

## **Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee Minutes**

6:00p.m. September 20, 2017      Location: GCF, Geraldton

Recording Secretary: Melanie Shepherdson

<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Regrets</u></b>
Charlotte Bourdignon, MNRF Management Forester	*	
Amie Nephin, MNRF LCC Liaison		*
Melanie Shepherdson, Logistics	*	
Robin Kuzyk, MNRF Management Forester	*	

### **Members**

Bernie Baillargeon, Bear Management & Baitfish		*
Deanna Hoffman, Forest Management	*	
Dina Quenneville, Mining		*
Evan Armstrong, Chair/Facilitator, General Public	*	
Gary Selinger, Fishing/Hunting Interest	*	
George Horobec, Naturalist	*	
Hector Vincent, Crown Land Recreation	*	
James McPherson, Municipality of Greenstone	*	
Ken House, Cottaging	*	
Ken Stevens, Local Business	*	
Linda Beaulieu, Road Accessed Tourism		*
Louis Garon, Trapping		*
Remi Moreton, Remote Tourism		*
, AV Terrace Bay		
Vaughn Arsenault, Chamber of Commerce	*	
Denny Michano, Aboriginal		*

### **Alternates:**

Brent Henley, Remote Tourism	*	
Ed Hoffman, Forest Industry	*	
Eileen Johnson, Local Business	*	
Gerald Bolduc, Cottaging	*	
John Espinola, Road Accessed Tourism	*	
Len McEathron, Fishing/Hunting Interest		*
Jason Booth, Remote Tourism		*
Travis Vernier, Trapping		*
Brian Desrochers, Trapping	*	
Mona Wiltshire, Forest Management Nedaak	*	
Scott Koski, Forest Management Nedaak		*

### **1. Call to Order: 6:15**

- a) Welcome and Introductions

## 2. Review of Agenda

- a) Agenda accepted

## 3. Approval of Previous Minutes

- June 21st minutes were preapproved by email
- ACTION – Melanie to change Eileen Johnson's attendance to present for June 21 meeting - COMPLETE

## 4. Business Arising (Review of Action)

- a) ACTION : Evan to check GANRAC website usage the low volume usage of the website does not allow for researching or monitoring trends – ONGOING
- b) ACTION: Dave Barker will be communicating with Evan to see if notifications/map can be added to the GANRAC website -COMPLETE.
  - Dave responded with an email with an update of the bridge work in the area
  - Update was reviewed at meeting and decision was made to post the memo to the website upon approval from the MNRF
  - ACTION – Evan to include a qualifying statement to go with the memo so it can be posted on GANRAC website.
  - Q1- Before rails on bridges that were broken off were repaired within the year. Who is responsible for that?
  - A.1. – Previously it was the SFL holder, now that the forest belongs to crown the tax payers pay for the rails to be fixed as well as those who may be working in the forest i.e. Nedaak, AVTB and others. The bridges are not being repaired on an annual basis.
  - Bridge 5005 – is a temporary bridge that can be in place up to 7 years. There is no safety issue with the temporary bridge; however the goal is to replace it with a permanent bridge next year.
- c) ACTION: Robin to notify LCC when an auditing firm is awarded and inform LCC who auditor is so members are aware that they may be contacted by the company. –COMPLETE
- e) ACTION – LCC activity report needs to be completed to get into Ogoki FMP (Brian, Ken, Robin to lead, Evan to support) – COMPLETE – will be dealt with at appropriate time.
- f) ACTION – Amie and Robin working on Terms of Reference – ONGOING
  - Goal is to complete the Terms of Reference and distribute them to GANRAC members via email prior to next meeting and have them approved at next meeting.
  - All GANRAC member responses to the Terms of Reference Draft should have Evan cc'd on them
- h) ACTION- Charlotte to bring to meeting information on Aggregate Resource Act Amendment – COMPLETE

Some key changes to the ARA that have come into effect include:

