

RMAC

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 c/o, 62 Queen Street, P.O. Box 190, Blind River, ON P0R 1B0
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www.northshoreforestmac.org

Thursday, September 22, 2011– 6:00 pm- Order of the Golden Wing Hall, Blind River, Ontario

Sector	Primary Member	P/A	Alternate Member	P/A	
Municipal Assoc. / Chamber of Commerce	Todd Stencill	A	V A C A N T		MNR Staff: Kirk Dillabough - MNR Area Supervisor Marty Blake - MNR District Manager Salli Watson - MNR recording secretary Guests: Norm Iles -Northshore Forest Inc. Observer - c.c. - Paul Leale - MNR - Espanola - Marg Carruthers - MNR - SSM - Michael Young - MNR - BR - Jim Trottier MNR - Blind River - Mark Galsworthy - NSIFA Inc. - Brennain Lloyd - Northwatch
Blind River Trappers Council	Robin Horwath	A	Brian Whelan	P	
Independent Loggers	René Fabris	A	Paul Wyatt	A	
Cottagers Association	Mary Demers	P	Peter Hausenblas	P	
Forest Industry	Martin Thistel	P			
Non-Timber Forest Products	Wayne Carnahan	P	J.J. Roy	A	
Educators	Marie Murphy-Foran	A	Raymond Ansley	P	
Mining	J.P. Pruneau	A			
Baitfish Harvesters	Dave Rajotte	P			
Commercial Tourism	Tim Jensen	A	James Allan	A	
Public	Cathy Clement	P	Beryl Clarke	P	
Naturalists	Ginny Post	A	VACANT		
Anglers & Hunters	Bill Riddle	P	Chuck Anderson	P	
Crown Land Recreationists	Jack Cavanagh	A	VACANT		
Trade Union	Heather Foran	P			

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of This Agenda and Minutes of June 23, 2011 meeting
3. Business Arising from Minutes
4. Regular Business:
 - a) Northshore Forest Inc. Update – Norm Iles
 - b) Review Response to RMAC's FMZ10 letter - René
 - c) 2011 Independent Forest Audit Review Survey - Kirk
 - c) District Manager's Update
5. Members Items:
 - a) Fishing Licences – Beryl
 - b) Bears – Beryl
 - c) Rocky Island Lake – Beryl
 - d) Mississagi River Water Levels – Cathy
 - e) Campers over 21 days - Cathy
6. Adjournment at 8:00 p.m.

"Providing Advice and Helping In The Management of Our Natural Resources"

MINUTES
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, September 22, 2011
Order of the Golden Wing Hall, Blind River, ON

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to order was at 6:30 pm, Heather Foran, chair (see attached attendance sheet for all present/absent).

Round table introductions were made as MNR District Manager, Marty Blake was in attendance.

René Fabris Absent, Mary motioned Heather Foran act as chair of the meeting tonight, 2nd by Dave Rajotte, carried.

2. APPROVAL OF This AGENDA with members' items added below. Motion to approve June 23, 2011 minutes by Mary, 2nd by Wayne, carried.

- a) Fishing Licences - Beryl
- b) Bears - Beryl
- c) Rocky Island Lake - Beryl
- d) Mississagi River Water Levels - Cathy
- e) Campers over 21 days - Cathy

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

ACTION: Vegetation Workshop for RMAC - Michael Young or Kirk will be looking into this

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

a) Northshore Forest Inc. Update - Norm Isles/Bill Moryto

- Regular update -see attached

b) Review Response to RMAC's FMZ10 letter - Kirk (sent to René Fabris, Chair)

- See copy of letter attached (also hooking mortality)

- Dave Rajotte expressed concern about MNR fish netting practices.

- Kirk explained the difference between Spring/Fall littoral index netting and the Broad Scale monitoring netting. The Littoral index netting has very little mortality whereas the broad scale netting is almost 100% mortality as it is essential to our science to gather ALL data from the fish which requires mortality.

- Marty Blake also explained that what we are seeing with people upset about the Lake Trout slot size is comparable to the FMP (Forest Management Plan) - people don't take notice until it is "in their backyard".

