



Draft FOSCR Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2022
Teleconference via Zoom

Attendees:

Archie Kerr, Terry Burrell, Kris Lee, Ken Hall, Brenda Lorenz, John Timar, Peter Westfall, Donna Blue, Mike Moroney

Regrets:

Craig Griffiths, Shaun Bisson

Actions Arising

- a) Craig to confirm with Clint Jacobs/WIFN if there are habitat restoration opportunities.
- b) Archie to provide Ken contact information for the Bluewater Anglers so that Ken can discuss FOSCR presenting Bluewater Anglers with a \$5,000 donation on May 28, 2022 during the Kids Training Day event. Archie to pick up materials for the event from the SCRCA office in Strathroy next week (Tuesday May 17th or Wednesday May 18th)
- c) Ken to ask Craig about preparing a sign about fish that can be posted at the Bluewater Hatchery, something that could also be used in the classroom. Ken to also contact Hatchery for suggestions.
- d) Craig to revise draft sign on fish populations and habitat and share with Brenda and Archie for review
- e) Ken to complete review of Kids Corner sign and circulate it to the FOSCR for comment.
- f) Archie to review sign about "How Far We Have Come". Will share it with Brenda and Ken for review and discussion within one week. Will aim for Friday May 13th for discussion.
- g) Mike to work on finalizing fact sheet on sediment management issue within two weeks. Consider use of FOSCR funds for printing of the fact sheet as a hand-out once completed.
- h) Ken to reach out to a company that provides swag material to get some ideas and is to provide a link to the company's website to FOSCR members. Donna to send information to Ken on a company that makes SWAG items for the SCRCA. Ken will review ideas and provide suggestions on items for adults and children.

- i) Kris to contact Sherri Dewolf to confirm if it makes sense for the FOSCR to attend the Mermaids and Mariners event being held on August 20, 2022 at Brander Park.
- j) Brenda to approach the LAWSS with an offer to provide funds equivalent to 50% (max. of \$4,000) of the cost to remove the grass at the LAWSS and replace it with native forbs/grasses.
- k) Ken to get Craig's input on a proposal to provide \$500 to high schools in the AOC watershed and link it to the FOSCR coming in to make a presentation to the class/club/group/school. Targeting September 2022.
- l) Kris to contact Vince Gagner to get more details on the Sombra Days no fuel event/parade. To be reviewed by the FOSCR at the next meeting.
- m) Boat Cruise – Mike and Donna to review the RAP communications budget to confirm what can be provided and confirm how individuals were selected for the cruise. Confirm whether any FOSCR funds are required

Meeting Called to Order at 6:35pm.

1. Welcome to Donna and Mike

Mike – Introduction – Mike started in the St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan Coordinator role on May, 9, 2022. Mike previously worked for MECP for 33 years until he retired in 2018. During his years with MECP he was involved in a number of initiatives related to addressing BUI's for the St. Clair River – drinking water, municipal and industrial discharges etc. Mike then joined the SCRCA in 2019 as a Project Manager to lead the preparation of the Engineering Design Plan for the contaminated sediment in the St. Clair River. That contract ended in March 2022 and he is back with the SCRCA now in a new role as RAP Coordinator.

2. Review and approval of Minutes from Feb 15, 2022

Moved by: Ken Hall

Seconded by: Terry Burrell

Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting from February 15, 2022.

CARRIED

3. Items arising from the minutes:

Action Item #1 – WIFN – Clint Jacobs – Craig had reached out to Clint but had not received a response back.

Action Item #2 – 50th Anniversary GLWQA celebration – See agenda item #5 for the update.

Action Item #3 – Bluewater Anglers – the fishing derby is still planned. It was suggested that the FOSCR could donate money to Bluewater Anglers. Archie was in contact with the president and confirmed that they could use any available funds. With upcoming events, there may be opportunities for FOSCR to be at the events for educational purposes. There is a lot of public activity at the hatchery. Need to look for opportunities to provide literature and signage for outreach.

First event coming up is Kids Training Day on May 28, 2022 (10 am until 2 pm) at Bluewater Hatchery. The event will focus on fishing techniques for kids, boating safety, kids' chance to catch a fish from the hatchery pond, displays from OPP/RCMP marine units, Canadian Coast Guard, hot dogs etc.

Donna advised that SCRCA has materials available to provide as hand outs – Annual Report, Fishing lures, etc. Could help by providing these types of things.

Other Bluewater Angler events coming up:

Shoreline Clean-up – June 11, 2022

Family Fun Fishing Derby - July 9, 2022

Walleye Fishing Derby - August 5/6, 2022

Best opportunities for Outreach are the May 28th and July 9th events.

It was suggested that a cheque be presented to Bluewater Anglers on May 28, 2022. The mayor and possibly media can be invited to attend. Ken offered to attend. It would be a one-time donation. While at the event, Ken can ask about signage – can FOSCR put up a sign about what FOSCR does. Archie to send Ken the contact information for the Bluewater Anglers.

Moved by: Ken Hall

Seconded by: Terry Burrell

That the FOSCR provide \$5,000 to the Bluewater Anglers for use as general operation funds, and solicit opportunities for FOSCR – press release, media advisory

CARRIED

Archie to pick up materials for the event from the SCRCA office in Strathroy next week - likely Tuesday May 17th or Wednesday May 18th

Action #4 - Peter was to contact Mayor Bev Hand, Village of Point Edward about providing hand-outs about FOSCR and setting up a tent along the St. Clair River to talk to pedestrians throughout the summer months. Peter ended up drafting a letter and providing it to Craig. Craig sent it but had not yet received a reply.

