



**FOSCR Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 13, 2024
Enbridge Regional Office - 1086 Modeland Road, Sarnia**

Attendees:

Craig Griffiths, Kris Lee, Terry Burrell, Ken Hall, Brenda Lorenz, Susan MacFarlane, Jacqueline Marcoux, Mike Moroney

Regrets:

Gabriel Torres-Pulgarin, Mellissa Wambui

Actions Arising:

- a) Mike to arrange a time to deliver swag, banners and hand-outs to Ken for the Bluewater Anglers Kids Training Day event.
- b) Jackie to provide her home address information to Mike to be included in the Annual Return that is filed with Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada.
- c) Craig to contact Sheri Faust to check on her availability to speak to FOSCR at the next FOSCR (Canada) meeting.
- d) Mike to check with SCRCA staff on whether there are any opportunities to do plantings along the St. Clair River, either working through the local municipality or another party. Also, whether there is an opportunity to engage the public in the planting.
- e) Craig to contact Mike Smalls to discuss potential opportunities for tree plantings that can involve the community.
- f) Brenda to contact the City of Sarnia about opportunities to hold events at the Sarnia Bay Point Lands.
- g) Mike to check with SCRCA IT staff about setting up the FOSCR website to accommodate a photo contest.

1. Introductions

- Craig welcomed Jacqueline (Jackie) Marcoux to the Friends of the St. Clair River meeting and introduced Jacqueline to each of the board members.

2. Land Acknowledgment

- The land acknowledgment statement was read.

3. Review and approval of Minutes from March 7, 2024

- **Moved by:** Terry Burrell

Seconded by: Brenda Lorenz

That the Minutes of the March 7, 2024 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

4. Business out of the Minutes:

a) Mike to attempt to identify additional contacts at Walpole Island First Nation for engaging school children on the SCRCA's education program. **Completed.** Contact information for the principal was previously provided to the SCRCA education staff and the Walpole Island First Nation teachers were made aware of the interest of SCRCA education staff to engage the students.

b) Mike to include an article in the FOSCR April E-Newsletter on Myra's presentation to the FOSCR. **Completed.**

c) Mike to confirm the cost of the seed card that the SCRCA has available, and Craig is to look into the cost for purchasing paper envelopes to contain the seed. **Completed.** The seed cards produced for the SCRCA Foundation were at a cost of \$219 for 100 sheets. One sheet can be cut into 6 to 10 cards. Jackie mentioned that there is a business known as Blackwell Bees on Blackwell Road in Sarnia that sells small bags of seed that might be worth considering, depending on the cost.

d) All to consider opportunities to engage other groups about FOSCR and the St. Clair River RAP. **Completed.**

e) Mike to contact members that have been unable to participate in the more recent meetings and confirm if they wish to remain on as members and whether they anticipate being able to participate in future meetings. **Completed.**

f) All members are to consider ideas for utilization of MECP funds for FOSCR so that more detailed discussions can occur at the next FOSCR meeting. **Completed.**

g) Ken to investigate the status of the OPG lands along the St. Clair River shoreline through St. Clair Township and explore conservation enhancement possibilities. **Completed.** Ken did contact OPG but the concept did not seem like a viable option. A business plan would need to be prepared and submitted to OPG for consideration

5. Board Approval of New Members (Craig)

Moved by: Terry Burrell

Seconded by: Brenda Lorenz

That the FOSCR Board accept Jacqueline Marcoux as a new member of the Board of Directors.

CARRIED

6. Bluewater Anglers Kids Training Day (Ken)

- The event is being held on Saturday, May 25, 2024, and Bluewater Anglers asked if FOSCR would be attending again.
- Ken advised that he was planning to attend.
- **Action:** Mike to arrange a time to deliver swag, banners and hand-outs to Ken for the event.

7. Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada (Mike)

- Mike advised that the Annual Return is required to be submitted to Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada and Mike will do that on behalf of FOSCR. The Return is to identify the names of each of the board members and their home address.
- **Action:** Jackie to provide her home address to Mike so that it can be included in the Annual Return submission.

8. Priorities/Projects for 2024 (All)

- Craig explained that funding proposals for the next two years are to be submitted to MECP by May 31, 2024. It is to cover the funding period up to March 2026. Funding could be in the range of \$50,000 for the 2-year period.
- Ken had several suggestions for activities that FOSCR funds could be used for:
 1. Replacing the sign at the Bluewater Anglers Hattery.
 2. Setting up a booth at the mall for a few days to hand-out swag and RAP related material.
 3. Conducting a photo contest – pictures that show progress in restoring the St. Clair River
- Kris inquired if the funds could be used to retain an events coordinator instead of just allocating funds to other groups/organizations. Someone that can organize an event on behalf of FOSCR.
- Mike mentioned that in his role as the RAP Coordinator he will soon start planning for the annual AOC event in September 2024. This is an event that is open to the community. Information is provided on the status of progress in addressing the Beneficial Use Impairments and a guest speaker is brought in to speak about a water quality issue that would be of interest to the community.
- There was a discussion around the work that FOSCR (U.S.) does and a general interest by some board members in learning more about their organization.
- **Moved by:** Brenda Lorenz
Seconded by: Ken Hall
That Sheri Faust with the FOSCR (U.S.) be invited to meet with FOSCR (Canada) to provide an overview of the FOSCR (U.S.) organization.

CARRIED

- The following decisions were made with respect to the initiatives/projects that should be identified in the funding application to MECP:

- \$7,500/year for the SCRCA education program
- \$5,000/year for education and outreach – updated displays and swag etc.
- **Moved by:** Brenda Lorenz
Seconded by: Jackie Marcoux
 That FOSCR allocates \$3,500 towards the creation of a new sign, to be designed by Ken, for the Bluewater Anglers Hatchery, that provides information on fish health in the St. Clair River.

CARRIED

- Photo Contest:
Moved by: Susan MacFarlane
Seconded by: Brenda Lorenz
 That FOSCR allocates \$5,000 towards a photo contest.

CARRIED

- Chatham-Kent Children’s Water Festival: There was consensus that FOSCR should continue to support this event by providing \$4,000 each year
- Insurance is \$1,500/yr, and AGM meeting is \$500/yr, so \$2,000/yr for FOSCR costs.
- BPAC Symposium on the U.S. side is planned for 2025. FOSCR will allocate \$500 for FOSCR participation.

9. Other Business

- **Opportunities for Community Tree Planting Events - Action:** Mike to check with SCRCA staff on whether there are any opportunities to do plantings along the St. Clair River, either working through the local municipality or another party. Also, whether there is an opportunity to engage the public in the planting. **Action:** Craig to contact Mike Smalls to discuss potential opportunities for tree plantings that can involve the community and be funded by FOSCR.
- **Bay Point Lands** – It was suggested that FOSCR explore opportunities to hold events at the Sarnia Bay Point Lands. **Action:** Brenda to contact the City of Sarnia about opportunities to hold events at the Point Lands.
- **Photo Contest** – the following suggestions were made with respect to organizing the next photo contest:
 - Generate before and after pictures if possible
 - Use Facebook advertising
 - Ensure pictures can be uploaded to the FOSCR website
 - Run the contest from summer 2024 until November 2024
 - Provide prizes for the winners
 - Use different age groups
 - **Action:** Mike to check with SCRCA IT staff on setting up the FOSCR website to accommodate the photo contest.

10. Next Meeting

- Next meeting is to be held in late June or early July 2024, primarily focusing on the photo contest.

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.