

Cornwall and Area Watershed Group
Meeting Minutes - November 17, 2009
Cornwall Town Hall Council Chambers

Present: Peter Meggs-Chair, Blair Trowbridge, Norman Dewar-Coordinator, Janet Luxton Dockendorff, Kay Larkin, Willard Foley, Michael Zinck, Dave Spence, Josh Lindsay, Victoria Doan, Ann Doucette, Dick Carson, Hilliard Muttart

Absent: Colin Cairns, Charles Kennedy, George Somers, Leslie Farnell, Paul MacDonald, Marlene Hunt, Dawn Watson, Jaan Ranne,

Guests: Candy MacDonald, Provincial Watershed Coordinator

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm with 14 persons in attendance. Peter Meggs chaired the meeting.

Approval of Agenda with addition of the update on the Watershed Alliance.

Approval of Minutes of the October 13, 2009 meeting.

Business Arising from Minutes

Ellen Creek and Wrights Creek Watershed Meetings

- o Peter reported on his attendance at the Ellen Creek and Wrights Creek watershed meetings.
- o Peter circulated a draft of the Ellen's Creek newsletter
- o Peter noted that Norman Dewar will move on shortly to work on the Ellen's Creek watershed plan

Finance Report

- o Blair reported the finances are in good shape and funds are available to support the open house in February.
- o Peter explained the background to the funding process.

- o Peter spoke about the Alliances work and its work and how CAWG will need to go through the same funding proposal this year as the province did not hire the provincial coordinators. The Alliance was in opposition to this item and the government is reviewing it.

Other Business

- o A question was raised by as to why the CAWG is not linked to the Town of Cornwall website. Peter replied that they will contact the Town and see if this can be changed.

- o The CAWG will hold a public open house meeting in February

- o A member identified that there was a problem of stream blockage on Hyde Creek starting near the Ferry Road

- o Peter noted the goal of CAWG is to work with the other local watershed groups in the city area. He did note that links to Town of Cornwall could be stronger.

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Watershed Coordinator's Report

- o Norman commented on the quality of the Hyde Creek Watershed Plan from 2000 and noted that while some issues have been addressed many items remain to be corrected. The objective will be to get more cleanup done on the Hyde Creek.
- o For the CAWG 2010 plan he met with key stakeholders
- o A public meeting will be held by March 2010
- o They hope to get brushmats in place in Hyde Creek below Brookside by June 2010
- o Blocked section of Hyde Creek south of the Trans-Canada Highway needs to be corrected
- o Work needs to be done to improve the riparian zone along the creek
- o CAWG needs to secure 2010 funding
- o Would welcome ideas to hold a child friendly event related to the watershed which will draw families and their children
- o Discussion followed on the Hyde Creek pond and past and possible future changes (ie hydro power, kayak course), CAWG is seeking ideas for future uses or development
- o Discussion about the watershed changes around the Newson property and recognition that the property owners are interested in changes along the creek portion of their property.
- o Group should work to identify where springs are located along the creek near the pond and work to clean up these areas.
- o Norman will followup with the Province for an assessment of the creek so work can be planned for 2010.
 - Q – has an aquatic life assessment been done
 - A- No, not yet
- o It was noted that if the stream was restored there is great potential for trout and salmon to return to the stream.
- o Discussion of areas that are flooding along the creek at times of heavy rains.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2010, December meeting originally scheduled will not take place.

Peter closed the meeting with a presentation to Norman and his wife on the birth of their son. Congratulations from everyone at the CAWG!

Minutes by Michael Zinck