



Thames River Clear Water Revival
Steering Committee Meeting # 6
DRAFT MINUTES

HOST: Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
DATE: **Wednesday September 5th, 2012**
LOCATION: Watershed Conservation Centre – 1424 Clarke Road, London Ontario
TIME: 900AM – 12PM (Lunch, snacks and drinks provided)
CHAIR: Jason Wintermute
PURPOSE: **Finalize TOR for Water Management Plan**

Confirmed Attendees:

Tara Tchir	Dan McDonald
Jason Wintermute	James Jenkins
Pat Donnelly	Rob Wallis
Daniel Deleary	Ted Briggs
Jenn Richards	Trevor Robak

Regrets:

Chris Harrington	Mary Ellen Scanlon
Tom Copeland	Luca Cargnelli
Dave Richards	April Varewyck
Ian Kerr	Oneida Councillor (TBD)
Lareina Rising	

1. WELCOME AND REVIEW OF AGENDA

- A. Introductions (new members, guests)
- Welcome to Jenn Richards (nee Esberg) who is the Lake Erie COA Coordinator from OMNR, and to Trevor Robak who is the Divisional Program Specialist in the Program Services Section, Environment from OMFRA
- B. Additions to September 5th agenda
- Tara moved item 9 (technical working group members) to follow item 5

2. MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 2012 MEETING (attached)

- A. Errors or omissions
- It was decided that the role of the Steering Committee is to provide direction to the overall strategy and components of the strategy, rather than provide peer review, or identify and prioritize specific tasks of short duration for the technical working group. **Tara changed the June 19th, 2012 minutes to reflect this.**
- B. Review outstanding action items (Table 1)
- **Tara reviewed the action items and will update the summary tables.**
 - The steering committee decided that a stronger link to the Great Lakes is needed in the document, as well as some discussion around the Thames River watershed

as a Geographically Focused Initiative. **Ted Briggs, Mary Ellen and Jenn Esberg will provide some wording around this to be incorporated into the Watershed Strategy Charter and the Terms of Reference for components of the Watershed Strategy.**

- **Ted and Mary Ellen will lead a presentation on Ontario's Draft Great Lakes Strategy and Protection Act, emphasizing linkages to the Thames River Watershed.**
- **Tara corrected the spelling of "Chatham"**

3. TERMINOLOGY

A. The overarching initiative for the Thames River is to be called:

THAMES RIVER CLEARWATER REVIVAL - WATERSHED STRATEGY

- The Watershed Strategy follows a high level project "Charter" that will identify various "components" of the strategy. The components addressed under the umbrella of the Charter will be directed by separate Terms of Reference. Note the change in terms from "phases" to "components".
- Two components that are currently being developed are:
 - i. First Nation Engagement Strategy
 - ii. Water Management Plan
- Future components of the Watershed Strategy will be determined by the steering Committee and reflect the priorities at that time (note: many ideas came forward from the Charettes)

B. The management plan is to be called:

THAMES RIVER CLEARWATER REVIVAL – WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

- A Terms of Reference (TOR) is being developed to determine the scope of the management plan, which is intended to be the document that updates the 1975 Thames River Basin, Water Management Study.

C. Graphic:

- **A graphic will be developed to show the relationship between the Watershed Strategy, the various components of the strategy and how the strategy fits with bigger initiatives such as the Provincial Great Lakes Strategy**

D. Communications

- The "Clearwater Revival" heading and logo, including Jeremiah the bullfrog, is the overall label for marketing, communication, education and awareness. It is intended to be the recognizable look and feel for the entire initiative, including both the broad watershed strategy and the specific components.
- It was decided that the UTRCA would lead a team consisting of both CA staff and other communications staff to develop the communications plan for the overall Watershed Strategy and, by extension, the various components. It

should consider the options and ideas that arise from the bullfrog and CWR headings.

