

Members Present:

Cal Patterson, Town of Wasaga Beach, Reg Cowan, Springwater Twp., Orville Brown, Clearview Township, Earl Hawkins, Mulmur Township, Mary Brett, Township of Adjala Tosorontio, Terry Dowdall, Essa Township, Fred Nix Town of Mono, Ron Henderson, Essa Township

Regrets: Rick Milne, Town of New Tecumseth , John McKean, Town of the Blue Mountains, Gordon Montgomery, Mulmur Township

Staff: Byron Wesson, Fred Dobbs, Sarah Campbell, Shannon Stephens, Greg Bray, Rick Grillmayer

Called to order at 10:30
Agenda was accepted
No pecuniary interests

1. Adoption of Agenda:

Moved by : Orville Brown

Seconded by: Terry Dowdall

Carried

An update by NVCA staff members included:

Fred Dobbs – The Lower Nottawasaga Improvement Program is on track for spring 2009. Volunteer tree plans are taking place within Town of the Blue Mountains, Town of Collingwood, Springwater Twp., Town of Wasaga Beach and Clearview Twp. Through the South Simcoe Streams initiative similar volunteer tree plants are happening in Town of New Tecumseth, Township of Adjala Tosorontio, Essa Township and Town of Innisfil.

Rick Grillmayer – our tree plant program is ready to break ground next week and by the 1st week of May we will have seen 90,000 trees gone into the ground. Through the Trees Ontario program we will likely see 150 thousand trees planted in 2011 and possibly 250 thousand by 2013. Staff continue to play a major role on the Trees Ontario Planning Committee. Garlic Mustard continues to spread throughout several of our CA's. For 2010 staff are proposing to initiate a spraying program within Tiffin as it now covers a 5 plus acre radius. Spraying would be done early in the year before the emergence of any wildflowers and thus avoid any damage to our native species.

Greg Bray – our Maple Syrup Education program was considered a success with over 1000 students participating. A newly established Volunteer Program for the Maple Syrup program proved to be invaluable. Staff were asked if there was any opportunities to produce syrup as all the equipment is on site. While most of the needs are there including trees and equipment we would have to depend on our volunteers to take the program up another notch. Staff will be looking into the feasibility of such a move.

Shannon Stephens - the new Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program has several grant opportunities for both residents and municipalities to assist in ensuring the protection of our drinking water. Shannon will be emailing this information to those interested and a complete outline of the program will be available in the near future.

Moved by: Terry Dowdall

Seconded by: Orville Brown

Carried

Given that staff have identified a need to revise the role of the Healthy Waters Review Committee to fulfill a public advisory and outreach function and to facilitate staff time constraints, the Land and Water Advisory Committee support the recommendation of staff as per the following conditions:

1. Committee Members would act as a technical resource and outreach intermediary between their organization/community and the program.
2. Members will be paid a per diem + mileage payment (if not already reimbursed):
 - meeting attendance
 - referral and attending a site visit (max of 4 per year)
3. 2 meetings per year:
 - 1 to overview projects done in the watershed
 - 1 to solicit program feedback, guideline revision, meeting/workshop requests.
4. Healthy Waters Projects would be approved by stewardship staff based on meeting project guidelines (staff would declare any conflict of interest, and hand-off approval to the Manager, in the event of total-staff conflict the committee would be used to review); and,

FURTHER THAT: This recommendation be forwarded to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Sarah Campbell – the Ducks Unlimited/NVCA partnership is well underway with 10 projects in various stages of approval/completion. Sarah noted to all members that technical and grant information for wetland projects is available to all landowners within the watershed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10