



FOSCR Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2022
Teleconference via Zoom

Attendees:

Craig Griffiths, Terry Burrell, Kris Lee, Ken Hall, Brenda Lorenz, John Timar, Mike Moroney

Regrets:

Peter Westfall

Actions Arising:

- a) Craig to reach out to find out what schools have environmental clubs within the St. Clair River AOC so that there is better information on the level of funding that would be required.
- b) Selection of the new Chair and Vice-Chair of FOSCR to be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting.
- c) Craig to invite Gisel to attend the Annual General Meeting in December 2022.
- d) Mike to update the "Contact Us" section of the FOSCR website.
- e) Mike to email a copy of the invoice from Duc D'Orleans II to Terry so that Terry can arrange for payment.
- f) Mike to proceed with posting the Contaminated Sediment Fact Sheet and Drinking Water Fact Sheet to FOSCR website.
- g) Mike to include Great Lakes Ecoregion Network (GLEN) Survey presentation in the next Newsletter with the ability to click on a Learn More button.
- h) Craig to provide MECP with a progress report on FOSCR use of funds.
- i) Mike to check on level of involvement of SCRCA with the Robson property.
- j) Brenda will follow-up with Darrel Randall to obtain information on how the Robson property project will benefit the watershed, and opportunities for photos, signage, public exposure and media awareness. Will also inquire about the viability of the project; how much funding is needed to proceed with the project.
- k) Mike to locate the file for the poster on the RAP Program and share it with Ken.
- l) Craig to attend the Bluewater Anglers fish hatchery and take pictures of what they currently already have for signage.
- m) Kris will call April White from ECCC and ask for a copy of her script used for the BUI redesignation event.
- n) Craig to ask Ted Briggs of MECP if copies of the BUI studies can be provided to FOSCR and if they can be shared with the public (e.g FOSCR website)

- o) Ken to contact the designer to start work on the signs. Will share with members for review.
- p) Craig to send out dates towards the end of October 2022 for the Annual General Meeting.

Meeting Called to Order at 6:35 pm

1. Review and approval of Minutes from May 10, 2022

Moved by: Terry Burrell

Seconded by: Ken Hall

Motion that the minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

2. Review of Minutes and Action Items from May 10, 2022

- a) Craig to confirm with Clint Jacobs/WIFN if there are habitat restoration opportunities. - Craig reached out again and has not heard back.

Motion by: Ken Hall

Seconded by: Brenda Lorenz

Motion that the FOSCR set aside \$2,500 for now in the event that Walpole Island First Nation decides to continue a partnership opportunity with FOSCR at some point in the future.

CARRIED

- 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) - Completed
- 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. – Ken confirmed that the Chair of the Bluewater Anglers hatchery is on board with having another sign that would provide information about fish and the improvements to the Beneficial Use Impairments Permission from the Village of Point Edward would be required but was not anticipated to be an issue. Ken advised that the cost would be around \$10,000 to \$12,000, when considered in conjunction with other signs that are being planned for other locations.
- d) Craig to revise draft sign on fish populations and habitat and share with Brenda and Archie for review. – Deferred until discussion of agenda Item 9.

- e) Ken to complete review of Kids Corner sign and circulate it to the FOSCR for comment. – Deferred until discussion of agenda Item 9.
 - 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. – Deferred until discussion of agenda Item 9.
 - g) Mike to work on finalizing the 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. – Deferred until discussion of agenda Item 6 b)
 - 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. – Completed
 - 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. – Completed.
 - 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. – Brenda did contact the LAWSS and was informed that it is not a viable project. The top soil in the area is too shallow to support the roots of the proposed plants.
 - 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. – **Action:** Craig to reach out to find out what schools have environmental clubs within the St. Clair River AOC so that there is better information on the level of funding that would be required.
 - 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. – Completed
 - 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 – Completed.
3. Chair and Vice Chair Positions – **Action:** There was consensus that this item be deferred to the Annual General Meeting in December 2022.
4. Addition of another Director - Gizel A.
- Craig received a request through FOSCR website from Gizel A. expressing interest in being a member of FOSCR and supporting events. All agreed that Gizel should be welcomed as a new member if she wishes to join.

- **Action:** Craig to invite Gisel to attend the Annual General Meeting in December 2022.
- Ken mentioned that there may be a staff member at Enbridge that may also be interested in becoming a member of FOSCR.
- **Action:** Mike to update the “Contact Us” section of the FOSCR website to insert his email address in place of that of the former RAP Coordinator.

5. Funding Balance of Duc d’Orleans Cost for BUI Redesignation Celebration – All

Moved by: Brenda Lorenz

Seconded by: Ken Hall

Motion that the FOSCR pay the remaining balance of the cost for the event on the Duc d’Orleans II.

CARRIED

Action: Mike to email a copy of the invoice to Terry so that Terry can arrange for payment.

6. Invitation to attend Chatham-Kent Lambton Water Festival Sponsor, Volunteer and Festival Awareness Day - Oct. 5, 2022

- Difficult to have representation from FOSCR since it is being held during the day - 10:30 am to 12 noon. Kris has helped at the booths in the past but is not sure if she will be able to attend this year so will keep her attendance as a possibility.

7. Documents for Posting to FOSCR Website

- a) Contaminated Sediment Fact Sheet – **Action:** Mike to proceed with posting it to FOSCR website.
- b) Drinking Water Fact Sheet – **Action:** Mike to proceed with posting it to FOSCR website.
- c) BPAC Presentation for Great Lakes Ecoregion Network (GLEN) – Kris would like to have it on the FOSCR website. Brenda suggested having it visible with an icon that someone can click on if they want to learn more. **Action:** Mike to include it on the next Newsletter with a Learn More button.

