

Muskrat Watershed Council



MUSKRAT WATERSHED COUNCIL (MWC)

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Online through Google Meets

June 18, 2020, 6:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order and Record of Attendance

The meeting of the Muskrat Watershed Council was called to order at 6:30 pm

Attendance:

Present: Karen Coulas, Rene Coulas, Erin Dolan, David Thomassin, Barbara Green, Jeff Reeves, Debbie MacDonald, Steve Saunders, Gerry Rook, Michael Gulliver

Regrets: Evelyn St. Amour, Vince Gervais, Karl Lauten, Marie Janick Robitaille, Andrea Bishop, Andy Laird, Megan Rae

Council Representatives Regrets: Claus Trost, Township of Laurentian Valley Township

Council Representative Regrets: Dave Mackay, Township of Whitewater Region,

2. Adoption of Agenda

Barb approved the agenda, Debbie seconded it.

Approval of previous minutes:

Rene approved the minutes first, Gerry seconded them.

3. Treasurer's Report

- See attached document
- The Bingo Hall will be considered part of Stage three for re-opening Ontario. We have no timeline or schedule as of now.

4. Director's Reports:

Agricultural Committee Update – Karen and Rene Coulas

- The Zeolite has been bagged up. It is ready for the project to start. **Action: Dave and Rene will get this started next week.**

Science Committee Update – David Thomassin

- Broad status update from Science meeting:
 - o Any governmental services / projects are shut down
 - o JP2G is open again, Algonquin College is running online, Whitewater Region is open next week
 - o The lab for the Edge testing is not currently open, so projects may be shifted until next year.

Communications & Media

- The grant proposal covering the continuation and adaptation of the Natural Edge Program in the Muskrat Watershed has been shared with Jim Lawrence. Megan heard word though from Watersheds Canada that the Ontario Trillium Foundation will be using this year's grow grant funding stream specifically for projects that help offset the impacts seen from COVID-19. Jim and Megan both agree that we should still move forward with writing the grant and project outline so that we are prepared if/when another funding opportunity should present itself.
- Microcystin Sampling Project Update: Over the last week, Julie Sylvestre and Megan visited the cottage owners participating in this year's Microcystin Sampling Project on Muskrat Lake. The purpose of the visits was to meet face-face with cottage owners, answer any of their questions or concerns, see the sampling sites and collect base-line water quality readings before the algae season begins. A microcystin sample was not taken at this time due to the limited amount of test strips and cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) concentrations taken at all visited sites were extremely low. It was safe to assume that if a microcystin test was taken, the results would be 0 or well under recommended standards. July 1st marks the beginning of the reporting season.

Tentative Social Media Schedule for June/July

Subject	Launch Date(s)
Tick Awareness Blog	June 19, 2020
Reopening of Cobden Beach	June 20, 2020
MWC Video Contest	Submissions accepted beginning June 25, 2020 and close August 3, 2020
Reshare of Is it OK to Swim in Muskrat Lake MWC article	June 22, 2020
OMECF Lake Sediment Report Summary Blog	July 3, 2020
What's Bubbling Down at Cobden Beach? (Aeration Project Reminder)	July 10, 2020
MWC Monthly Meeting Announcement	July 14, 2020

Fundraising Committee Update - Karen

- All money and grants is being put towards Covid-19 related needs at this point, so we don't have anything to apply for
- We could send out an email asking for people to pay their memberships. We could also mention the microcystin project and let people know what we are up to.

5. Old Business – Updates

- Karen contacted the MNRF about the beach mats that we want to lay out. They looked at our permits and we need to make an amendment. We are currently waiting for an answer.
- AGM update: We are in the process of figuring out how to vote through web meeting.

6. Other/New Business

- SEWG Group Workshop: We will look into this opportunity.

7. Next Meeting:

July 16, 2020

NOTE: WE WILL BE MEETING IN THE DOWNSTAIRS HALL WITH ENTRANCE AND PARKING THROUGH THE BACK (or online if needed).

8. Adjournment: 7:09PM

Minutes recorded and submitted by: _____

Erin Dolan, Secretary, Muskrat Watershed Council

Approved by: _____

Karen Coulas, Chair, Muskrat Watershed Council

Meeting May 21, 2020 - Scotia Account Balance

\$ 22,288.36

Business Chequing Account

Income

Expenses

Scotia monthly fee

\$ (8.00)

Total Income

\$ -

Total Expenses

\$ (8.00)

Current Amount in Scotia Account

\$ 22,280.36

(Note: Float \$240.60)

May 21st, 2020 - BMO Account Balance

\$ 4,666.02

SBCNA Charity Gaming Business Account

Income

Expenses

Maintenance Fee

\$ (2.50)

Total Income

\$ -

Total Expenses

\$ (2.50)

Current Amount in BMO Account

\$ 4,663.52