

**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF ARGYLE
PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 26, 2009
Tusket, Nova Scotia 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Warden Aldric d'Entremont; Councilors Kathy Bourque, Guy Surette, Calvin d'Entremont, Malcolm Madden, Committee members: Dianne Crowell, Cynthia LeBlanc-Goodwin, George Emin, Alain Muise CAO, Senior Planner Brad Fulton; Karen Dempsey Planner, Lorelei Doucette Acting Property Inspection Director and Recorder Carol LeBlanc

Regrets: Committee members Robert Amirault and Alfred d'Entremont

Presentation: Randy Cleveland

Members of the public: two

Randy Cleveland, geologist by trade, made a power point presentation on The Carleton River Watershed – Investigation into the Occurrence of Blue Green Algae Blooms preceding the meeting. His presentation focused on blue-green algae, the NS Department of Environment report, independent field investigation, the magnitude of the problem, the role of the Province of NS in this issue, the Role of the Municipality of Yarmouth, species at risk in the Carleton River Watershed, and Nowlans Lake (Digby County)

The meeting is called to order at 7:45 by Chairman Aldric d'Entremont.

Agenda:

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Kathy Bourque to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion Carried

Approval of Minutes

It is moved by Guy Surette and seconded by Calvin d'Entremont to approve the minutes of October 29, 2009 as circulated.
Motion Carried

Coastal Wetlands – Karen Dempsey

Ms Dempsey presented the background on a new MPS section called coastal wetlands, conservation and environmental stewardship. She indicated the numerous watershed areas of the Municipality of Argyle on the map.

She explained that previous planning documents and studies have recognized that certain landscape features pose specific constraints for development. Salt marshes are susceptible to flooding and are an extremely productive ecosystem. Beaches are valuable for recreational purposes and often exhibit unstable slopes and soil conditions created by wind and wave erosion and tidal flooding.

A strong stewardship program is essential for the conservation of wetlands, watercourses, lakes and sensitive natural environments. Argyle Municipality is one of sixteen municipalities that comprise the UNESCO designated South West Nova Biosphere Reserve.

The foundation principles adopted by Council recognize the need to reduce our encroachment upon nature.

A discussion on the conservation and stewardship policies, led to concerns with Policy # 4. This policy deals with the riparian (watercourse) buffer along all watercourses and wetlands where the erection of structures, removal of vegetation and the altering of land levels would be restricted. Ms Dempsey will do more research on size of buffers in other jurisdictions, tidal rivers, and wildlife ecosystem.

Complete document attached.

Regional Sustainability Challenges and Issues – Karen Dempsey

Karen Dempsey presented two additional issues that Barrington Municipality felt required regional attention and collaboration.

1. Regional Health Care Services
2. Regional economic Development

The Municipality of Argyle had asked Karen to include another section under the social/cultural development goal. She explained she had circulated the revised section and had only received one comment. Ms Dempsey feels it is one thing that makes Argyle unique – the Acadian language and culture. Section 4 reads: *To encourage cultural diversity and recognize the Acadian language and culture as an important cultural asset that must be supported and maintained for future generations.*

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee will be held on December 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Other Business

Dianne Crowell handed copies of the Tri-County Roadshow: a conversation with seniors document prepared in partnership with the VON. A very useful document. Dianne also has available a power point presentation on Senior Women – a series of quotes.

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 8:40 p.m. on motion by George Emin and seconded by Guy Surette.

Recorder,
Carol LeBlanc

Date approved: _____

Chairman/Warden _____

Alain Muise, Chief Administrative Officer _____

