

Minutes of Meeting
Vermilion River Stewardship
Tuesday Sept. 13, 2011
7:00 – 9:00 pm
Beaver Lake Sports and Cultural Club

Present: Sheri Purdon, John Purdon, Ron Basso, Aaron Basso, Margaret Laframboise, Linda Heron, Pat Lewis, and Frank Flynn.

1. Quadra FNX – Victoria Mind Development

Presentation by Pat Lewis, Manager of Business Relations, and Frank Flynn, Project Manager

- Ethel Lake will be used for watering of mine
- Podolsky Mine set-up was shown as an example of what would happen at Victoria Mine – see below



- Tailings are placed on a large rubber membrane
- Mining water, rain and run-off are channeled by gravity into a series of treatment ponds and finally goes through a water treatment plant
- Effluent will be treated many times above the government regulated requirements
- Acidity of ore effluent is to be determined

- Apparently water after treatment is of higher quality than stream it is entering
- Treated mine effluent will likely be released into the Vermilion River Watershed, but final decision has not yet been made – could still go into the Spanish River Watershed
- Quadra FNX works in partnership with local communities and First Nations

2. Adoptions

- **Adoption of Agenda**
Moved by Sheri Purdon
Seconded by Ron Basso **Adopted**
- b. **Adoption of Minutes of June 7, 2011**
Moved by Sheri Purdon
Seconded by Ron Basso **Adopted**

3. Reports – Addendum 1

- a. **Executive Report**
 - Mike Ross – has resigned from active participation with the Stewardship due to health issues. We would like to thank Mike for his help with the Not for Profit Application and wish him well in his recovery.
- b. **Finance**
 - Not-for-Profit Bank Account opened at Bank of Montreal – 4 corners
- c. **Website**
- d. **Biodiversity Committee**
- e. **Correspondence**

4. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

- a. **Dam Proposals update** – See Executive Report
 - Operating strategy has changed to a “Lake Coupled” design
 - Notice of Completion will be issued on Wabagishik very soon
 - Need help to review Environmental Report and supporting documents
 - Prospectors from China Company staking a claim near the base of the Wabagishik Rapids - if anyone has any further information please let us know
- b. **Application for Not for Profit**
 - Successfully completed
 - Officially a Not-for-profit organization
- c. **Freedom of Information Application**
 - MNR granted approval and were about to provide documents, but Xeneca appealed decision
- d. **Quadra FNX – Victoria Mine**
 - Presentation was well received and plans seem very transparent.
- e. **Application for Lakes Advisory Panel Funding**
 - Silt core sampling at the base of Cascade falls
 - Lake Advisory Panel denied our funding application for silt sampling. First reason given was City didn’t want to be seen as taking sides on something

City Council would eventually have to vote on. Soon after discovered City did take sides by accepting funding from Xeneca as an Earth Care partner. News article celebrating their partnership appeared in the Sudbury Star and Northern Ontario Business Development newspaper on July 19, 2011. <http://www.northernontariobusiness.com/DisplayArticle.aspx?id=21548&terms=xeneca>

5. New Business

a. ER Committee

- Need members to help review documents of Environmental Report for Wabagishik when it goes into Notice of Completion
- Will have 30 days to comment once the Environmental Report is issued

b. Grant Programs

- Now that we have Not-for-Profit status we will qualify for funding
- Need to explore types of grants available and type of project that would best serve Vermilion River water quality

c. Notice of Public Information Centre

- Class Environmental Assessment for Lively/Walden Wastewater Treatment System to be held on September 22, 2011 6-8pm at the Tom Davies Community Centre

d. Additional Board Members

- Request for additional Board Members if anyone is interested

e. Membership

- Good support from the community
- New membership applications continue to come in
- \$20 for single \$25 for family

6. **Next meeting:** Tuesday, 11 October 2011 - **5:30 to 7:00** pm
Beaver Lake Sports and Cultural Club

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TIME!

Addendum - 1

Vermilion River Stewardship

EXECUTIVE REPORT

13 September 2011

Report from Chair:

- Application for Not-for-Profit has been approved
 - Submitted Initial Return - Government Services
- Attended Ontario Rivers Alliance meeting on 10 September 2011
 - List of questions to all political parties will go out
 - Not-for-Profit status should be in any time now
 - ORA just requested a Part II Order from the Minister of Environment, to elevate the Environmental Assessment on the Ivanhoe River, The Chute hydroelectric proposal to an Individual Environmental Assessment
- Xeneca has appealed the MNR's decision to grant VRS the 3 documents agreed upon
- Bruce Richard, MNR called to say I can pick up the Spanish-Vermilion River Water Management – will pick it up tomorrow
- Received response from EcoLogo – 11 August 2011, by email – no action
- Xeneca has apparently changed their design at Wabagishik to a Lake Coupled dam
- LAP, City of Sudbury denied our funding application mainly on the grounds that they didn't want to be seen to take sides, and then turned around and partnered with Xeneca on EarthCare Sudbury
- There will need to be another PIC
- Word is that most proposals will have Notices of Completion issued by the end of the year

Finance:

- Balance \$360.09

Website:

- Website - no activity

Biodiversity Committee:

So far to date we have not done anything concerning the biodiversity study of the river. However, will be taking pictures shortly of the water levels in the river to show just how shallow it gets in different locations. I will continue to push for a meeting with our contact at MNR.

Correspondence:

- 2011, June 6: VRS to The EcoLogo Program - Xeneca
- 2011, June 15: LAP to VRS - Application for Funding Denied
- 2011, June 7: VRS to Mayor Marianne Matichuk – Requesting Meeting
- 2011, July 11: Interviewed by CELA – Challenges with Hydroelectric Proposals
 - Produced a Summary – Available upon request.
- 2011, July 13: MNR to VRS – Granting Access to FIPPA docs.
- 2011, July 13: VRS to Ministry of Gov. Services – Amend Incorporation Application
- 2011, Aug. 11: EcoLogo to VRS – Convinced Xeneca didn't mean to do it.
- 2011, Aug 30: Tribunal Services Dept. to VRS – Xeneca Appeals FIPPA Application – 3 docs.
- 2011, Aug 31: Min of Gov. Services to VRS – Initial Return dates
- 2011, Sept 6: J.L.Richards to VRS - Invitation to attend Lively, Walden WWTS, PIC No.2
- 2011, Sept 8: VRS to Min of Gov. Services – Amended Initial Return