- Marty would like to see RMAC keep the comments coming from their groups they represent and both MNR and the public will be better equipped to make future plans/recommendations next time around.
- Chuck Anderson explained to the committee that MNR did in fact hold public meetings, and the public was solicited to make comments either directly to MNR or on the EBR (Environmental Bill of Rights) website.

ACTION: RMAC to read the response and attachments and come prepared to discuss at next meeting Oct. 27, 2011.

ACTION: Salli to include previous presentation on Lake Trout Objectives Strategies with these minutes.

ACTION: Kirk to check if MNR biologist can come to next meeting to discuss.

c) 2011 Independent Forest Audit Review Survey - Kirk

- RMAC and MNR representatives all agreed the survey was incomprehensible to the committee, and in fact designed for a Forester's input.
- Marty said he is writing a letter to the author of the survey on behalf of the Algoma LCC asking for the survey to be written in a more comprehensible manner for LCCs to understand.
- RMAC welcomed Marty to do the same for RMAC.

ACTION: Marty to write letter to the author of the survey to request a more comprehensible format for the committees.

d) District Manager's Update - Marty Blake

1. Marty gave a brief outline of his career with MNR which started in the Blind River District.
2. MNR has several Renewable Energy projects in the works. The Algoma side is mainly wind power and the Northshore side is mainly water power.
3. Endangered Species Act is creating a workload and is a district priority, i.e. Wood Turtles, Sturgeon, Red Sided Dace, etc., as well as Flora species.
4. Sault Ste. Marie manages 2 Forests - The Algoma and the Northshore Forests.
5. The district also continues to work on regular programs, i.e. Lands, Fish & Wildlife which includes Bearwise. Coyotes are increasingly coming to the forefront.
6. The October 6th election could mean a different government.
7. This past year has seen the busiest Fire season in 20 years for the Province. 650,000 ha. burned.

5. **MEMBERS ITEMS**

1. Fishing Licences - Beryl
 - Beryl asked if she requires a fishing licence now that she is 65 years old. No.
2. Bears - Beryl wanted an update on Bearwise
 - Kirk said reports were down on the Northshore side of the District this year which could be attributed to a good food source this year - lots of berries.
 - Cathy asked who monitors the bear baiters to ensure they clean up their baiting sites when they are done. The Conservation Officers can be contacted: Dave Hamlin (705)356-3012 or Pete Descoteaux (705)356-3005 or the MNR TIPS line: 1-877-847-7667.
3. Rocky Island Lake Water Level - Beryl wanted an update
 - Kirk said Brookfield operated in compliance this year. The Spring meeting between MNR and the Company may have had a positive effect as well as this year's rainfall was more than last year.
4. Mississagi River Water Level - Cathy brought pictures of the Mississagi River near the Rapid River marker on Hwy. 129 which showed you could practically walk across the river.

ACTION: Kirk to look into this and report back for next meeting.

5. Campers Staying 21+ days - Cathy reported campers staying several months along the Little White River near the bridge close to Hwy. 639. She is quite concerned about what they do with their sewage/grey water, and the damage to the area.

ACTION: Kirk to bring to Enforcement's attention.

6. Camps being Vandalized - Brian Whelan
 - Brian said his camp was broken into as well as many others in the area. He just wanted to bring this to RMAC's attention and for everyone to be aware.

6. **ADJOURNMENT at 8:00 p.m.**

Motion to adjourn by Beryl, 2nd by Mary, carried.

The next RMAC meeting will be in Blind River, Thursday, October 27, 2011- 6:00 p.m. Order of the Golden Wing Hall. Please RSVP to Salli ASAP , Thanks.

Salli Watson, Recording Secretary, RMAC
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c.c. :

Lynn Moreau, Serpent River First Nation
Kerri Commanda, Serpent River First Nation
Doug Bisailon, Thessalon First Nation
Keith Sayers, Mississauga First Nation
Robina Kitchemokman, Whitefish River First Nation