



Community Advisory Panel

DRAFT MINUTES

June 11, 2009

7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Dofasco – First Floor, Conference Room E

Present: Jessica Aird, Dwayne Brown, Mike Brown, Stephen Brotherston, Candis Burke, Leisha Dawson, Gord Gilmet, John Hoppe, Karen Logan, Mary Lee, Lorna Moreau, Kelly Pike, Lori Small, Pat Thiessen.

1. Welcome and introductions

2. HIEA CAP Adopt-a-Creek project – Kelly Pike – Bay Area Restoration Council

Kelly first gave a brief history and the purpose for the creation of BARC. The organization was formed in 1991 and works with the Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan (RAP) in its efforts to clean up Hamilton Harbour and to bring about sustainable natural ecosystems in Hamilton Harbour and its entire watershed. BARC provides educational programming for children and adults.

The Adopt-A-Creek program was originally designed to partner high school students and local landowners. This format did not prove to be successful so has been reorganized and now brings community groups and corporate sponsors together.

BARC staff work with the conservation authority and other partners to determine appropriate locations for the project based on the major watersheds to Hamilton Harbour with a focus on those affecting Cootes Paradise. The key watershed found in Hamilton is the Spencer Creek Watershed. There are a number of factors that determine appropriate project sites including: accessible washrooms, ample parking and the ability to obtain permission from the appropriate owners. Given these there were two locations that were identified: Langs Park or Sanctuary Park.

The project requires 8 to 20 volunteers, divided into 4 groups who work with an experienced leader. The group meets at the designated spot at 9:00 a.m. and spends the morning working in the stream taking a variety of samples. The results of these samples are used by the Conservation Authority and Ontario Stewardship planning to determine the health of the stream and what is needed for improvement. Following a lunch provided by BARC the group goes back into the stream to clean out garbage located earlier. BARC provides all sampling equipment, clean up materials, rubber boots for those who don't have their own, leaders for each team, lunch and site signage.

There was a discussion about the site selection. The group would like to work at a site in east Hamilton if possible so Kelly indicated she would investigate possibilities. The first alternative would be Langs Park. It was determined that a Saturday would be best and because HIEA funded 2 sections the group decided on 2 dates. July 11 with a rain date July 18 and August 22 with a rain date August 29. A sheet was distributed for people to sign up. Karen will ask the Technical Committee and the Board members to join the group.

Pat thanked Kelly for the presentation and Karen will follow up with Kelly on details to be sent to the participants.

3. Approval of May 2009 Minutes

Moved by Jessica Aird, that the minutes be accepted with changes. Seconded by Stephen Brotherston. All in favour - Motion carried

4. Roundtable

A concern was raised about seeing black smoke at #1 coking oven at the start of quenching. Some members had photographs and will send them to Mike Brown who will investigate.

A member raised a concern about black fallout that has been accumulating throughout the winter on the aluminium parts of some of her windows and asked to have someone come out to investigate. Mike Brown will look into this.

There have been several incidents involving a high pitched humming noise and a member contacted ArcelorMittal Dofasco to find out the cause. The ArcelorMittal Dofasco representative helped to determine that the noise is caused by a local company who is unloading plastic pellets from their rail cars using high pressure air. This practice causes the rail lines to vibrate which results in the noise. The company has been asked repeatedly to avoid this practice at their site in Hamilton and have been directed to do this unloading at another site. If you want to reach the company for further information contact: Kinsdale at 519-421-0600, PDI at 519-837-4535 or Rail Linc at 905-777-1234 extension 225.

CAP members have expressed a desire for a more formal process to bring concerns forward. Karen will create a form and process for this to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Next Regular CAP Meeting

Date: Thursday September 10, 2009
Place: ArcelorMittal Dofasco Conference Room E

Reported by Karen Logan