

**POCKWOCK WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes – October 19, 2017 10:00 am
2 Park Avenue, Lower Sackville
Halifax Water Conference Room

Attendance:

Jeff Brown (JeB), Forestry TechnicianDepartment of Natural Resources (DNR)
Barry Geddes (BG), (*Vice Chair*) Watershed Manager.....Halifax Water
Rachel Gilbert (RG), Manager of Planning Services.....East Hants Municipality (EH)
Andrew Houlihan (AH), Supervisor, J.D. Kline WS PlantHalifax Water
Dawn MacNeill (DM), Watershed PlannerNova Scotia Environment (NSE)
Anna McCarron (AM), (*Secretary*) Source Water PlannerHalifax Water
Cyril McDonald (CM), Community ResidentMount Uniacke
Tim O’Brien (TO), (*Chair*) Crown Forester.....Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Heather Olivella (HO), Protected AreasNova Scotia Environment (NSE)

Regrets:

Reid Campbell (RC), P. Eng., Director of Water Services.....Halifax Water
Jillanna Brown (JiB), P. Eng.....Nova Scotia Environment (NSE)

Guests:

Dewey Dunnington (DD).....Dalhousie University
Mack McMenemy (MM).....Lake Major Resident
Richard Pickrill (RP), Community Representative.....Collin’s Park Watershed Advisory Committee
Ian Spooner (IS), Earth and Environmental Science Professor.....Acadia University



Pockwock Watershed Management Committee Meeting called to order by Chair (TO)

Action

1. Attendance / Introductions (11:15am):

- AM and BG distributed copies of:
 - a. Meeting Agenda
 - b. DRAFT March 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes
- Regrets expressed (listed above); and
- Quorum noted.

2. Lake Sediment Core Sampling Presentation (See separate attachment)

3. Old Business:

a. Review of March 2, 2017 Minutes and Action Items:

- Appointment of Special Constable Status (SCS):
 - Training completed week of May 2, 2016;
 - Allows Halifax Water to enforce *Protected Water Area Regulations* under Section 106 of the *Environment Act*; and
 - Halifax Water still needs to be appointed SCS by NSE; however, the MOU is awaiting NSE's signature.

Action: NSE to sign MOU. JiB to inquire with NSE to see where it is in process.

Action: BG to follow up with JiB on where NSE is in the process with MOU.

Motion: to accept the March 2, 2017 Minutes (BG)

- Motion Seconded (CM)
- Minutes approved by Committee.

b. Proposed Protected Wilderness Area update:

- Pockwock Watershed *PWA* Protected Area (PA) officially designated as a Wilderness Area. Roads are excluded;
- A License to Operate (LO) has been signed between Halifax Water and NSE Protected Areas Branch.
- The LO allows Halifax Water to carry out business related to the operation of the water supply.
- HO informed the Committee that a boundary sign-management strategy is being developed for Pockwock. NSE is legally required to sign the boundary.
- BG asked for the signs to be installed along the boundary of the wilderness area and not at the entrance to Pockwock. The concern is that if the signs are placed near the entrance to the watershed, this will promote the wilderness area for recreational purposes, which is not the intent of the Pockwock Wilderness Area.

Action: NSE to develop sign strategy for Pockwock WA.

**JiB
BG**

HO

	<u>Action</u>
<p><i>Q: Why is recreation allowed by the province in Protected Areas? (RG)</i></p> <p><i>A: The primary purpose of a PA is to protect biodiversity and to maintain natural undisturbed areas; a secondary purpose is education and recreation. (HO)</i></p> <p><i>Q: Who should be contacted to ask whether recreation can be added as a use? For example the use of ATV's. (CM)</i></p> <p><i>A: If one is interested in adding such a use within a WA, this would be done during the consultation process before the WA is designated. (HO)</i></p> <p>c. Resource Management Update</p> <p>i. Forest update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads: BG would like to share road brushing costs along the North and West Pockwock access Road; • Bridges: BG will need the bridges along the north and west access roads reassessed. Bridge cost-share between Halifax Water and DNR is pending bridge assessment; and <p>ii. Water Quality updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geosmin update: detectable limits began in July and have continued to the present. Limits reached 12 mg/L, but dropped off. Suspect it will be below detection limits within the next month. • Lake Recovery Research: in progress, nothing to report at this time. 	
<p>4. New Business:</p> <p>a. <u>Request for an update on restrictions on West Lake (CM):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Lake falls outside of Pockwock PWA; therefore, there are no specific PWA regulations that apply. • It is a myth that Pockwock PWA regulations apply to West Lake. 	
<p>Action: BG to assist CM to create a “fact or fiction” information bulletin dispelling the myth that Halifax Water regulates West Lake or has the authority under the Pockwock Watershed PWA Regulations</p>	BG/CM
<p>5. Landowner Q&A:</p> <p><i>Q: Inquiry about building a house close to Fifteen Minute Lake in the Mount Uniacke Area. What restrictions if any would prohibit that? (CM)</i></p> <p><i>A: Halifax Water has no authority in this area. The restrictions would be limited by the MEH land use by-laws. (BG)</i></p> <p><i>Q: Do you ever communicate with NSTIR as a landowner in Pockwock? (DM)</i></p> <p><i>A: Not in the last few years. (BG)</i></p>	
<p>6. East Hants Planning and Development Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public meetings being scheduled for 2018 in regards to the new land use by-law setbacks around lakeshore properties. 	

- Brochures will be attached to building permits regarding good building practices.

Action

7. Education and awareness

- Halifax Water attended the *Kids in the Forest* held on May 10, 2017.
- Discovery Centre needs to be visited to determine the progress of the Water Gallery.

8. Election of Officers

- Due October 2018.

9. Next Meeting:

- March 8, 2018 at 10:00am.
- Location: 2 Park Ave., Lower Sackville, Halifax Water Office Boardroom

10. Adjournment

- 12:00 pm

Tim O'Brien – Chair

Barry Geddes – Vice Chair

Anna McCarron – Secretary