

Turtle Lake Watershed Partnership Minutes

Saturday, June 28, 2008
Turtle Lake Mission

Board Attendees: M. Swanson, B. Gourlay, B. Lukan, G. Wacker, J. Philip, D. Taylor, J. Cameron, Charles Bodnar, Jim Range, Terry Kotyk

Guests: Colleen Redekopp, Conservation Officer,
Spiritwood Field Office, Ministry of Environment, 306-883-8501

Trent Rafuse, Conservation Officer,
Meadow Lake Office, Ministry of Environment, 306-236-7558

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M.

Merv Swanson opened the meeting and welcomed the members and visitors. After introductions Merv reviewed the agenda and asked for any additional items.

Bob Gourlay read the minutes from the April 12, 2008 Board meeting and asked for errors or omissions. None were sited. Bob motioned the minutes be adopted as read, seconded by Don Taylor. Carried by a show of hands.

Financial Report

Bob Gourlay reported that the TLWI bank account as of May 31, 2008 was \$9,286.58. Bob asked if there were any questions and motioned the financial report be adopted as read. John Cameron seconded, motion carried by a show of hands.

Business Arising from minutes

Research on the Fuel Spillage Prevention Program

Don Taylor reported on some preliminary research he and Scott McRobbie conducted to review a fuel spillage prevention program. This program was being promoted in the US and within some jurisdictions in Canada Terry Kotyk suggested that we wait until the Last Mountain Lake group complete a full season of the program and we can benefit from their findings. The discussion then focused on the degree to which two-stroke engines contributed to water pollution. It was pointed out that the newer two-stroke engines have far lower levels of pollutants and comply with environmental protection regulations. Don proposed this item be tabled until the next board meeting and that was agreed to by all.

SNOWS Report

Terry reported that SNOWS is working on a Lakeshore Development Capacity policy. Gary Waker had volunteered to assist Terry in the development of this policy however no report was available for discussion at the meeting. Terry also reported that there had been a number of independent reports on acid rain caused by the Tar Sands project. Merv suggested that we have someone from SWA to talk to the board about the relationship between acid rain from the tars sands and any threat it might represent. Terry also proposed that TLWI Bulletin board be built to convey our message. This was tabled for discussion at a future meeting.

New Business

Director's Manuals

Bob Gourlay provided each of the Board members with a Director's Manual. The manual is a binder containing a variety of resource and reference information of importance to the Board Directors. Bob also reviewed the TLWI website resources page to show how reports, presentations, board minutes, photos and other related information had been archived so it could be retrieved by anyone at any time.

Environmental Protection Legislation and Enforcement

Colleen Redekopp, Conservation Officer, Spiritwood Field Office and Trent Rafuse, Conservation Officer, Meadow Lake Office, Ministry of Environment presented a review of the legislation that they enforce to protect the lake and shorelines. Most of the regulations fall within the Provincial Environmental Protection Act and the Federal Fisheries Act. As Conservation Officers they have the duty and authority to enforce both. Colleen reported that 90% of the inquiries that they receive are from the public, mostly related to people conducting work in, or near the water. Colleen and Trent provided a general overview of the nature and frequency of the offences in their jurisdiction.

2008 Annual General Meeting

The 2008 Annual General Meeting has been set for Saturday, July 26, 2008, 10:00 A.M. – Noon, at the Turtle Lake Mission. John Cameron volunteered to book the church and arrange for lunch. Ken Startup, the Public Health Inspector has been verified as a key note speaker.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

Next Board Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 6, 2008
10:00 A.M. – Noon
Turtle Lake Mission