

Notes of a Meeting between Sherbrooke Lake Stewardship Committee

Held virtually via Microsoft Teams

Tuesday, 09 March, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.

Attendance

Garth Bangay (Chair)

Mike Morrison

William Baldrige

Robin Mcadam

Staff:

Bill Schurman, Director of Recreation, MODL

Chad Haughn, Director of Community Development & Recreation, MODC

Sandra Challis, Administrative Assistant

Regrets:

Melanie Kingsburg, Coastal Action

The purpose of the meeting was to receive input and have discussion around the proposed PowerPoint presentation for MODL and MODC to ask for funding for the Pilot Cyanobacteria monitoring project.

Coastal Action was unable to join the meeting but had seen the presentation and provided positive comments on the content.

The following suggestions were made:

- Slide 1 – Add “Monitoring Program” after Cyanobacteria.
- New Slide 2 – Provide topographical map of the lake.
- Slide 2 – Indicate on image the proposed Park Access site.
- Slide 4 – Bill/Chad would provide a short overview of the SLSC in their introduction, perhaps providing a copy of the Committee’s Terms of Reference in advance.
- Slide 5 - Replace “last summers” with “Summer 2020”.
- Slide 6 – Update laboratory name with correct company.
- Slide 7 – Remove sediment sites and update with proposed sampling points. These are to be determined by CA and SLSC, discussion has begun, but not finalized.
- Slide 8 – Change alignment.
- Slide 9 – Suggestions to change bullet two to “the recent rapid change and growth and frequency of algal blooms” or “the regular and increasing appearance of algal blooms”.
- Slide 10 – Editorial changes.
- New Slide 11 – Health Effects change list to “can include”. The purpose of this slide is to highlight *why* NSE may issue and advisory.
- Slide 11 – No changes.
- Slide 12 – No changes.

- Slide 13 – This slide is quite critical of the Province but does state the facts around the issuance of last year’s advisory – no lab testing was done to lift the advisory, and there was a lack of communication and education around the advisory. It was noted that care should be taken on how this message is portrayed, Cameron from NSE had been invited to attend the Council presentations also, and there should be a desire to show the collaborative working relationships that are being developed. Highlight how NSE’s advisory process could be improved with the algae data, which would benefit lake users. It would be important to have NSE review the presentation, so they are aware of content in advance and advise if there is anything that raises concerns for NSE.
- Slide 14 – Modify bullets regarding communication to the public, and perhaps provide the “one-pager” to Councils for information. Could add bullet regarding future communications strategy. Discussion was held around “door knocker” advertising that has been very effective for the LaHave Straight Pipes project for MODL.
- Slide 15 – Could incorporate MODL funding the probe which is not conditional on financial support from MODC, 50/50 would be the suggestion.

Other Items:

- Communications Strategy – this may need approval from both Councils. Both Communications Officers would be involved and the Mayor/Warden and Councillors from the districts should be made aware of the messaging.
- SLSC should prepare for a planning meeting for both sampling program (involving CA) and communications strategy.
- Bill to confirm to Garth date/time of MODL Council presentation (April 13th), and the date when the “package” needs to be supplied.
- Garth to contact Chad to get on MODC’s Council agenda, hopefully early April.