



DRAFT Meeting Record

Monday, April 2, 2012 – 5 pm to 6 pm
Windsor Airport Community Room
Windsor, Ontario

1. Call to Order / Opening Remarks / Adoption of Minutes/ Approval of Agenda

At 5:03pm, Chair Tom Henderson called the meeting to order; Tom thanked those in attendance and welcomed Natalie back from her maternity leave. Meeting Record from February 13th and Agenda for April 2nd were reviewed and approved by consensus.
(Attendance List – See Appendix A)

2. Windsor-Essex Parkway and Compensation Lands

Tom reported that several members of the PAC were at the recent meeting to discuss compensation lands. Windsor-Essex Management Group showed a map consisting of several areas totalling over 15 hectares to compensate for the 5.04 hectares with DRIC project. All areas are within the boundaries of the MTO – provincial area of jurisdiction (not federal). Tom requested a map by email but noted that he still hasn't received it. Ian added that Mr. Andreas Stenzel remarked that they are only dealing with the lands within the area of study. Derek commented that they did a good job on the wetlands compensation.

Tom commented that the concerns that environmental groups expressed surely aided in securing these lands. Natalie reminded the group that any questions related to the WE Parkway should be directed to their Public Liaison Office. The information was emailed to the PAC and is included below for information:

Jan van der Woerd or Katie Dicks
2187 Huron Church Road Suite 210
Windsor, ON, N9C 2L8
jvanderwoerd@wemg.ca or kdicks@wemg.ca
519-946-3775 or 519-946-3781
1-877-WE-PKWAY (1-877-937-5929)
www.weparkway.ca
wep-plo@wemg.ca

Dave noted that approximately 15-20 large trees had been tagged in the St. Clair woodlot (he thought, possibly for removal) so, he contacted Jan van der Woerd to follow-up. Together, they examined the trees and (with a bit more investigation) determined that they were marked to be preserved rather than removed. Dave reported that this area gives the St. Clair woodlot an additional 5 acres. Dave did not know the species of the trees in question.

ACTION: Tom will request confirmation of the compensation lands and a map.

3. Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge and Ojibway Shores

Tom reported that he has been in contact with Dr. John Hartig, who has a blog about his book 'Burning Rivers' (<http://wildread.blogspot.ca/2012/03/changing-public-perception-of-burning.html>). Tom noted that John seems supportive of including the Ojibway Shores property and adjoining properties (such as Fighting Island) to the International Wildlife Refuge. Natalie added that Gord provided her with a copy of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge Establishment Acts whereby Section 5 (f) states that *'The Secretary, acting through the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service) shall conduct a study of fish and wildlife habitat and aquatic and terrestrial communities of the north reach of the Detroit River, from the northern most point of Ojibway Shores north to the mouth of Lake St. Clair, for potential inclusion in the refuge. Not later than 18 months after the enactment of the Act, the Secretary shall complete such study and submit a report containing the results thereof to the Congress.'*

Marcia asked what the PAC could do to move the process forward. Tom noted that the group has to depend on the good will of the Windsor Port Authority. Gord suggested that the issue be moved into the political forefront by contacting local political representatives.

Tom reported that he and Dave met with Greg Atkinson of the City Planning Department regarding the Detroit Marsh Wetland Complex (River Canard to, and including, part of the Windsor Salt Mine) which is listed as a Provincially Significant Coastal Wetland. Tom suggested to Mr. Atkinson that the designation should go past the salt mine and right up to Ojibway Shores. Dave noted that a map from the Town of LaSalle identifies the Ojibway Shores area as 'forested area'. Dave noted that he'd like to have Ojibway Shores included as part of the Detroit Marsh Wetland Complex; he will continue to follow-up in this issue.

ACTION: Natalie will contact John Hartig to inquire about the study noted in the DRIWR Act and its results.

