

LOCAL CITIZENS' COMMITTEE MEETING
Sault Ste. Marie District
Monday, November 8, 2004 - 5:30 p.m.
Sartini Restaurant

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Allen Prodan, Chairman called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 5:43 p.m. Prior to the meeting Allen Prodan was interviewed by Shaw TV. Jim Miller was interviewed later in the meeting. The interviews will be shown on Cable 10.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made for the benefit of Lester Hopkins who is the new primary member representing the trappers on the current Algoma Forest.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by all members present.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 18, 2004 MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Art Osborne, seconded by Jeff Hinich. Motion carried.

5. ACTION ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 18, 2004 MEETING

1. The sign project will be discussed under communications later tonight.
2. The Information Management Section is still discussing map options.
3. Jeff is still pursuing the guest columnist.
4. Arrangements for the December meeting are still ongoing. **(Meeting is now confirmed at the Gran Festa - see Agenda Item #10).**

6. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Ron handed out the notice for the "Forestry By The Numbers" workshop being organized by Northwatch. It will take place on November 26th in North Bay.
2. A letter from the Sault Ste. Marie Trappers Council was received nominating Lester Hopkins as their new primary representative.
3. A letter from Trevor Woods, District Manager, was sent to the Trappers Council appointing Mr. Hopkins as their new representative.

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Forest Certification - Jim Miller

Jim stated that the field portion of the FSC audit took place over the last week including the weekend. The audit team visited nearly every portion of the forest. The public meeting on November 2nd was very intense. They spent some time on site reviewing Kitty Lewis' concerns on her trapline including waste wood and debris on her trails. This morning the audit team met with company staff and stated that the forest is managed in a professional manner and they are generally satisfied but have some concerns. They will submit their report before April 1st. Jim stated that he will review their report and conditions with the LCC at that time.

Jim stated that the report will drive the current forest management practices to a higher level and cost the partner companies more money. It was very clear that the contractors cannot be expected to absorb more of these costs. It was also clear that the forest workers need some additional training on environmental awareness. There was also some discussion on First Nation participation in the planning process.

Allen Prodan and Jeff Hinich were on some of the audit tours. Jeff stated that the LCC should be formally involved in these certification audits.

2. Current FMP Update- Jim Miller

Jim handed out a copy of the AWS revision list. Gary Raines stated that there were no additional amendments to the current plan.

Current operations will progress until the wet weather forces a shutdown due to rutting.

3. LCC FMP Update - Jeff Hinich

Jeff handed out copies of his report on the October 27th planning meeting. He suggested that members review the List of Required Alterations. Gary Raines handed out copies to those members who expressed an interest.

Jeff is also requesting that if members have any comments on his draft LCC report they should contact him by mid December.

Jeff has been in contact with the new Wawa LCC rep, Mike Boudreau. They discussed the possibility of holding a meeting with both committees. Jeff will discuss this further with Mike.

4. FMP Next Steps -Jim Miller

Jim stated that staff are currently working on the List of Required Alterations and will resubmit the plan by the end of December. The public review period is over on December 11th after which MNR will package up the comments and forward to Clergue for their consideration in the redrafted plan. The plan will then go through a review

comparing the list of alterations and public concerns with the final plan. There is a need to provide adequate time to review the final plan prior to April 1st. The presentation to the Regional Director is scheduled for December 14th.

5. FMP Q's and A's - All

There were no additional questions at this time.

6. Communications Plan- All

Art mentioned that they are still researching the quotes for the sign project based on the discussion at the last meeting.

Art acknowledged the two letters to the editor that were attached to the minutes of the last meeting. One letter was written by Bill Vanderburg concerning hunting and fishing and the other was written by Don Hall on ATVs and the environment.

Ron stated that funds have been requested for the Sault College Awards. Once the cheque is received it will be sent to Don Hall to submit to the College.

Don Hall mentioned that he includes the LCC connection when he writes for the Sault Naturalist newsletter. The Sault Naturalists web page has a link to the LCC web site.

Art reminded members to use the LCC web site reference when appropriate.

Members are willing to financially support Envirothon once again as soon as Jim Miller outlines their needs.

7. LCC Budget - Ron Reffle

Ron handed out a copy of the LCC budget and expenditure report to all members present. The LCC is in good financial shape.

ACTION: Members to discuss the Outdoor Show at the next meeting.

8. New Business

1. Allen Prodan had requested some information on Bill 106 due to the recent newspaper articles accusing the Provincial Government of allowing foreign mills to be built in Ontario and buying up all the wood from local sources. Ron stated that Bill 106 included a change to the Crown Forest Sustainability Act (CFSA) that dropped the requirement of an applicant for a mill licence to prove that the new mill has a sustainable wood supply. Crown wood can only be allocated by the Minister of Natural Resources through a timer licence. Holders of a mill licence are required to tell the ministry where they are, how much wood they use and how much product they produce. The proposed amendment to the CFSA is a result of discussion with the U.S. Department of Commerce on the softwood lumber trade dispute. Coupled with the knowledge that no-one would finance a

mill that had no wood, the requirement to prove a sufficient wood supply is not necessary.

2. Art requested some information on the Environmental Commissioner's Annual Report concerning natural resources. Ron outlined several of the Commissioners' statements specifically on Environmental Assessment, Roadless Wilderness Areas, Old Growth Policy and Compliance System. A copy of that information is attached to these minutes.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Brad Jourdin, seconded by all members. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, December 6th** at the Gran Festa, 180 Bay Street in the Bay South Room at 5:00pm.

Ron Reffle
Recording Secretary
Local Citizens' Committee
Attachments