

LOCAL CITIZENS' COMMITTEE MEETING
Sault Ste. Marie District
Monday, May 9, 2005 - 5:30 p.m.
Sartini Restaurant

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made for the benefit of the guest speaker.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 2005 MEETING

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

5. ACTION ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 2005 MEETING

There were no action items.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Ron received and mailed out several letters including one from Trev Woods, District Manager, to each LCC member concerning the Ontario Biodiversity Strategy. The other letters were as follows:
2. A copy of the EBR Notice of Proposal for Policy on the Ontario Biodiversity Strategy.
3. A letter from Steve Dale, Operation Manager, Air-Dale Flying Service/Ontario Wilderness Vacations to Chris Caldwell, Project Manager, Algoma Headwaters Signature Site outlining Air-Dale's comments on the preliminary strategy for the site. This is intended as information only to the LCC members.
4. A letter from Vivienne Cote, President of the Sault and District Prospectors Association that Andy Pedersen provided. It is a response to an amendment proposal to the Superior Forest FMP and intended as information only to the LCC members.
5. A letter from Brad Jourdin, President and Chair of Legislative Committee Local 67 C.E.P. to the Honourable David Ramsay, Minister of Natural Resources outlining their concerns on the park planning process. This letter is intended as information only to the LCC members.

6. Ron also received and mailed out the notification on the 2005 LCC Northeast Regional forum to be held in Cochrane on September 16-18. If any members are planning to attend they should contact Ron to coordinate a group submission. Members attending will be responsible to coordinate their travel plans.

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Guest Speaker - Anne Harris - MNR Sr. Policy Advisor - Biodiversity Strategy

Anne made a presentation to the members present on the recent Biodiversity Strategy for the Ontario Government that is currently on the EBR for public comment. Anne's main points were that biodiversity conservation is not new direction for MNR; the commitment to biodiversity strengthens MNR's role in the protection of living things and reaffirms MNR's commitment to sustainability and the Ontario Biodiversity Strategy is an umbrella framework for current and new commitments of government, stakeholders and aboriginal people. The implementation of the strategy is a shared responsibility for all Ontarians and your leadership is important to achieving our goals. Anne handed out a copy of her presentation to members present and will the LCC posted on this project as it develops.

Allen Prodan thanked Anne for her presentation.

2. Current FMP Update - Tim Reece

Tim stated that operations south of the Montreal River are limited to hauling of previously cut wood. He informed members that Barry Henson (contractor for St. Marys Paper) will be moving his operations down from the Wawa portion of the Algoma Forest in late May/June to areas as outlined on a map that Tim handed out. The majority of these blocks are in the FMP but not in the 2005/06 AWS. Two of these blocks are in the FMP as contingency areas.

Clergue will be submitting an FMP amendment to exchange these contingency blocks with regular harvest blocks. Clergue will also apply for the appropriate AWS revisions at the same time.

3. Communications Plan- All

Jim Miller stated that the Envirothon event that was held on April 29th and 30th was another success. It was attended by 65 students with the Sir James Dunn group the local winners. Jim informed the LCC that their financial contribution was very much appreciated and helped make this event a success.

Art Osborne suggested that it would be a great opportunity to include the biodiversity messages into the Envirothon package.

Art also asked Ron to pass on the committee's appreciation to Trev Woods for his April 26th letter to the LCC requesting their comments on the Ontario Biodiversity Strategy.

4. LCC Budget - Ron Reffle

Ron stated that the 2005-06 funds have not been allocated as yet. A copy of the LCC Expenditure Report is attached to these minutes.

8. New Business

1. Allen Prodan mentioned that when he was in southern Ontario recently he was impressed with the private land forestry activities in the Simcoe area.
2. The members present discussed the schedule for summer meetings. The members felt that since this is a non planning year that summer meetings could be cancelled. A motion to cancel the meetings for June, July and August was made by Mike Thompson, seconded by Lise Vorlicek and carried by the majority of members present. Ron will keep members informed over the summer of any new developments and the committee may be required to meet if there are any proposals for minor or major amendments to the FMP.
3. Ron handed out MNR pens to each member present and asked members that, as volunteers, did they have any expectations of receiving gifts from MNR. All members present stated that they have no expectations of receiving anything for their volunteer work. Ron also asked if, as taxpayers, do they consider gifts, such as the pens that were handed out, as a waste of taxpayers' money. All members present consider this type of item as a show of appreciation for their work and did not matter whether they receive a gift or not. They do not consider it a waste of money and appreciate receiving the pen.
4. Ron was asked by several members to see if Geoff Meakin would be available as a guest speaker for the September meeting to discuss his role in the Minister's Council of Forestry. Peter Burtch stated that he could contact the coordinator from White Pines concerning their attendance at the Lake Superior Youth Forum.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Andy Pedersen, seconded by all members. Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, September 12th at the Sartini Restaurant at 5:30 pm.**

Ron Reffle
Recording Secretary
Local Citizens' Committee
Attachments