

Join Zoom Meeting

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Meeting ID: 818 8643 9548 Passcode: 225026

1. Land Acknowledgement: We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishnaabe and the Mississauga people.
2. Roll call (Barbara Mallory has resigned): Melanie Jeffrey, Jennifer Ghent-Fuller, Al Last, Carl Mitchell, Lynda Jean Taylor, Tony Best, Nick Ryeland. Regrets: Susan Adamson, Axy Leighl, Sheila Hardie.
3. Motion to accept November 11 2021 minutes:
 1. Motion: Carl
 2. Seconded by: Linda - Passed
4. Motion to accept the "second Thursday dates for 2021 meetings: January 13; February 10; March 10; April 14; May 12; June 9"
 1. Motion: Al
 2. Seconded by: Nick - Passed
5. Report by Carl Mitchell on Lake Capacity Study
 1. Carl Mitchell, Chelsea Crundwell, Julia Mata
 2. Nitrogen limiting in marine and land; Phosphorus (P) limiting in freshwater system and cause overgrowth of algae (blooms); blooms with toxins are rare, but common to have impacts on other organisms (when blooms die, oxygen is decreased in the lake)
 3. Lots of seasonal and regional variation, oligotrophic now (not eutrophic, but not far off)
 4. Other factors affecting modelling f P:
 1. Internal P cycling (sediment?);
 2. wetland and agricultural runoff inputs; wetland related to coverage, not a major source; agriculture does not contribute to P in major way;
 3. Old or poorly maintained septic tanks? W side of Tait's island/Island Road; limited data but not a lot of support for this as a major role
 4. Golf course: A few spikes midsummer but not far from lake averages, and there is good shoreline vegetation conservation in the area
 5. shoreline vegetation loss: SV slows surface runoff and filters contaminants; certain area of lake have significant SV loss in Hurdville arm, McKellar Bay, which show underpredicted P in modelling, supportive of hypothesis that this is important in total P
 6. Lake is in good shape, P higher in some places, but inputs do not seem very high; SV is manageable and main thing at play.

7. Shoreline habitat is the most manageable and likely significant factor (conservative, only 1-2 m SV buffer strip looked at on satellite etc)

6. Updates:

1. Waterfront property shoreline guide – Tony: See shoreline guides (4 files attached); MLCA will pay for ½, township pays the rest; \$2500 each = \$5000 for 1600 or 1700 copies, incl shipping, tax etc: Al motion, Tony seconder; passed.
 1. Carl: Peter H writes a letter to include so gets well read and shared throughout the season
 2. Jennifer: Try to reach road committees to reach many people
 3. Nick: Needs to pass at Council unless LS&EC have discretionary funding, Jennifer thinks we have \$4000 until March (spent \$300 in July)
 4. There is an electronic version, not a great second choice but we can use QR codes etc to link to them.
2. Fishing – Al and Jennifer; 2 more QR code possibilities, 1) fish management zone 15 responsibilities and 2) Report link to fishing catch to assess the effects of MNR stocking in Armstrong Lake →
 1. Al Motion, Tony second, passed/ remove FMZ 15 QR code
 2. Get 10 metal signs made, ~\$700; posts may be available through roads since they maintain; Nick: put in discretionary funding; QR code for Armstrong fishing only on Armstrong Lake signage;
3. Water levels – Nick (no updates yet, tabled)
4. Address access to Township residents' email voluntary to keep abreast of LS&EC issues – Nick (good idea; need online form and listserv that allows register and unsubscribe options; some may respond negatively re: surveillance/intrusion; could be controversial (ie. septic reinspection program), must move carefully in education framework and avoid online vitriol; a moderator/mediator for site/listserv needed? Accept idea in principle, need someone to initiate and be responsible for it even in principle: Tony volunteers, possibly tap Carl or Melanie for listserv help)
5. Geese/propane cannon correspondence – Jennifer: Wrote to Gord Zulak re: propane cannons during harvest and daytime. Gord would like to come and speak to us, will offer 10 minutes at January meeting.

7. Planning

1. Education for the summer – waterfronts; what is in booklet, enhancing info, field questions; presentation:
 1. Shorelines, waterfront shoreline vegetation buffer zones
 2. Pesticide and fertilizer use (July?)
 3. Care of septic (May?)
 4. Public Lands Act (Rob Gibson, MNRF)
 5. Bat house workshop (August?) – Al offered help
 6. Washing machine and other filters: microplastics, microp=fibres and human health (Carl, Melanie, Rochman group student ie Sam Athey?)

2. Handouts at market table shared with MLCA – write
3. By-law development – septic reinspection?
 1. 2019-2020 considerable work done, North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority does septic permits, 3 options for programs: Carried out by NBMCA, have their support and McKellar hire inspector, or NBMCA has no involvement; very expensive and labour intensive to develop the database. Different townships have approached this differently. Some questions about the ability of township to work on this until staffing complete. Many ways to get most benefits of septic database without the expense and ordeal; Jennifer, Tony, Al and Axy will discuss further and report back in January.
 2. Tony: Motion to use only encapsulated (?) Styrofoam floatation materials used in docks such that it cannot be released to the environment. Carl seconder. Passed. Ask council to formulate a motion for their discussion.
4. Generate ideas on dealing with invasive species
8. Items of interest:
 1. Motion: Change our practice from Sue’s personal cloud and account to store our files on Google drive, ask township to pay Al Motion, Melanie second. Passed.
 2. Washing machine filters prevent microfibre pollution, study in Parry Sound (1 file attached) – combine with filtering for microplastics and use as educational handout.
 3. Article by Jennifer GF highlighting changes in the understanding of what causes algal blooms (1 file attached)
 4. Budget, Nick: Recreation has \$13,000; Request LS&EC \$4,000-\$6,000 again for 2022 discretionary
 5. Lynda’s home district allows farmers to deposit pesticide and fertilizer containers at transfer station and recycle and re-use in township, allows monitoring of usage in the area.
 6. Concerns re: E.Coli end of lake after farmer spreads manure... want to have a positive, non-adversarial relationship with local farms and farmers; could include having a “shoreline vegetation planting competition” or other fun and community building ideas, and winning farmer has plants donated by this committee/MLCA or another group.
9. New business
 1. Upcoming: January – Susan will discuss example of tree removal bylaw
 2. Upcoming: February – Rebecca Pollock, PhD, Executive Director of Georgian Bay Biosphere will do a presentation on ICECAP (Integrated Community Energy and Climate Action Plans); was \$14K last year after \$6K increase (need to check with Susan if that increase was through LS&EC or another committee); awaiting report to decide if want to continue.
10. Adjournment: Motion, Tony; Al second 8:13pm.