

Turtle Lake Watershed Partnership Minutes

Saturday, April 27, 2009
Turtle Lake Mission

Board Attendees: M. Swanson, B. Gourlay, , J. Cameron, C. Davies , J. Range, T. Kotyk, G. Rozdilsky, G. Polinsky, G. Rozdilsky, D. Grant, S. McRobbie, B. Lukan, J. Phillip

Guests: Nancy Range, Guidance Counselor, Turtleford Community School.
Carlie Tollifson, Sarah Warrington, Evan Pavka – Turtleford School Volunteers

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 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 Sept. 6, 2008 Board meeting and asked for errors or omissions. No errors or omission were noted. Bob motioned the minutes be adopted as read. Seconded by Scott McRobbie. Carried by a show of hands.

Financial Report

Bob Gourlay reported that the TLWI bank account as of March 31, 2009 was \$9,463.36. Bob asked if there were any questions. Merv Swanson inquired as to the expenses since the Sept. 6 meeting. Bob reported \$378.22 of expenses that included: \$13.88 for 2008 AGM poster printing, \$25 for hall rental, \$329.34 for annual website hosting fees and \$10 for annual corporate registration fees.

Bob moved the financial report be adopted as read. Terry Kotyk seconded, motion carried by a show of hands.

Business Arising from minutes

Status of DFO Grant Application

Bob Gourlay reviewed a grant application for \$2,890.20 had been submitted in early March. The submission is for 50% of the costs of the 2009 initiative that were identified in the Sept. 6, 2008 board minutes. The DFO is expected to decide in May 2009 and Bob will notify the board via email once it is determined.

Status of 2009 Initiatives

Ice Fisher Survey – During February and March, volunteer students Carlie Tollifson, Sarah Warrington and Evan Pavka surveyed 85 ice fishers on Turtle Lake to determine the nature and degree of lake contaminants from these users.

The summary results of their research are as follows.

Q1 43% of those surveyed were aware of the TLWI and its mission

Q2 Those surveyed collectively rated themselves 3.8 out 4 in respect to their knowledge and efforts in preventing litter and toxic materials entering into the lake.

Q3 Those surveyed collectively rated other ice surface users 3.4 out 4 in respect to their knowledge and efforts in preventing litter and toxic materials entering into the lake.

There were a number of comments from those surveyed indicating that they felt day users without shacks were more likely to leave litter and campfire debris on the ice. Photographic evidence provided by the students supported this. In conclusion, litter left on the ice surface was minimal and those interviewed were co-operative and supportive of efforts to ensure a clean lake. A follow up survey is planned for the winter of 2010. Merv Swanson suggested a pocket calendar, produced by Saskatchewan Environment that includes information on keeping the lake and surrounds litter free be provided to interviewees. Merv volunteered to find out more about acquiring copies.

Beach & Loading Dock Signage – Merv Swanson presented the 15 Lake User and 9 Ice Fisher signs that were produced at a cost of \$1,900.80 at Pelican Signs. The signs were provided to Jim Range for assembly into frames that he and the volunteer students were building. Jim expected to have the signs and frames assembled for the next board meeting.

Educational pamphlet for lake property owners - Bob Gourlay reported that he had sourced a 3-fold, colour pamphlet based on the “On the Living Edge” handbook. Nature Saskatchewan provided 1,500 copies free of charge. The RM of Mervin and the village of Kivimaa – Moonlight Bay would be distributing the pamphlets with their spring newsletters. The RM of Parkdale will include the pamphlets in cottage owner tax notices.

President’s Letter & 2009 Membership Invoices – Merv Swanson presented a draft letter that will be included with the 2009 Membership invoices. The purpose of the letter is to thank the member organizations for their support and to let them know about the planned 2009 initiatives.

New Business

2009 Lakeshore Clean Up

George Rozdilsky led a discussion regarding the 2009 Lakeshore Clean Up. This year’s clean up will take place the week of June 29 – July 4, 2009. George will bring posters and materials to the June board meeting. Bob will update the website.

2009 AGM

The 2009 AGM will be held Saturday, July 18, 2009, 10.00 A.M. to noon, at the Turtle Lake Mission. Merv will approach someone from the Forest Management branch to present information about forest management practices and plans within the Turtle Lake drainage basin.

One Earth Farms Corp

Bob Gourlay presented an article from the March 27 Star-Phoenix about One Earth Farms Corp. The company will lease First Nations land (including the Thunderchild FN) on which to grow crops raise livestock and employ aboriginal workers. 18 First Nations in Alberta and Saskatchewan have agreed to lease portions of their land to One Earth, which plans to start seeding this spring. A discussion followed about the potential issues and impact to the lake. Very little is known at this time about the plans within the Thunderchild FN at this stage.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 P.M.

Next Board Meeting

Saturday, June 6, 2009

10:00 A.M. – Noon

Turtle Lake Mission