4. Canadian Riverkeeper

Tom reported that he, Natalie, Gord, and Dave attended the U.S. Public Advisory Council meeting on March 28. He noted that there is supposed to be a Canadian Riverkeeper but that this person has not been active in years. At the PAC meeting, Tom spoke to Bob Burns, Detroit Riverkeeper (U.S.), and inquired if it would be possible for Bob to be an International Riverkeeper. Bob informed Tom that it is quite difficult to cross international boundaries on the River, especially after 9-11.

5. PAC logo (see Appendix B)

Natalie reported that graphic designer, Paul Santos, took the PAC's suggestions and revised the logo and created a second option as well. Natalie noted that either logo would need a byline describing the group such as 'Detroit River Canadian Public Advisory Council'. Upon review of both logos, the group decided upon the second option (Appendix B; option 2) with some revisions including: all one colour (blue), extending the length of the letter P to be longer, Detroit River at the top, and Canadian Public Advisory Council at the bottom.

Natalie added that, once the logo is finalized, Paul will provide us with all the files for re-branding. The new logo choice, with suggested changes, was accepted by consensus.

ACTION: Natalie will forward necessary revisions to Paul Santos and will email a final revised version for proofing by the PAC.

6. U.S. PAC Update

Natalie reported that Tom, Dave, and Gord attended the March 28th U.S. Public Advisory Council Meeting in Trenton, Michigan. The U.S. PAC discussed many of their current and future projects funded under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. She also added that the U.S. PAC recently completed an angler survey to address the 'Tainting of Fish/Wildlife Flavour' BUI. They received information from 325 participants and were in the process of completing the written report. Natalie noted that the results from their independent study were almost identical to ours –making it excellent for comparison. For example, 91.2% of U.S. participants and 90% of Canadian participants said Detroit River fish tasted Excellent or Good. Natalie reported that the DRCC re-designated this BUI from 'requires further assessment' to 'not impaired' in 2010 but there was no media release or event for it. She explained that there is an opportunity to celebrate the re-designation binationally. She added that a similar event was done in the St. Clair River AOC for the Fish Tainting BUI; they celebrated the re-designation with a binational fish fry. Natalie noted that the next U.S. PAC meeting is May 23rd and if PAC members are interested in attending they should contact her to car pool.

7. Upcoming DRCC events (volunteers needed):

- Black Oak Park Cleanup: Sunday, April 15, 2012 9 am to 1 pm
- Windsor-Essex Earth Day: Sunday, April 22, 2012 (10 am to 3 pm):
The DRCC will have a table under their own tent next to the City of Windsor.
Natalie explained that she would be there to represent the DRCC all day but is in need of volunteers to help her throughout the day; especially at setup and take-down at 9:30 am and 3 pm. Pearl and Marcia kindly volunteered to help Natalie. Derek noted that he might be able to spare a couple of his volunteers to help with setup or take-down.

ACTION: Derek will follow up with Natalie regarding CEA volunteers that may be available.

- Little River Cleanup: Natalie was recently contacted by a local resident about several shopping carts in Little River. She asked the PAC if there was any interest in helping to organize a cleanup at Little River in the spring. The group agreed that a cleanup at this location should be postponed until the fall due to the busy month of April, vegetation becoming too thick, and the weather becoming too hot in the summer months.

ACTION: Natalie will follow-up with the resident that contacted her and plan to organize a Little River cleanup in the Fall 2012.