- Maximum penalties of \$1,000,000 plus an additional \$100,000 for each day the offence continues, and the elimination of the minimum \$500 fine;
- Clarification that it is an offence to submit false or misleading information in a report or in information that is required under the Act, the regulations, a site plan or a licence or permit;
- Protection for inspectors, public servants, and the Minister from liability for any acts that they have done in good faith under the Act;
- Recognition of inspection notices/reports as one of the compliance tools used by MNRF inspectors.
  - Q.2 – Who are officers?
  - A.2 - Officers are assigned as an officer under the ACT

## 5. Financial Report:

- a) Financial report presented
  - \$500 from OMNRF for pamphlets has not been received, an invoice was just submitted
  - MNRF has a budget meeting on Thursday September 21 to finalize budget for this quarter
  - ACTON – Charlotte and Robin add to budget meeting agenda a line discussion to see if Evan should submit a request for funds over and above the annual operating expense for this year.
  - MNRF will cover the cost of both LCC representatives for the Ogoki FMP Planning Activities.
  - Evan motion to approve financial report. Motioned seconded by Ed. Approved.

## 6. Correspondence

- a. Lorraine Zawierucha – Re: missing Adopt an Access Sign
  - Discussion on history of vandalism of signs and steps taken by GANRAC members to inform public of Adopt an Access Program in hopes that it would decrease vandalism
  - ACTON – Evan to reword letter on GANRAC website concerning Adopt an Access so that it can be printed in the newspaper
  - ACTION – Evan to confirm if he ever put the notice in the newspaper
- b. Robin email concerning the extension asking if Ken and Brian would be the LCC reps for the Ogoki FMP planning team
  - i. Evan circulated proposal for review and received comments
  - ii. Extension proposal was approved by Regional Director
  - iii. Issue resolution by October 26, 2017
- c. Kandyd IFA pre-meeting email
- d. Road Closure Map
  - Sent out in mail this week
  - Catlonite Road closed to repair Taylors Bridge Oct. 2 to the 15<sup>th</sup>.
- e. Letter from Greenstone District Trapper's Council
  - AGM meeting last week
  - Louis Garon stepped down as President, new president is Brian Desrochers
  - Brian will become the main member in LCC and the Trapper Council supports that motion

## 7. New Business

- a. Pre-Audit Web-Ex (Kandyd/Robin)



Ogoki\_GANRAC\_sept  
20\_2017\_revised.ppt

- Merin Forest Management, Kandyd is the lead auditor
- Poster and online survey approved to go on the website (refer to slide 10 of presentation)
- ACTON –Evan to put poster with survey link on the website
- ACTION – Kandyd to email survey link to GANRAC members to distribute to other members of community with interest in Ogoki Forest
- Invite LCC representatives on the Field Trip on October 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Suggested that Brain and Ken go by Evan to prepare for FMP planning
    - Jamie and Ed interested in going
    - All LCC members who are interested in going can contact Robin via email
    - Charlotte to reserve MNRF trucks for field trip
- Will be a road trip, finances and the late start to process made helicopter and fixed wing options not suitable for this audit
- Still in planning stages where/how far into the forest the audit will go
- Require LCC feedback on any issues/information that auditors may benefit from prior the audit, how does LCC members want to be contacted

- No additional LCC meeting on October 25, instead Merin Forest Management will contact LCC members by phone
- LCC members who would like to discuss audit prior to the Field trip date (Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>) should email Robin with a time window that would best time for Merin to contact them
- Discussed the poster and newspaper ad proposed by Kandyd to advertise doing the survey
  - Members think the poster and Ad's Header and content need to be reworked to catch the public's interest so they read ad and go do the survey i.e. Do you care in the Ogoki Forest? Or Do you have an interest in the Ogoki Forest
  - Still looks to government style needs to be in more layman's words
  - Maybe a catch interest and guide people to GANRAC website with survey and full disclosure of what the IFA and survey is about
  - People liked the newspaper ad more than the poster
  - Ways to get the message out to the public include:
    - 6.a....1. Geraldton Times Star Paper (Pietsch Group Ltd.)
    - 6.a....2. Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal
    - 6.a....3. CFNO
    - 6.a....4. Coffee Talk (Master Print)
    - 6.a....5. Astrocom Cable

