**Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee Minutes  
6:00pm February 9th, 2022 – Microsoft Teams Meeting**

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| MEMBER | PRESENT | REGRETS |
| Allan Gordon, Greenstone Metis Council |  | X |
| Bernie Baillargeon, Bear Management & Baitfish |  | X |
| Brian Desrochers, Trapping | X |  |
| Bob Baycroft, Fishing/Hunting Interest | X |  |
| Deanna Hoffman, Forest Management | X |  |
| Ed Hoffman, Forest Industry | X |  |
| Evan Armstrong, General Public | X |  |
| James McPherson, Municipality of Greenstone | X |  |
| Jason Booth, Remote Tourism |  | X |
| John Espinola, Road Accessed Tourism |  | X |
| Ken House, Cottaging | X |  |
| Ken Stevens, Crown Land Recreation | X |  |
| Rob Haslam, Naturalist |  | x |
| Vaughn Arsenault, Chamber of Commerce | X |  |
| Yvette Metansinine, Aboriginals |  | x |
| VACANT, Local Business |  |  |
| VACANT, Forest Industry Ogoki |  |  |
| VACANT, Mining |  |  |
| ALTERNATES |  |  |
| Brent Henley, Remote Tourism | X |  |
| Eileen Johnson, Local Business | X |  |
| Kellie Chippett, Forest Industry |  | X |
| Renald Beaulieu, Municipality of Greenstone |  | X |
| Scott Koski, Forest Management |  | X |
| Sean Antonson, Trapping |  | X |
| Steve Thuerig, Naturalist | X |  |
| Tanya Couture, Crown Land Recreation |  | X |
| VACANT, Aboriginals |  |  |
| VACANT, General Public |  |  |
| VACANT, Cottaging |  |  |
| VACANT, Road Accessed Tourism |  |  |
| MNRF |  |  |
| Amie Nephin, MNRF LCC Liaison |  | X |
| Nicole Gross, MNRF LCC Logistics | x |  |
| Charlotte Bourdignon, MNRF Forester, Kenogami | X |  |
| Leal Strain, A/Resource Management Supervisor |  | x |
| Philip Wilson, MNRF Biologist |  | X |
| Charles Brooks, Conservation Officer |  | X |
| Tara Rooney, MNRF Forester, Ogoki | X |  |
| Taylor Hall, Forester Intern | x |  |
| **GUESTS** |  |  |
| Megan Paddy | X |  |
| Paul MacInnis | X |  |
| Don McKinnon | x |  |
| Qasim Saddique | x |  |
| Daniel Martin | X |  |
| Isabel Gannon | X |  |

**1. Call to Order and Introductions – 6:00pm**

**2. Marten Falls Community Access Road Presentation – Don McKinnon Dillon Consulting Ltd./Qasim Saddique)**



* Don noted that this is a project lead by the community and separate from Northern Road Link to the Ring of Fire.
* Have not been able to collect information for Aroland yet has they have not worked out a communication protocol.
* Jamie noted that it is a huge task ahead and inquired as to receiving a copy of the presentation. He asked Nedaak if there would be a possibility that roads would be moving making route shorter in the next AWS.
* Deanna indicated that the FMP roads go to the NE and that there is no anticipation that there would be any significant changes to AWS.
* Presentation will be provided to members.
* Jamie identified the potential of increase to traffic through Greenstone/Geraldton and that he wants to ensure that the Municipality will be involved. He would like that they be included on the Contact list for consultation.
* Don ensured that the Municipality would be involved and would be included on the Contact List.
* Evan asked whether the list would be part of the presentation provided. As well the LCC would like to remain on that list.
* Paul advised that everyone would be kept updated and that there will be a lot going on in Geraldton. The list will be provided as well as the link to the MFCAR website. The website includes all the updates. [January 2022 Update – Marten Falls First Nation (martenfallsaccessroad.ca)](http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/2022/01/28/january-2022/)



**3. FSC Presentation – Daniel Martin/Isabel Gannon**



* Any feedback, both positive and negative is encouraged
* 4 ENGOS launched a complaint against the certificate. It is not a complainant on the forest; however, it questions their auditing ability. There is also a question as to a perceived lack of consultation.
* Caribou is an indicator in FSC standards.
* ENGOs were invited [consulted with] in the FMP process, but are now paying more attention because of the FSC.
* Dominique Lesard is the auditor.
* Evan asked how the auditor will contact GANRAC. Isabel advised that she has the contact information from Deanna.
* Evan asked if any of the membership has been contacted by individuals. Charlotte has however not as a GANRAC member.
* Isabelle asked how the committee would like to be engaged. Steve Thuerig asked what type of a time commitment this could be or can one person be assigned.
* Evan advised Isabelle that the group meets once a month unless otherwise necessary and that depending on the length of the final auditor’s presentation would be a separate meeting could be arranged. Isabelle believes it should be held outside of a scheduled GANRAC meeting.
* Jamie is disappointed that Daniel is surprised by the engo’s. At the original FSC presentation he had questioned whether the conservation area was enough. It appeared that most identified at the time was tied to First Nation values. What is the expectation?
* Daniel said the areas are being challenged NOT the amount of area. The 200-year deferral areas being challenged as well as the fact that they did not use the WWF enduring features assessment. They chose to utilize the MNR data.
* Deana advised they will be looking at the areas again. There is an expectation of a 10% minimum total conservation, and they gave 13.8%. It is unknown whether or not this will change.
* Jamie commented that they have been given somewhat of a challenge and appreciate their efforts.
* Involving First Nation in the process is first and foremost and want to work with GANRAC due to the diversified membership.
* Evan stated that Rob Haslam isn’t present at this meeting, however, has expressed concern about conservation reserves in the past.
* Daniel advised that this is about enduring features at a landscape level and not just about protecting certain trails and roads.
* Charlotte questioned whether the two additions to reserves (ATRs) are considered an enduring feature as there are disturbances in both of these already. Daniel said that it is not up to him to make that recommendation, however if the committee feels it needs to be looked at it may be a consideration.
* Isabelle indicated that a meeting regarding enduring features could be held in March prior to the LCC April/May meeting
* It was agreed by the group that this should be done. Possibly a sub-committee could be formed and present at the LCC April/May meeting
* Deanna indicated that they had nothing more to add. She stated that the group are the people who live, work, and play here and have the best input.
* Evan asked whose names were on the Engo’s. Isabelle advised that they are not informed, and the information is not made public. Daniel did say that one is an American group that no one has heard about.

