Dan Lacasse, Chair of the Wawa (Algoma Forest) LCC concerning the possibility of a joint LCC meeting. Kerry and Dan agreed to revisit this option once the FMP process gets underway or if there is a specific issue of interest to both committees. Each other is welcome to contact the other if interested to sit in on a meeting.
6. Ron has sent \$300.00 to Sault College for the LCC Awards.

7. Ron has made the arrangements for the LCC Christmas meeting for December 11th at Gran Festa. Trevor Woods and Don Hall have both confirmed their attendance. Ron will send out a reminder to members about the meeting in early December.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Northwatch sent out a notice concerning the EBR posting of an MNR proposal to make a change to a regulation of the CFSA regarding the revised Forest Information Manual (FIM).
2. Northwatch sent out a notice concerning the EBR posting of an MOE proposal to amend the Declaration Order regarding MNR's Class EA Approval for Forest Management on Crown Lands in Ontario (MNR-71).
3. Northwatch sent out a request for proposal to design and deliver a workshop on Area of Concern (AOC) planning and monitoring.
4. Kerry mentioned that the Espanola LCC has disbanded and the Resource Management Advisory Committee in Blind River will provide LCC duties on the Northshore Forest.

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. *Current FMP Update - Jim Miller*

Jim handed out copies of the FMP Amendments and AWS Revisions summaries and displayed an allocation map for the benefit of members present.

Jim stated that Midway Lumber's operators are currently working in the Carpenter Lake Road area (Zeppa) and the Snow Township area (Lecuyer). Zeppa will be moving to the Bass Lake Block later this fall.

Kerry stated that Lagace is currently harvesting on the north side of Icewater Creek in the Christina North Block (6303A). Bush conditions are being monitored due to the wet weather.

Kerry provided the members present with an update on the situation at St. Marys Paper (SMP). On October 25th St. Marys voluntarily filed for protection under the Companies Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) which is not a bankruptcy as noted in the newspaper. CCAA is commonly used to accomplish financial and/or operational restructuring. The funding to carry on normal operations until Feb.1/07 was approved by the lender. SMP is authorized to carry on business of all operations of the mill during this period. As part of this process, the court has appointed a firm to monitor the company during this period. The challenges to be addressed include pension funding, energy costs and the strong Canadian dollar.

The recently announced Northern Electricity Transition Program for pulp and paper mills should provide SMP with \$10 million over the next 3 years.

Mike Thompson reported that Avery is operating in the Bow Block (6102). Henson has completed operations in the Joco South Block (6107). Harvesting is completed in the Pancake Block (6108) with slash and hauling ongoing. Harvesting is taking place in the Hargraft Block (7400) with 3 Harvesters. This will continue throughout the winter.

Dumas is operating in the Huff Creek Block (6304) and the Quemini Block (6305) and will move to the Leonard Block (6306) for late fall/winter harvest. The brushing project for the Carp Road is completed.

2. IFA Report - Jeff Hinich

Jeff showed members present a few photos from the IFA field trip which he attended on behalf of the LCC.

Jeff reviewed his proposed recommendations to the KBM Audit Team:

- The LCC recommends that more time be spent in the field by the five year independent audit to better reflect the size and diversity of the forest;
- The LCC recommends that the independent audit suggest ways that LCCs can better reach their mandate of being “integral to the forest management process”;
- The LCC recommends that the five year audit share information from other mid-term and annual audits that may occur on the forest to gain better benchmark understanding within the five years.

Members discussed each proposed recommendation and decided to send the recommendations to KBM and copy the district Manager and Forest Management Planning Section.

ACTION: Kerry to draft the letter.

3. Communications - All Members

Art Osborne showed the members present a package he received from the Wildlands League entitled “More Than Trees”. There are a few brochures around that provide assistance to LCCs. Northwatch has an LCC Guide and MNR has a CD. Members discussed the training aspect for members and that the LCC should focus on training starting in January 2007.

ACTION: Ron to check out all the training packages that are currently available.

4. All Sector Reports - All

Bill Vanderburg mentioned an issue that was brought forward to him concerning the lack of outside issuers on St. Joe’s Island. Ron suggested Bill contact Joanie Rudzki at the MNR District Office.

6. LCC Budget - Ron Reffle

Ron handed out a copy of the expenditures to date.

Kerry asked the members present if they would like to support Envirothon similar to past years. Brad Jourdin made a motion that the LCC give \$500.00 to Envirothon. Motion seconded by Bill Vanderburg and carried by all members present.

ACTION: Ron to provide \$500.00 to Envirothon.

8. New Business

1. Kerry asked members if they have heard from Derek Rice. Since no one has heard from him then Deane can send MNR a note requesting an alternate member for his sector.
2. Ron provided members present with a copy of the new Great Outdoors Map which was produced by MITIG.
3. Ron reminded members of the Christmas LCC meeting on December 11th. Ron will send out a reminder notice prior to the meeting.
4. Ron advised members that Serge Tenaglia, former District Manager in Sault Ste. Marie died of cancer on Wednesday, November 15th. Serge was the Director of the Enforcement Branch for the last few years. The funeral service was last Saturday.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Andy Pedersen, seconded by all members. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, December 11th at the Gran Festa at 5:00 pm.**

Ron Reffle
Recording Secretary
Local Citizens' Committee
Attachments