- **Tara will attach the letterhead to all documents produced for the Watershed Strategy (e.g. minutes, agenda, etc.)**

4. REVIEW OF DRAFT VERSION 2 OF THAMES RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

- **Tara reviewed the management plan and will incorporate comments provided by the steering committee into Draft 3.**

5. GREAT LAKES GUARDIAN FUND

A. Discuss possible proposal for this fund

- It was agreed that the development of the charter and / or the management plan does not fit the objectives of the Guardian Fund as the fund is to support applied work such as on the ground initiatives by community groups, and not planning work.

B. Discuss Geographically Focused Initiative (GFI) opportunity

- The Thames River has been identified as a potential GFI. **The committee agreed that we should put this topic on the agenda and if the GL Protection Act passes, then we may consider making a formal request for the Thames River watershed to be identified as a GFI.**

6. TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN) UPDATE (Tara)

A. Recommended agency representatives

AGENCY / GROUP	REPRESENTATIVES
UTRCA	Karen Maaskant (quality), Mark Shifflet (quantity), Mark Helston (quantity), Brad Glasman (BMP), Craig Merkley (BMP), Philip Simm (GIS), Terry Chapman (GIS), Imtiaz Shah (quantity and quality), Mahmoud Pejam (modeling)
LTVCA	Jason Wintermute (quantity / quality)
EC	Sandra George (quality)
MOE (Ian Kerr to determine)	
MNR	Dave Richards (BMP)
OMAFRA	Gabrielle Ferguson (BMP – LT)
City of London (Tom and Pat to determine)	Richard Todd (pollution control), plus 1-2 others
First Nations (contingent on funding for capacity)	Naomi Williams (WIFN), April Varewyck (Oneida)
Consultants / Academics	Chris Smart (UWO)
Communications	Teresa Hollingsworth (UTRCA), Bonnie Carey (LTVCA)

- **The steering committee agreed to review Draft 3 of the TOR for the Water Management Plan and identify other individuals for this table**

7. WEBSITE

- A. Discuss components of the website
 - It was decided that the focus of the website will be for the overall watershed strategy and that **Tara would draft a list of items to be reviewed by the steering committee.** It was also decided that the website should be kept simple.

8. FIRST NATIONS DIVERSITY COMMITTEE UPDATE (James)

- A. Awareness session on June 28th and possible future awareness sessions
 - Value in possibly hosting another session. Tara to look into costs and Lareina to look into funding
- B. Creative Communities Prosperity Fund
 - Application was submitted by SFNS to fund mapping projects and land use studies within First Nation communities. Some of the money will also be used for some First Nation communities to participate in the TRCWR and build capacity to do so.
 - **James agreed to share the application with the steering committee** so that members can see what items are being funded, and to help with using the fund as leverage for other funding opportunities.
- C. Draft Engagement Strategy
 - **It is hoped that a Draft Engagement Strategy can be provided to the steering committee before the end of 2012.**
- D. Next Meeting
 - The First Nation Engagement Committee is meeting in the afternoon (Wednesday September 5th, 1 – 3pm) to further develop the strategy.

9. MUNICIPALITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE (Pat)

- A. Summary of activity
 - June 26 Tara and Pat met with Marsha Coyne, Senior Planner from Chatham - Kent who would like to be kept informed of the strategy. She is available to participate in a municipal engagement committee, but cannot devote time at the steering committee level
 - Oct 9 Pat and Tom to meet with Oxford County Engineering
 - Pat plans to update those municipalities who have participated in previous Charette events from Middlesex and Perth Counties, as well as Woodstock and Stratford, before contacting the remaining Elgin municipalities

10. OTHER BUSINESS / NEXT STEPS

- A. Decide on date, purpose, and chair of next meeting
 - Chris Harrington will chair the next meeting to be held at the end of October / early November at Walpole Island First Nation

11. CLOSING REMARKS

- **Tara to incorporate changes to Draft 3 of the Water Management Plan at least 2 weeks prior to next meeting with the intent of incorporating everyone's comments.** Gentle prodding is encouraged to get feedback in a timely manner.