**b. Kenogami Update (Charlotte)**


- Treptow bridge
  - Bridge has been deemed unsafe by Engineers and recommendation will be to post the bridge for no use
  - Decision has not been made about the bridge in the long-term due to there being site prep behind the bridge with machines
  - The LCC would like to remain informed on this due to the importance of this bridge

**c. Ogoki IFA Presentation (Robin)**

- Audit contract awarded to Merin Forest Management (based in North Bay, ON) on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- Field Audit week: October 23<sup>rd</sup> to October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Tentative meeting date with GANRAC during field audit: October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**d. Ogoki FMP Extension (Robin)**

- FMP Extension proposal was circulated to GANRAC and FN communities July 12<sup>th</sup> for a 30-day review period ending August 11<sup>th</sup>.
- No issues raised, there was general support for the FMPE.
- The FMPE proposal was approved by RD August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- The FMP is being prepared (it is completed) and letters are being mailed out September 26<sup>th</sup> to notify public (Ogoki mail-list) of the opportunity to review the draft FMPE (15 day review period starting September 26<sup>th</sup>, until October 11, 2017).
- Last day to request Issue Resolution is October 26<sup>th</sup> (15 days after the 15 day comment period).
- Required revisions made to draft FMPE by November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- Regional Resources Manager considers all comments and certifies FMPE (week of November 10<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>)
- RD approval would be November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017; Public notice (newspaper, mail-out) to advise the FMPE is available for inspection – December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

- FMPE implementation would be April 1, 2018.
- e. **2020 – 2030 Ogoki FMP (Robin)**
- GFMI was awarded the FMP contract
  - Draft PCI was submitted to FIPortal on September 15, 2017
  - Invitation to Participate letters will be sent out October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
  - In the process of compiling all other required background information prior to I to P. Information will be made available at the GFMI office and both Nipigon and Geraldton MNRF offices.
- f. **2017-2018 AWS Operations (Robin)**
- Harvest in Maxon Lake block (ML-8) and Dog Lake South (DLS 1 and 4)
  - Road ROW clearing in Richment East block
  - Repairs to G12 complete
  - Repairs to G1 and G3 ongoing.
- g. **Membership Review (Evan)**
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- Membership Sept  
20th 2017.xls
- h.
- Group reviewed and discussed attendance to meeting for the past year
  - Group members noted that attendance would be better if meetings were scheduled and confirmed with more than 2 weeks-notice and more consistency to scheduling of meetings
  - Identified members who have been absent due to life constraints and will be more in attendance in the future
  - Gary Emms – handed in his resignation
  - Hector – absent in winter therefore will become alternate for his representation, Ken Stevens will become the main member representing Crown Land Recreation
  - Eileen will take over main member for Local Business
  - Tom Grosse has resigned
  - Louis Garon resigned move Brian Desrochers to main LCC representative.
  - Len McEathron resigned
  - AVTB representation – Ryan will let us know if they have a replacement shortly
    - Also still looking for an Ogoki Forest representative
  - Motion by Evan to accept the New Membership Committee Plan, seconded by Ed. Approved
  - Evan has contacted possible candidates to join the group
  - **ACTION – Brian Desrochers to contact Glen Jones to see if interested in joining LCC**
  - Other possible candidate Bob Brunet
  - **ACTION – Amie to contact people who may be interested in the Indigenous representation category**
- i. **Nedaak Update (Deanna)**
- Site prep. half of program done
    - $\frac{3}{4}$  of area from one contractor's area is behind Treptow bridge to date – planting next year

