

LOCAL CITIZENS' COMMITTEE MEETING
Sault Ste. Marie District
Monday, March 7, 2005 - 5:30 p.m.
Sartini Restaurant

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Art Osborne, interim chairman, called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 5:44 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were not required.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2005 MEETING

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

5. ACTION ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2005 MEETING

1. Art drafted the letter to the Minister's Council, received members input and Ron sent the letter.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

There was an email received from Tim Millard, secretary to the Minister's Council acknowledging receipt of the LCC letter stating that it would be considered by the Council. (copy attached)

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Current FMP Update - Jim Miller

Jim stated that the operations have the same status as the last meeting. Mike Thompson stated that the only change was that hauling on the Whitman Dam Road would be completed by today.

2. FMP Next Steps - Jim Miller

Jim stated that the plan was approved on February 24th and that the 30 day public inspection will be concluded on March 29th. Ron explained that the public have an opportunity during this 30 day inspection period to request an individual

environmental assessment of any or all parts of the FMP. This is referred to as a bump up. Even though the public inspection period is over on the 29th MOE could still receive a request after that date as long as it is dated March 29th or sooner. Therefore the start of AWS operations may be delayed until early April. A start date of April 1st only allows for 2 days for receipt of requests. MNR will determine the actual start date. **(NOTE: the date has been determined to be April 9th).**

Jim stated that he takes issue with the process since it is affecting real people both in the bush and at the mills.

Ron stated that there should have been a 45 day period after the 30 day public inspection period to allow MOE to make decisions on bump up requests. The plan was submitted to MNR on Feb.4th which compressed the balance of the process. It appears that there was a five week delay in final plan submission.

Lester Hopkins asked why was the plan submitted five weeks late. Jim stated that they worked on the plan for three years and 90% of the activities occurred in the last three months. He stated that there were too many "nice to do" required alterations from the MNR plan reviewers. He also stated that the Clergue made a tactical error in the application of the Natural Disturbance Pattern Emulation Guide (NDPEG) by laying out the detailed cut patterns. The planning team lost four weeks on this project.

Jim feels that the FMP process is not working and referenced a report by Bill Therriault indicating many recommendations to improve the process. (A copy of the draft report is attached to these minutes) Both Clergue and MNR will carryout a debriefing of the Algoma plan process at a later date.

Art Osborne asked if the LCC could be part of that debriefing. Both Jim and Ron indicated that it would take place between the two parties and the LCC would be advised of the results of the debriefing. Members commented that perhaps the amalgamation had some effect and that the FMP manual is too complicated.

3. *Communications Plan- All*

There was no discussion at this time.

6. *LCC Budget - Ron Reffle*

Ron handed out a copy of the latest expenditure report to all members present.

8. New Business

1. Ron handed out a copy of a written request from Peter Burtch requesting LCC financial support for a group of White Pines students to attend the Lake Superior Binational Youth Forum in Thunder Bay in May. This student group provides volunteer work under the Adopt-A-Beach program and has made a considerable effort at rehabilitating the grasses at Harmony Beach. They are looking for \$500.00 to assist them for transportation to Thunder Bay. Brad Jourdin made a motion to support the request, seconded by Don Hall. The motion was carried. The LCC would like some feedback from the

students when they return from their trip and also some recognition of the LCC contribution.

2. Art mentioned that there was a note on the EBR for the Proposed Changes to the Fisheries Management Zones For Ontario. He asked if this was something that the LCC would be interested in. Ron suggested that he could ask Andre Dupont, Algoma Area Biologist to attend a future LCC meeting to explain the changes.
3. Art also mentioned that there is a meeting in Sudbury called the "Northeastern Ontario Community and Regional Adjustment Forum" scheduled for March 17 and 18. It states that the purpose is to help communities to adjust to the loss of forest industry jobs. Art mentioned that there is an opportunity for people to attend and their travel costs could be paid for by another group. Call Art for details.
4. Art also mentioned the EBR notice for the Algoma Headwaters Signature Site Preliminary Strategy stage of public consultation.
5. Bill Vanderburg asked when the 2005 Hunting Regulations would be available. Ron said he would find out. (NOTE: they will be available in mid-April)

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mike Thompson, seconded by all members. Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, April 11th at the Sartini Restaurant at 5:30 pm.**

Ron Reffle
Recording Secretary
Local Citizens' Committee
Attachments