

FLOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Flood Advisory Committee was held at the Municipality of Colchester Council Chambers on March 23, 2017 at 11:10 am.

Present: Councillor Ron Cavanaugh, Chair
Mayor Christine Blair
Councillor Lloyd Gibbs
Councillor Eric Boutilier (arrived at 11:23 am.)

Hank Kolstee, Citizen Representative

Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works
Rod MacLennan, Project Supervisor / Consultant

Gary Robar, Cobequid Salmon Association
Jamie Webb, Cobequid Salmon Association

Regrets: Basil Pitts, Area Manager, NSTIR
Laurie Sandeson, Citizen Representative
Leroy Smith, Project Supervisor / Consultant
Nancy McKay, Director of Stakeholder and Community Relations, CN Rail

Overview: An overview was provided for Committee members on topics to be discussed during the meeting. This included the status of projects, budget, a possible partnership with the Cobequid Salmon Association (CSA) and issues concerning funding programs.

Approval of Agenda: An agenda was prepared and circulated for the Committee's review and approval.

Moved by: Hank Kolstee
Seconded by: Councillor Gibbs

"That the agenda be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the meeting held on December 21, 2016 were circulated for the Committee's review and approval.

Moved by: Councillor Gibbs
Seconded by: Hank Kolstee

"That the Minutes from the meeting on December 21, 2016 be approved as presented."

Motion carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

A site meeting still needs to be arranged at the Hilden Fire Hall.

New Applications:

One new application was received

Rod Norrie:

- Site visit to be scheduled

We have not received any application from the McNutt property.

Review of Small Projects:

The following updates have been made to the small projects list:

Kennedy:

- Letter to be sent advising resident of cost of proposed work. Resident to respond by April 30 if work is to proceed, otherwise to be removed from list.

Sutherland:

- Application is from 2014. Letter to be sent advising resident of cost of proposed work. Resident to respond by April 30 if work is to proceed, otherwise to be removed from list.

Carter:

- Project was discussed with Cobequid Salmon Association. Rod would like to have a site visit with CSA members to discuss with them any suggestions they may have which could help gain DFO approval.

Baxter:

- Survey is complete. A site inspection will be completed with the CSA. The FAC explained its role with flood mitigation projects, and the CSA explained its approach to river work. May be opportunities to partner. The FAC does not have a lot of experience with maintaining fish habit but would welcome the CSA expertise. The Baxter project will be added to the 2017-18 list. Need to obtain DFO approval.

Graham:

- Revise scope and resubmit for DFO approval

Hilden Fire Hall:

- The erosion is not too bad. Other alternatives are being looked at. DFO has made recommendations that need to be reviewed with the fire hall.

Dickie:

- Requires a site visit to assess what needs to be done.

Norrie:

- Requires a site visit to assess what needs to be done.

Review of Large Projects:

Great Village River:

- First application was declined by DFO – revise scope and resubmit. Hoping to start work in the summer.
- Michelle to request extension on funding.

Farnham Brook:

- Declined by DFO – don't see the need for work here.
- Michelle to request extension on funding.

Cobequid Salmon Association

Gary Robar and Jamie Webb attended the meeting on behalf of the Cobequid Salmon association (CSA). They gave a history of the CSA and the challenges they face. The FAC would like to partner with the CSA on applicable projects. The FAC explained its mandate and affiliations with other associations. Mr. Robar and Mr. Webb explained that they would need to take all the information back to the group and they would make a decision as a group. Mayor Blair welcomed them back to attend meetings at any time and offered to them that FAC members could attend theirs if so desired. The hope is that they would be able to attend every couple of months.

Salt Marsh Project

Rod has been to one meeting. TIR has purchased 200 acres and a consultant has been hired. They are investigating how to realign the dykes to create more wetlands.

Status of Budget:

With the new budget approaching, the Committee has asked for \$150,000 in funding with \$25,000 in contingency for emergency purposes in the 2017/18 fiscal year.

Project Video:

After reviewing the video it was suggested that changes need to be made before it is released. It was suggested that before and after pictures should be shown as well a couple of smaller projects to show the scope and diversity of work completed.

CN Update:

A letter was sent to Jim Phinney but he has retired. Letter was forwarded to Nancy MacKay who is off until May 3. The Mayor is attending a CN luncheon at the FCM where she will try and speak with someone addressing the committee's concerns.

FRIIP Funding:

Michelle has requested extensions on the funding for both the Farham and Great Village Projects. It was agreed by the committee that we will not seeking funding this year as there have been large carryover amounts and the program will likely be available again next year.

Training Costs, R. MacLennan, Culvert Course

Rod attended a two and a half day Culvert Course. With the completed course he can now supervise culvert installations. Course costs were \$1437.

Moved by: Mayor Blair
Seconded by: Eric Boutilier

“That the Flood Advisory Committee authorizes the costs from the Culvert Course is reimbursed to Mr. MacLennan.”

Motion carried.

Letter, Bill Casey

A letter was drafted to MP Casey regarding the difficulty in obtaining regulatory approvals. Letter should include a request for a meeting between MP Casey, Mayor Blair, FAC Chair, Director of Public Works and Rod.

New Business:

Black Rock is eroding badly. The Committee and CSA have concerns about the safety of the CN Rail track on the corner. The Committee feels that the owner should be notified and made aware of what the Committee does.

Councillor Cavanaugh suggested additional work could be done on the McNutt property by the second bridge in North River. Placement of rock would not require DFO approval and would cost approximately \$6,000 to \$7,000 and could be done under the maintenance budget or cost sharing with property owner. Ron to approach the property owner to see if he is interested in cost sharing 50% of the project.

Moved by: Hank Kolstee
Seconded by: Eric Boutilier

“That the Flood Advisory Committee approves 50% cost sharing on the McNutt property up to a maximum total project cost of \$7,500.”

Motion carried.

Future Meeting Dates:

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 11:00 am.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 1:37 pm.

Erin Parsons,
Recording Secretary