- Planning to ensure we can get slash piled/aligned in winter harvest areas.
- Manual cleaning job on Balkam Block (7-8 guys) tried this year – 36 ha completed
- Depletions completed. Annual report to be completed by November 15<sup>th</sup>
- Draft harvest operations maps out for 18/19 annual work schedule for review by Licencees
- FN communities will receive an AWS information session (6 FN communities will be visited)
- Compliance harvest Spot checks being done
- Seasonal staff finished for year, Nick Wesley stayed on and is working with Shawn Lawson on prescriptions
- Amendment coming for FMP-18 (Roads table). Changes to wording around those operational roads that are no longer used for forest operations that will be decommissioned and transferred on an ongoing basis.

j. **Kenogami Amendment (Mona)**

- Reinstating aggregate pit 1-8 at Chapman that was 'turned off' between Phase 1 and Phase 2 FMP's

Located off Wintering/Goldfield road, off Cable road (Mile 22 Goldfield)

- Preclassified as administrative amendment
- The two stakeholders have been contacted: BMA holder and one trapper (found out the Trapper is no longer licenced)
- Aggregate is rehabilitated where last used, AVTB is interested in the undeveloped area
- As Chapman road is build, it is hoped that more aggregate area is found closer to the construction area
- The aggregate pit will be rehabilitated after its limited use
- This is information only does not need LCC to vote on the amendment

k. **Forest Industry Update (Ed)**

- Little Stone Block
- Second pass on Woodcock Block
- Still operating in Little Stone for another month

l. **Ask a Conservation Officer (Evan)**

- Correspondence – Can frozen smelt be used in Zone 7?



Frozen Smelt.pdf

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- Q.3 – Are there two conservation officers in Geraldton Area?
- A.3 – Yes.

8. **Minor Items**

- Brochures
  - Brent Henley has a supply at his office as does MNRF if someone requires them
- District Stocking List is now a Nipigon District Stocking List vs. a Geraldton Area Stocking List
  - Does not include size of fish put into the lakes
  - If you want more information than what is provided on the Stocking list go to Fish Online
- Thank you to Charlotte and everyone involved in the Field trip on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Although the weather was miserable Charlotte and the rest of the guides made the tour enjoyable and memorable. Thank you (Eileen Johnston)
- Retirees and letters/token of appreciation
  - Louis Garon did not want a token but would accept a letter

- Tom Grosse and Gary Emms will receive a letter
- . Hector proposed that Len receive a gift from the committee, it was suggested a gift certificate from Wayne's Esso. ACTION – Evan to prepare letters, etc.
- Long Lake Trout status
  - ACTION – Ask Phil Wilson to do a presentation or speak about the trout status

**Next meeting:** November 1, 2017 will be a supper meeting

**Adjourned:** 9:06 p.m. Motioned by Ed. Seconded by Eileen. Approved

**ACTION ITEMS:**

4 a)	<b>ACTION: Evan to check website viewer usage and report back to committee.</b>
4 b)	<b>ACTION – Evan to ask Dave for qualifying statement to go with the bridge work memo so it can be posted on GANRAC website.</b>
4 f)	<b>Amie and Robin working on Terms of Reference – ONGOING</b>
6 a)	<b>ACTION – Evan to reword letter on GANRAC website concerning Adopt an Access so that it can be printed in the newspaper</b>
7 a)	<b>ACTION –Evan to put IFA poster with survey link on the website</b>
7 a)	<b>ACTION – Kandyd to email survey link to GANRAC members to distribute to other members of community with interest in Ogoki Forest</b>
7 g)	<b>ACTION – Brian Desrochers to contact Glen James to see if interested in joining LCC</b>
7 g)	<b>ACTION – Amie to contact people who may be interested in the Indigenous representation category</b>
8	<b>ACTION – Evan to look at Len's service attendance to see if a letter or token of appreciation would be more appropriate</b>
8	<b>ACTION – Ask Phil Wilson to do a presentation or speak about the trout status</b>

**Minutes prepared by: Melanie Shepherdson**