8. Finances and Funding Update

- Terry provided a financial report and explained that the current balance in the FOSCR account is \$47,243. He advised that about \$20,000 of that amount can be used at the discretion of FOSCR (i.e. it would not have to be used for educational purposes).
- Terry anticipates additional funds to be available from MECP around Fall 2022 if successful in their grant submission.
- **Action:** Craig to provide MECP with a progress report on the use of the funds.
- **Motion by:** Terry Burrell
Seconded by: Ken Hall
That FOSCR adopt the financial report as presented by Terry.

CARRIED

9. Future Opportunities for Allocation of Funds

a) Community Living Wallaceburg 27th Annual Golf Classic event – September 30th.
Providing swag for registration bags - 116 items (e.g. sunglasses, reusable straws, water bottles etc.)

- Consensus that FOSCR likely does not have enough swag to provide 116 items, with the exception of the key chains. It was also noted that it is not an environmentally focused event. Consensus was that FOSCR not provide swag for this event.

b) Robson Property

- It was noted that other parties that may be contributing funds for this property are Ducks Unlimited and the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority. The recommendation to provide funding for the property is coming from Darrel Randall of Ducks Unlimited.
- **Action:** Mike to check on level of involvement of SCRCA with the Robson property.
- Craig located an email from Darrel Randall to Brenda indicating that \$5,000 to \$10,000 would be an appropriate contribution due to the large scale project but that any amount would be appreciated.
- Craig recommended supporting the habitat project as it is close to the river.
- Ken recommended supporting it with a \$5,000 contribution providing that there is a benefit to the FOSCR. Information is needed on the what the funds will be used for, what the environmental benefits will be, and information on how it will be promoted. Posting a sign near the site with the FOSCR logo on it as one of the sponsors, as an example, would help to recognize FOSCR.
- Craig recommended that before FOSCR commits to providing funds, additional information be provided by Darrell Randall.
- **Action:** Brenda will follow-up with Darrel and keep Craig informed. She will inquire about a summary of how it will benefit the watershed, and opportunities for photos, signage, public exposure and media awareness. Will also inquire about the viability of the project; how much funding is needed to proceed with the project

c) Funding SCRCA Education Programs for 2022/23 - Phosphorus 101/Watershed 101

- Brenda advised that the programs have been well received in the past
- Previous funding has been provided by FOSCR. There was some uncertainty as to how much funding was provided to the SCRCA the previous year.
- **Motion by:** Craig Griffiths
Seconded by: Kris Lee
Motion that FOSCR provide \$5,000 to the SCRCA for the Phosphorus 101/Watershed 101 educational programs.

CARRIED

- Ken recommended that FOSCR be included in some kind of promotion by the SCRCA.

- Discussion about how to create awareness about funding that is provided by FOSCR to various organizations. Consensus that the FOSCR Newsletter be the means to create awareness.

d) Other opportunities

- Donna Blue from SCRCA recently informed Ken that CF Industries have apparently withdrawn from funding a SCRCA educational program. Ken recommended Donna approach Enbridge as an alternate sponsor.
- No additional funding opportunities identified.

10. Update on River Signs

- 1. Contaminated Sediment - Ken recommended that a sign be created related to contaminated sediment based on the Fact Sheet that is now available. Since there is still some uncertainty around implementation of the engineering and design plan, it was agreed that, for now, the priority should be on creating other signs that are currently on the list.
- 2. Drinking Water Fact Sheet – Ken advised that he has the information to create a sign. Consensus that the sign should be posted in a park located downstream, near Sombra or Courtright.
- 3. Habitat – Brenda and Archie already worked on this. Ken can add to it once he is able to get more information from Darell Randall on the Robson property.
- 4. Redesignation of BUIs – Ken recommended designing a sign regarding the redesignation of the four BUIs to Not Impaired. Provide a brief description of each of the BUIs and what was done to get them redesignated.
- 5. Fish – Ken explained that a sign about fish in the St. Clair River would be good to have posted at the Bluewater Anglers hatchery in Point Edward. It would provide information on the hatchery and about the BUIs related to fish.
- 6. RAP Program – Would be good to create a sign based on an international poster that the previous RAP coordinator worked on. It outlined how both sides are working together. **Action:** Mike to locate the file for the poster and share it with Ken.
- Ken advised that FOSCR needs to set aside \$12,000 to \$15,000 for the 5 signs that are currently being discussed.
- **Action:** Craig will go the fish hatchery and take pictures of what they currently already have.
- Ken explained that it would be helpful to have the information that April White from ECCCC spoke about during the redesignation event. **Action:** Kris will call April White and ask for a copy of her script used for the BUI redesignation event.
- Ken spoke with Ted Briggs and was informed that all technical reports related to the four BUIs should be available. **Action:** Craig will ask Ted if copies of the studies can be provided to FOSCR and if they can be shared with the public (e.g FOSCR website)
- Consensus that signs concentrate on presenting the facts as demonstrated by the science and focus on adults as the audience as opposed to children.

- **Action:** Ken to contact designer and start working on the signs and share with the members for review.

11. Other Business

- No other business.

12. Next Meeting – Date to be confirmed. First week of December 5, 2022. **Action:** Craig to send out dates towards the end of October 2022.

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.