Action #5 – Natasha was to connect Ken with the education team for “Kids Corner” sign ideas. Natasha reached out to SCRCA Conservation Education staff. Natasha was in turn provided with a list of creative things that could be done for children. Ken was not sure if FOSCR could accommodate the items on the list. Maybe another alternative would be to create a kid’s friendly sign and post it at the hatchery. Ken to ask Craig about preparing a sign about fish. Something that could also be used in the classroom. It would likely need to be more animated. Ken could speak to the hatchery and see what they suggest. FOSCR does not have a technical writer to write the content which is causing some challenges. FOSCR would eventually like to put up a sign about the contaminated sediment project.

Shaun Bisson has resigned from FOSCR (March 2022). He had committed to helping prepare an industry sign. It was being taken to the BASES communications committee in March 2022 for review. Ken has not been able to confirm the status.

Action #6 – Craig was to revise his draft sign on fish populations and habitat and share with Brenda and Archie for review – Update pending

Action #7 – With respect to the status of the two draft signs that Ken is working on, he is looking at the Kids Corner one now and expects to be able to circulate it soon to the FOSCR for review, before the next meeting. Brenda and Archie did review it and felt that it was close to being ready to go. Ken advised that the sign will include a kids corner so that still needs to be added.

Archie still to look at the sign about “How Far We Have Come”. Will have it done within one week. He will share it with Brenda and Ken for review and discussion. Will aim for Friday this week for discussion.

Ken advised that signage turn around is about 12 weeks. Ideally send all signage requests at once so they will ship back all at once.

Action #8 – See Agenda item 8.

4. Finances and Funding update

Terry shared the financial information with the members. Not much activity on it. Received the funds from MECP by way of direct deposit – spent almost nothing this year so far. \$200 spent on thank you gift for former SCRCA RAP Coordinator. Amount in account is \$55,500 (\$35,000 to \$40,000 unrestricted in terms of how it is used). Just received \$12,500 from MECP plus another \$12,500 is expected later in the year. Craig may have outlined a plan in regard to the use of the funds recently received. What the plan is will need to be confirmed.

Mike confirmed that a draft fact sheet is being prepared on the status of the sediment management issue. Might be able to finalize it within a couple of weeks. Ken suggested that FOSCR could provide funds for printing of the fact sheet once completed.

Ken asked about a Fact Sheet on the BUIs on what is delisted and not delisted. A one-page sheet that can be printed and used for outreach.

5. GLWQA Anniversary and logo

Kris advised that the logo contest only had one submission and it was not something they were prepared to go with. They instead went to “99 Designs” graphic designers. The designer will provide two or three different designs that the committee can choose from. Kris is no longer involved since the contest approach is no longer being used.

6. Mermaids and Mariners and other summer events

The event is being held on August 20, 2022 at Brander Park from 10 am to 6 pm. FOSCR did already spend money (\$113.00) to have a booth set up. It will need to be staffed. FOSCR needs to improve visual presence. Will need to have giveaways.

Ken and Brenda could potentially be available to attend.

Ken can reach out to a company that provides swag material to get some ideas. Will look for something for adults (something they can use) and something for children. Ken to provide a link to the company’s website to FOSCR members. Donna to send information to Ken on a company that makes SWAG items for the SCRCA. Ken will review ideas and provided suggestions.

There was concurrence that \$5,000 would be a good budget for swag material.

Kris to contact Sherri Dewolf about whether or not FOSCR attend – if there will be other groups like FOSCR.

7. River Signs – As previously discussed.

8. What to do with our large sum of funds?

- Possibly new shirts for FOSCR members.
- Some other swag items – for winter.
- Follow-up with Clint Jacobs/AFN – habitat restoration opportunities.
- Possibly contact LAWSS – maybe FOSCR can provide funds for planting of native/prairie grasses. Brenda contacted LAWSS and they are going to bring it up again to the LAWSS Board around August/September 2022. Estimated cost is between \$5,000 and \$7,000 dollars.

Moved by: Brenda Lorenz

Seconded by: Terry Burrell

That Brenda approach the LAWSS with an offer to provide funds equivalent to 50% of the cost to remove the grass at the LAWSS and replace it with native forbs/grasses. Maximum contribution would be \$4,000. Would also include condition that FOSCR be allowed to establish a sign about the habitat BUI.

CARRIED

- Ken proposed providing \$1,000 for each of the environmental clubs at local high schools. Allows FOSCR to address their class/group/school. Purpose would be to discuss BUIs and the AOC. Need to get Craig's input on whether it meets curriculum needs. Recommended that need to focus on schools in the AOC watershed - \$500 per school only – likely for September 2022– gives FOSCR enough time to get organized to make presentation to the high schools. Kris recommended an interactive approach be used rather than just a slide presentation.

9. Other Business

Family Fun Fishing Derby (Bluewater Anglers) – Saturday July 9, 2022 at the hatchery – free activity to families – sign up at the booth at Centennial Park – catch as many gobies as you can before lunch– prizes awarded to the most gobies caught and five longest fish.

Sombra – Sombra days – Optimists not doing boats this year but instead doing a parade involving parade entries that are not powered by fuel. Industry sponsoring the event by providing prizes for floats, etc. Kris to contact Vince Gagner to get more details on the event. To be reviewed by the FOSCR at the next meeting.

Boat Cruise – BPAC is considering a boat cruise this summer for a BUI resignation celebration. Donna confirmed that the last time there was a cruise, costs came out of the SCRCA's RAP budget. Mike and Donna to review the RAP communications budget to confirm what can be provided and confirm how individuals were selected for the cruise. Looking at September 2022 for the event. Funds from FOSCR may therefore not be required.

10. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting likely to occur in Fall 2022. Craig to set the meeting date and inform all by way of email.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.