

LOCAL CITIZENS' COMMITTEE MEETING
Sault Ste. Marie District
Monday, May 13, 2002 - 5:30 p.m.
MNR DISTRICT OFFICE

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Michael Thompson, Chairman called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 5:32 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE April 8, 2002 MEETING

Kerry mentioned that in Item 7.1 (Regular Business) buffer zones are not the same as AOCs but are similar to them.

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Al Prodan seconded by Kerry Sinibaldi. Motion carried.

5. ACTION ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE April 8, 2002 MEETING

- 1) Ron was unable to arrange a biologist to come to the meeting to talk about the moose tag calculations. Both biologists were not back as yet.
- 2) Ron was to check on why Jeff Hinich received 3 copies of the audit. The MNR Main Office contact stated that the LCC does get a copy of the report once it has been approved by MNR, however, the report belongs to the Government so the LCC is not in a position to distribute the report beyond its members and it cannot be discussed outside of the committee until it is tabled in the House. Jeff returned 2 of the 3 copies to Ron.
- 3) Jim to arrange FMP training for new members. Will be discussed tonight.
- 4) Art to contact Shaw Cable. Since the moose tag discussion will not take place tonight, Shaw Cable declined to attend. Will discuss later tonight.

- 5) Don Hall was to check into the awards program at Sault College. Don could not make tonight's meeting but sent a note stating that he had the information and will be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- 1). Serge sent out a letter confirming Andy's appointment as the Primary rep for the Prospector's Association. The letter was attached to the members' mailout for tonight's meeting.

- 2). Ron received a package from the Wildlands League. It will be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. *FMP Update - Jim Miller*

Jim mentioned that Clergue has submitted a proposal to the MNR to amalgamate the Algoma Forest SFL and the Wawa Forest SFL. Jim provided a summary on an overhead (copy attached). The proposal is currently being reviewed by MNR. If approved, then it would be incorporated as part of the 2005-2010 FMP preparation starting this fall.

The proposal includes one planning team for the larger plan with a rep from each of the two LCCs. The Algoma LCC would only be expected to be familiar with the Algoma portion of the larger management unit.

If you have any comments on this proposal please provide them to Jim at the next meeting.

Jim reviewed the portion of the Independent Forest audit that made reference to the LCC. One member commented that our committee should consider having two members from the Tourism sector instead of one.

Other than some initial road building, there are no regular harvest operations going on at this time. Startup should commence in mid-June.

The yellow birch crop tree release has started up in Ryan Township. It covers about 56 hectares and is the first time in Ontario that this has been done on an operational level. This project is funded by the Forestry Futures Committee. Jim also provided some background on the Committee. Most of the trees removed are not merchantable and there is no heavy equipment involved. Selected trees are left on the ground in order to release the young birch.

There was a question at the last meeting concerning the effects of herbicides on standing water. Jim will contact an expert to provide a better answer to the question.

ACTION: Jim to provide an answer to the question concerning the effects of herbicide on standing water.

Jim and Kerry stated that the Family Tree Plant was attended by 150 people and went very well.

The operational tree plant will start on May 24th. The contractor is Outland and they will plant about 500,000 trees.

Jim also mentioned that the Timber Class EA proposal will be submitted by MNR to MOE on May 17th. This may impact the nature of LCCs.

Jim stated that he is attending a workshop on Emulating Natural Disturbances today and tomorrow here in the Soo. There are people from all over the world attending. The information from this workshop will filter down to the planning teams specific to the acceptable size of clearcuts.

Kerry mentioned that there are lots of washouts on most of the major forest access roads in the unit. They will be repaired but that will take place later in the summer. Just a caution to members if they are out on the unit to be prepared to dodge washouts.

Jim provided a report on the Clergue Health and Safety meeting which was attended by 140 contractors and staff. The focus was on new environmental rules and small business. Andy Pedersen attended.

2. *Communications Plan - Art Osborne*

Art briefed the members present on our communications initiatives. Some members are working on a presentation that LCC members can take to meetings and clubs. Also discussed was a suggestion to have a student from Sault College attend our meetings and provide the committee with the perspectives of a younger generation. This could be linked with the Collage Award that Don Hall is looking into.

ACTION: Art to discuss the above with Don Hall.

Shaw Cable may come to the next meeting. Members would be asked to identify themselves and state what area they represent. Shaw would also interview the chair and the MNR rep.

Art also mentioned that the Kiwanis Club is looking for a speaker to attend one of their meetings. Art will take the lead on this.

There was a general discussion on how members report back to their sectors/groups. It could be as simple as a brief update at a meeting or a short note in a newsletter.

ACTION: Each member will consider how they can get information to their groups/sectors that they represent.

Other topics included the LCC brochure from the Great Outdoor Show which Art will update with the names of the new members and the web site which will be updated on a continual basis.

Members discussed and agreed on the purchase of 500 business cards. Members can write their names on the cards when they hand them out.

ACTION: Art to order the business cards.

3. *District Update - Ron Reffle*

Due to the OPSEU strike there is no update.

4. *LCC Budget - Ron Reffle*

Due to the OPSEU strike the budget for this year has not as yet been received.

8. NEW BUSINESS

1). Meeting Locations

We were informed last week that we can no longer use the Bondar Building for after hours meetings.

There was a general discussion of other locations including the boardroom at St. Marys Paper, the Civic Centre, OFRI and renting hotel meeting rooms. Members agreed that a neutral site would be preferred and to look for free rooms if possible. Also discussed was the option to rotate meeting rooms after 3 or 4 meetings. Members present decided that the Civic Centre would be a good place to start.

ACTION: Ron to arrange for the next meeting at the Civic Centre.

2). FMP Training Session

Members discussed the option of replacing the June meeting with the FMP Training Session. It was agreed that the training session would take place separate from and prior to the next regular meeting. New members agreed that June 3, 2002 would be acceptable. Jim estimates that the session would take about 3 hours and we could hold it at the District Office. Other members are welcome to attend but Jim cautioned that they may not find it very interesting since it will cover topics that they are familiar with.

ACTION: New members should attend the FMP Training Session on June 3, 2002 at the MNR District Office at 6:30 pm. Sandwiches will be provided.

3). Forest Management Improvement Project

Jeff asked about the status of this project since he was a member of the group that dealt with LCCs. Jim mentioned that the report will be submitted with the MNR proposal to MOE for the Timber Class EA. MOE has 60 days to respond to the proposal.

ACTION: Jim to provide an update at the next meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lise Vorlicek, seconded by Brad Jourdin. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Monday June 10th at 5:30 pm at the Civic Centre in the Biggings Room, 3rd floor.**

NOTE: The Civic Centre DOES NOT ALLOW FOOD IN THE BUILDING AFTER HOURS so please ensure that you eat before the meeting or after the meeting.

Ron Reffle
Recording Secretary
Local Citizens' Committee

Attachments