**4. Review of the Agenda –** No changes required.

**5. Approval of Previous Minutes (January 12th, 2022, Meeting)**

* Except for some grammatical changes **Moved to accept: Evan**

**Seconded: Bob**

**6. Business Arising from Previous Minutes (Review of action items from**

**January 12th Meeting)**

* **ACTION ITEM 3.c: Advise LCC members of Resolution decision.**
* Charlotte discussed Resolution decision.
* Eileen found it hard to believe that all of the trees would be affected by salt.

**7. Correspondence – Evan**

* Emails sent around from Megan Reddy regarding tonight’s’ presentation. Discussion with group was had.

**8. New Business**

**1. Kenogami Operations Update**

**(a) Kenogami Update – Charlotte**

* Ogwiidachiwaning signed as SFL holder in August. There was no GM for awhile, however with Isabel being assigned as Interim GM we have been able to move forward.
* They are now working on infrastructure, getting LUP’s and other items before they are fully operational.

**(b) Kenogami amendment 2022-002 notification update(Deanna/Rob)**

* Comments have been received regarding the 002-2021 update (bridging)
* Rob will run the portage trail in early June and arrangements with Deanna to meet on the site will be made.

**2. Ogoki Operations Update (Tara)**

* Tara will be looking for a Forestry Industry Representative for the Ogoki FMP.

**3. Nedaak Operations Update (Deanna)**

* Working on the final AWS changes
* Nedaak is slash piling on the Watini/Singing Road and moving to Wilgar to pile areas that Lecours has harvested this winter.
* They will be hiring office administration [rtdpm as well as Silviculture assistants(4months) and silviculture Interns (normally high school students for 2 months).

**4. AV Terrace Bay operations Update (Kellie)**

* Hauling out of Watini/Singing and Old Selwyn.

**5. Columbia Forest Products Operations Update (Ed)**

* Not operating on the forest at this time.

**9. Open Discussion**

**Forest Stewardship Council**

* Evan inquired as to the certification process
* Deana advised that there is a 3rd Party verification process
* Steve explained that there is a Chain of custody certification (forest to mill) and is a Forest Level of certification
* Charlotte advised that Independent Forest Audits is another auditing tool that is used to help reach certification. Kenogami Forest was due for an Audit in 2022. It is scheduled, however doesn’t look like it will be completed.
* The FSC Certification Logo is what you will find on Kleenex boxes, or toilet paper packages and lets the consumer know that the product has come from a company that has passed all requirements of the FSC.
* Jamie asked if James Harrison is involved in the certification process
* James is with the Forestry Futures Trust (FFT) Committee.

**Snow Stations**

* Snow depth to date is greater than the 50 year average

**Other**

* The local Chamber of Commerce has been put on hold. Vaughn can no longer be a representative in that capacity. Evan asked if he would be willing to be the Alternate representing Cottaging. Vaughn agreed to put his name forward. The group supported this change.
* Evan indicated that Clark Brown expressed interest in sitting on committee supporting Fishing and Hunting Interests. Evan asked if all agreed to have him sit as Alternate to Bob Baycroft. All were in agreement.
* Discussed the possibility of recording Teams meetings. Jamie indicated that it works well.
* Evan asked for comments on the need to keep the Website or to use Facebook as the subscription ends next week. Brian thinks that for transparency’s sake we should keep it.
* Steve’s’ concern with Facebook is the fact that disgruntled forest users can use that platform to bring in negativity.
* Ken stated that websites are out, other platforms like Tik Tok and Instagram are the more popular.
* Charlotte suggested LinkedIn as a possibility.
* Eileen suggested we let it ride for another year and see if we come up with an alternate solution.
* All were in favour of renewing website for another year.
* Eileen suggested that a sub-committee meet and find a solution.
* Evan asked that members take a look at the website to see if there are ways to simplify it and get back to him.

**Next Meeting**

* **April 13th, 2022 6PM – VIA teams**

**Adjournment: 8:45 pm Motion: Ed; Seconded: Bob**