

Sherbrooke Lake Stewardship Committee

Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 7:00pm

Parkdale/Maplewood Community Centre

Attendees: Garth, Blake, Sarah, Shanna, Robin, Terry, Tissy, Chad

Volunteers: Mike Morrison, Hugh Harper, John Fraser, Tim Mader

Regrets: Mat

Business Arising from Minutes

- **Tissy to forward DFO's Task Hazard Analysis and Safe Operating Procedures information to committee**
- **Shanna to include DFO's Task Hazard Analysis and Safe Operating Procedures to volunteer package**
- Shanna sent 2018 program design to DOE – confirmation from them that it looks good. Be careful not to collect water near boat motor
- Clarification on the extra coverage for volunteers – what is covered? **Tissy to look into this – more clarity on property damage, liability**
- Shanna to add where these methods have been adopted from – add that it is a living document, changing and adapting
- Water Testing – when a test comes back negative, MODL will be responsible for arranging for a re-test and paying for the follow up test.
- If the test comes back poor, with a safety concern to users and residents, MODL will communicate with lake residents by direct mail, social media and signage on site to advise of the public health concerns
- Public Awareness – committee would like to inform residents of the program, what to look for, who to contact with concerns/questions. **Robin will draft communication and send to committee. Tissy will have MODL Communications Officer review and put through our communication channels**
- **Tissy to address volunteer thank you letters for signature from MODL/MODC and send out**

Review Water Quality Monitoring Program

- Challenges/Feedback:
 - Tributary sampling – wind would blow boat into the rocks
 - Forties River – couldn't get in far enough because of the rocks
 - Logistically, is getting lake samples easier by car and accessing tributaries? Zwicker brook is accessible by foot
 - Discussion around proposed changes to gathering stream samples. The lake sites and Chl 1 and 2 sites remain the same, so only the stream sites will be affected.

- For the streams, follow these directions:
 - Zwicker brook will remain being accessed by boat, then volunteers can go up and dock near Pine Lake Brook and hike up to that inlet. They'll then have to get in their cars and take the Sherbrooke Camp Road to get to Butler Lake Brook, ensuring to go to the beach and hiking a little upstream to catch the inlet. Then they can take Forties Road and sample downstream below the bridge for Sherbrooke River. They can access Gully River by using Oak Tree Road (staying left) and going until the end of the road. There should be a cabin with the river running behind it – they'll hike slightly upstream to sample the river. They'll need to sample downstream below a bridge (or off the bridge if water is high enough) on River Road to capture the Forties River. Finally, they'll need to sample downstream of a bridge on Turner Point Drive for the Peter Veinot Brook.
 - **Sarah will update the program to reflect these changes**
- Keep samples until next morning and deliver lab to the next morning
- One sampling after heavy rainfall of 7 inlet streams is required – kit is at BCAF ready to go. Needs be completed within 24 hours of event. Need an accurate measurement of the precipitation. BCAF has rain gauge at their office (electronic) but would benefit from having someone on the lake measure.
- **Shanna and Sarah to provide access locations**
- Who is the team that will perform this test? Needs to act quickly (drive to Lunenburg, pick up kit, and back to perform testing)
- App: Weather underground – check it out
- Lesson Learned: everything went perfectly, went to Lake 3 (public access) where water was only 3.5 feet, lost o-ring when putting YSI probe away. Found it after a nice swim. **Add instruction in the manual**
- Ensure lab signs chain of custody forms when dropping off tests
- What is the time delay between taking samples and getting it on ice to bring down to the required 10 degrees? It is built into the methods to account for this delay. This temperature inhibits growth, bacteria can't grow.
- Put samples on ice as soon as they are taken, unless you are putting them in the fridge overnight. If sitting in the cooler overnight, you want to add water to the ice to ensure the bottle is surrounded. A fridge is preferred. DO NOT put it in the freezer.
- GPS was not user-friendly. Volunteers can use their own GPS if more comfortable. Added instructions to the YSI kit.
- Extensive forestry operations that could affect Forties River and Pine Lake. Sarah contacted the DOE and they are responsible for the buffer around the lake. They can investigate the release of substance, which we are measuring.
- These sites were flagged after testing last year to monitor for low pH. Many biological and physical factors to consider, however outside the scope of this committee.
- Communication:
 - The Municipality is supporting this program because public access could have an impact on the water quality. These samples will provide a baseline.
 - The committee has a responsibility to communicate

- Comprehensive 2-page report for community would be beneficial. Technical reports are difficult for people to understand
- Lahave River Watershed Report Card – 4-page document for public education. Shanna/Sarah could look to do something similar for this project.
- Send out general information about water quality program; website for information; generate an email list. Put signs at each lake access road for people to see, generate stewardship among residents would be a good idea
- Final report could be complete by late November, early December. Need to present results to both councils.
- Volunteer recruitment could be a result of sharing information either in a public meeting or through homeowner's association
- Information could be shared through BCAF Social Media
- Quarterly Municipal Matters; BCAF has a quarterly newsletter; MODC has a newsletter as well – get information in those
- Sarah has been contacted by Swim Guide asking for results. We would need permission from councils.
- Committee Membership:
 - **Tissy to look up committee members terms and circulate**
 - Advertise for membership in September
 - Approval by October
- Volunteer Training
 - Offer another training session for new volunteers in July
 - BCAF will lead the training
 - **Garth and Sarah to find a date that works with volunteers**

Motion to adjourn – Moved by Blake, seconded by Terry. Motion carried –9:01pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 27 at 7:00pm