8. Other items:

- Saturday May 12th – Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, is the WECEC Green Speaker series at David Suzuki School – Doors open at 10 am, speaker at 10:30 am.
- Tom Henderson recently suggested Gord Miller might be a great keynote speaker at the DRCC’s Detroit River Evening. Natalie noted that she will be inviting Mr. Miller to the DRCC’s event but is happy to receive any other suggestions for potential keynote speakers. The tentative dates for this event are June 13 or June 20.
ACTION: Please forward any suggestions for keynote speakers for the 2nd Annual Detroit River Evening to Natalie.
- Ian noted that he will be meeting with representatives at the David Suzuki School to organize the memorial plantings – part of the tree planting activities in the DR watershed.
ACTION: Ian will forward details of the planting to Natalie to share with the PAC.
- Earth Hour – Saturday March 31st was the most successful Earth Hour yet – over 140 countries participated. Toronto saw a 7% energy consumption reduction on the day.
- Gord raised the issue of the by-law prohibiting swimming in the river (Bylaw 7783). He noted that information should be reviewed in light of the discussion at the February 13 meeting regarding the concerns over safety by re-designating BUI #10 (Beach Closings) . He asked the group if there should be active public outreach such as investing in signage to inform the public of safety hazards related to swimming in the Detroit River. Derek asked whether or not there were similar bylaws in LaSalle and Amherstburg.
ACTION: Natalie will follow up with LaSalle and Amherstburg to determine if there are bylaws prohibiting swimming in the Detroit River.

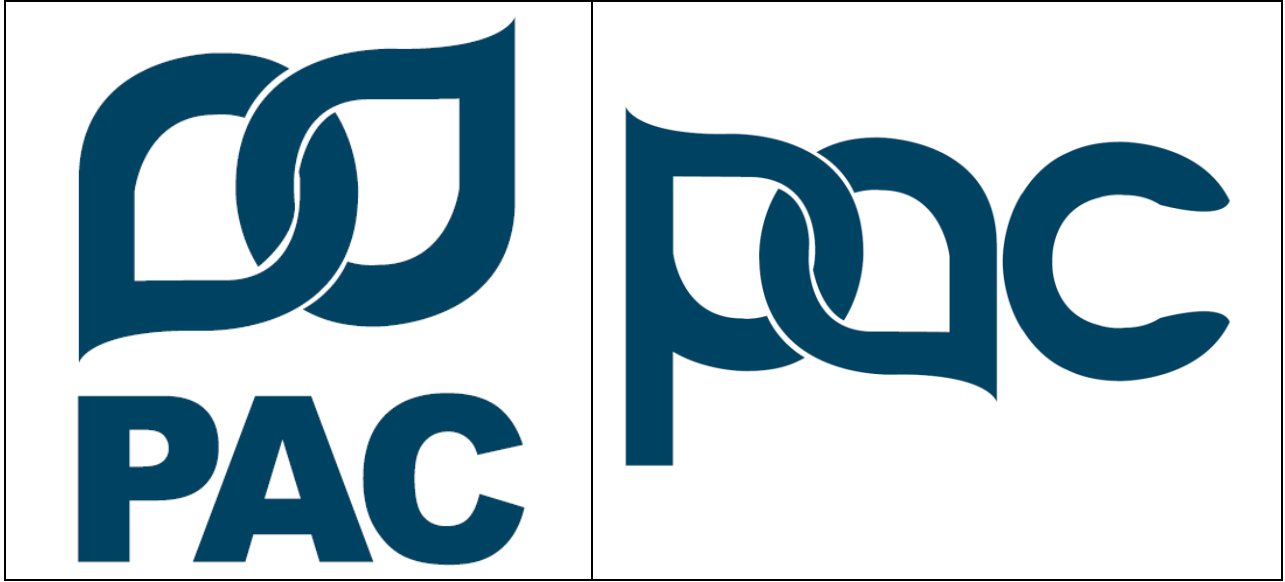
9. Meeting adjourned by the Chair at 6:16pm.

*Meeting record prepared by Kris Ives and Natalie Green
Approved by Tom Henderson, Chair*

APPENDIX A: ATTENDANCE

Tom Henderson	Chair
Gord Harding	Vice-Chair
Dave Munro	PAC Member
Marcia Valiante	PAC Member
Pearl Bradd	PAC Member
Ian Naisbitt	PAC Member
Derek Coronado	PAC Member
Rick Coronado	PAC Member
Natalie Green	RAP Coordinator
Kris Ives	RAP Assistant

APPENDIX B: PAC LOGO OPTIONS



OPTION 1

OPTION 2