

Nipissing Forest LCC Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2009
5.00 pm, MNR North Bay District Office

Present: Public at Large, Tracey Cain
Cottage owners, Dave Minden
Naturalists, Lorie Reed
Silvicultural Contractors, Andy Straughan
Local Cultural Heritage Groups, Roy Summers
Prospectors, Mining Industry, Aggregates, Frank Tagliamonte
Environmental Groups, Brennain Lloyd
Trails, Jennifer McCourt
Access Groups, Anglers and Hunters, Lloyd Anderson
MNR Nipissing Area Forester, Guylaine Thauvette
MNR Nipissing Area Supervisor, Randy Morrison
MNR District Planner, Rick Calhoun
MNR Forestry Technical Specialist, Randy McLaren
Recorder, Gail Laird

Regrets: Municipalities, Chris Mayne; Sustainable Forest Resource Licensee; Education; Independent Loggers; Tourist Industry; Trappers; Wood Workers and Trade Unions

Agenda:

1. 5:30 Call to Order/ Introductions – Tracey Cain (Co Chair)
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Review and Approval of Minutes of LCC meeting Tuesday, December 16, 2008
4. Proposed amendments to crown land use policy that affects the McConnell Lakes area – Rick Calhoun (30 minutes)
5. Compliance Updates – Randy McLaren (15 minutes)
6. Forest Management Planning Update (30 minutes)
 - 6.1 Issue Resolution Update
 - 6.2 Update on final plan submissions schedule – Mary Lou McKeen
 - 6.3 Overview of final plan presentation to the Regional Director - Lorie Reed
7. EDUCATION- The Geological Significance and Logging History of East Widdifield - Roy Summers (30 minutes)
8. Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) postings of interest - Brennain Lloyd
9. Correspondence
10. LCC Affairs/ what is on your mind?
11. Upcoming workshops/Events/Training
12. Next Meeting: February 17, 2009
13. Adjournment

1. Call to Order/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5.31 pm by this evening's chair, Tracey Cain. Round table introductions were performed.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Ric Hansel advised that he has outdated maps available for those who would like to have them.

3. Review and approval of Minutes of December 16, 2008 meeting

The minutes from December were approved as written.

The last changes to minutes from October and November were also approved as revised.

4. Proposed amendments to crown land use policy that affects the McConnell Lakes area – Rick Calhoun (30 minutes)

Rick Calhoun provided handouts of a summary of the proposed changes along with a map to indicate the current designations and the possible changes to be made within the McConnell Lakes area.

A general discussion was held, with Rick requesting the opinion of the LCC towards these proposed changes. He doesn't necessarily want the LCC to 'take a position' on the matter, but would greatly appreciate any thoughts and considerations regarding the matter. The basic question revolves around whether the MNR should consider new commercial tourism developments in the area. Further background information will be forwarded by email. As there was no agreement by the committee, a vote will be held at the next meeting.

5. Compliance Updates – Randy McLaren

Randy McLaren, Forestry Technician Specialist gave a presentation on the compliance updates for the Nipissing Forest. The PowerPoint information will be forwarded by email. If you have any questions or comments, please call Randy directly, 705 475 5606.

6. Forest Management Planning Update

6.1 Issue Resolution Update – Guylaine Thauvette

The North Bay District Manager was asked to review and make decisions on 2 FMP issues: concerns with log hauling on roads in the community of Restoule; and one licensee concerned with other licensees logging on what he considers to be his traditional harvesting area. Residents of Restoule have asked the MNR Northeast Regional Director to review the District Manager's decision. The Regional Director is scheduled to meet with residents in early February. He then has about 15 days to make a decision.

6.2 Update on final plan submission schedule – Guylaine Thauvette

The final 2009-2019 FMP cannot be submitted for MNR review until the Regional Director has made decisions on issues he has been requested to review. It is expected that the final plan will be submitted late in February. The 30-day public review of the approved plan should begin in early March.

6.3 Overview of final plan presentation to the Regional Director – Lorie Reed

There was a meeting on January 6 with the plan author, Mark Lockhart. The Regional Director has expressed that he is 'fairly happy' with the FMP.

7. The Geological Significance and Logging History of East Widdifield – Roy Summers

Roy handed out a map and photo collage as a 'teaser' for his presentation. This item will be moved to the March meeting, as February's agenda is quite heavy.

8. Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) Postings of interest – Brennain Lloyd

Brennain distributed the EBR postings from December 16, 2008 to January 18, 2009.

9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence at this time.

10. LCC Affairs – What's on your mind?

Tracey Cain advised that the inaugural meeting of the Near North Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Association (NNOWA) was held Monday, January 12, 2009.

Tracey also advised that the '13th Annual CIF/University of Toronto/Nipissing University forestry event'. The topic this year is 'Carbon Balance in the Forest', and will be held at Nipissing University with a field trip to The Ecology Centre in Mattawa. Further information will be forwarded by email.

11. Upcoming Workshops/Events/Training

Frank Tagliamonte will be scheduled to present a short talk about 'Modern Mining' at a future meeting.

In an expression of sympathy for the passing of Ronald McNutt, a condolence card will be forwarded to the McNutt Family on behalf of the LCC.

12. Next Meeting: February 17, 2009

13. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8.01 pm.