TRCWR Municipal / Conservation Authority Committee Minutes Nov 10, 2021 at 1pm (virtual meeting)

ATTENDEES:

Eleanor Heagy (UTRCA)
Jason Lehouillier (MECP)
Jason Wintermute (LTVCA)
Mark Peacock (LTVCA)
Marta Soucek (MECP)
Pat Donnelly (COL)
Tara Tchir (UTRCA)

Purpose of Meeting:

- Determine how to support the implementation and tracking of the recommendations in the SWA
- Determine how to broaden participation of other municipalities in the delivery of the recommendations

Summary of Discussion

- New Conservation Authorities Act requires Conservation Authorities to develop
 watershed based resource management strategy for purpose of negotiating with
 municipalities. Both LTVCA and UTRCA are using the SWA as a key document to
 develop strategies. The SWA includes much of what the CAs want to achieve.
- It is also important to discuss SWA with municipalities outside of the CA's approach.
 Pat can talk directly with counterparts in other municipalities. London has climate
 change action plan; makes sense to discuss with neighbouring municipalities and
 throughout the watershed. What other initiatives do municipalities have that the SWA
 may tie into? Chatham Kent has natural heritage update. Municipality of Lakeshore
 has SAR strategy.
- There are several routes to engage with municipalities CA Act changes, climate change action, potential to engage with First Nations.
- Need to identify SWA recommendations that don't fit into the CAs' outreach and determine which municipalities would be engaged in those activities.
- Chatham-Kent has new staff person focused on environmental programs who may be interested in joining this committee. Mark P has discussed SWA with him and he's quite interested.
- Develop time table of five or six actions that we would like municipalities to consider and track. Some municipalities may interpret recommendations differently.
- What is role of First Nations in governance of the river?
- We also need to be able to add and track new issues, e.g., algae blooms in lower Thames.

ACTION: Tara/Eleanor will send Pat list of municipal recommendations from SWA ACTION: Mark P will meet with Tracy A (UTRCA) in next couple of weeks regarding timeline for municipal meetings and joining this municipal committee.

ACTION: Pat will draft list of municipalities and key staff contacts.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 8, 10-11 am