



## OAKVILLE HARBOURS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2010**

**OAKVILLE ROOM  
OAKVILLE MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
1225 TRAFALGAR ROAD**

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A meeting of the Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2010, in the Oakville Room of the Oakville Municipal Building, commencing at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Rody Watt, Chair  
Jim Chamberlain, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Fred Oliver  
Indy Balendra  
William Cudmore  
Sara Gillians (Arrived 7:35 p.m.)  
David Hickling  
Matthew Kennedy  
Richard O'Hare

Staff: Domenic Lunardo, Commissioner of Community Services  
Chris Mark, Director of Parks and Open Space  
Heather Turenne, Manager of Harbours and Cemeteries  
Lyn Morgan, Committee Coordinator

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**The items in these minutes are not necessarily in the order discussed.**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Rody Watt called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**2. Regrets**

None.

3. **Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**

**Meeting of August 25, 2010**

Moved by Richard O'Hare

**That the minutes of the Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee meeting of August 25, 2010, be approved.**

CARRIED

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. **Discussion Item(s)**

a. **Draft Oakville Harbours Financial Strategic Business Plan - Update Report**

Chris Mark, Director of Parks and Open Space, introduced Domenic Lunardo, Commissioner of Community Services, who addressed the members advising that, as Commissioner of Community Services, his responsibilities included Recreation and Culture, Parks and Open Space, the Fire Department, as well as providing a communication connection between the Town and the Oakville Public Library, Oakville Galleries, and TOWARF. Mr. Lunardo reported that the Parks and Open Space Department included the Harbours Section and he assured the members that, from a staff perspective, the harbours were an important and vital part of the community.

Mr. Lunardo further advised that the Harbours and Cemeteries were traditionally business units that were self-sustaining with minimal funding from the tax levy. He reported that staff were requested by Council to review the harbours financial plan to determine whether or not the harbours could continue as a self-sustaining unit, particularly due to rising costs related to dredging. Mr. Lunardo indicated that the Hemson report provided a number of different models and financial options which staff had shared with the various stakeholders groups including the Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee and the Association of Oakville Harbours Stakeholders. He advised that staff would be making a recommendation to Council based on the input from the stakeholder groups, and he assured the members that staff would be sharing the stakeholders' comments with Council.

Mr. Lunardo reviewed the resolution which Council had approved at its meeting on September 20, 2010, as indicated in the memorandum distributed to the members at the Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee meeting. He advised that the *Draft Oakville Harbours Financial Strategic Business Plan - Update Report* was received and referred to the Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee for final comment, and that staff had been directed to prepare a final report by January 2011.

Mr. Lunardo explained that the dredging technical review referred to in the staff recommendation, was renamed the sediment management plan at the request of the Association of Oakville Harbours Stakeholders, and that the scope of the study would include the source of the sediment and evaluation of standards around sediment management, as well as other opportunities to reduce dredging costs. Mr. Lunardo indicated that staff would appreciate comments from the stakeholders with respect to developing terms of reference for the plan. He advised that funding for a feasibility and capacity study for additional slips in the Oakville and Bronte harbours, and funding for the sediment management plan, would be referred to the 2011 Budget Committee for consideration early in the new year. Mr. Lunardo reported that, as noted in the recommendation, the Development Services Department had been requested to report, by January 2011, on the steps necessary for the Town to adopt and follow the Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines of the Golden Horseshoe Conservation Authorities.

Mr. Lunardo also indicated that, along with the formal recommendation of the Community Services Committee, one of the requests made was to consider a fisheries management plan, which staff suggested could take up to two years to complete and might best be undertaken by the Conservation Authority rather than the Town due to its expertise in that area.

Mr. Lunardo noted that staff would gather all of the stakeholder input, information and comment for evaluation and report back to the Community Services Committee in January 2011, as had been directed by Council.

Responding to a question, Mr. Lunardo advised that tenders for the dredging had closed and were considerably less than expected and that this dredging would proceed based on the current model. He also noted that watershed boundaries would be reviewed and discussed with the Halton Conservation Authority, when developing the sediment management plan.

A discussion ensued and comments and concerns raised by the Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee members included:

- identification of infrastructure, and what defines the infrastructure to be maintained by the harbours;
- possibility of cost and management of sediment being a shared responsibility;

- the substantial cost to the boaters for the dredging;
- the necessity to dredge the harbours even without boats;
- debentured debt for dredging (i.e., Bronte ten year debenture but with a three year overlap);
- possibility of exploring funding opportunities and lobbying the federal and provincial governments for grants for dredging;
- sharing dredging costs with other municipalities that also contribute to the siltation in the harbours;
- PSAP (Public Sector Accounting Board) funding – legislated requirements;
- renovation and maintenance costs of the Oakville Harbours Marina Building (heritage listed building), justification of the renovation, and relocation of tenants during renovation of the building;
- possibility of broadening the scope of the capacity study to include a visioning exercise of the harbours as they now stand and what they could become, timelines for the plan, what services should be offered to the tenants; what revenue generating opportunities might exist;
- possibility of charging dredging fees related to boat size rather than a flat fee, similar to summer mooring fees;
- intention of staff with respect to rates and fees for 2011.

Cheryl Etherington, speaking on behalf of the Association of Oakville Harbours Stakeholders (AOHS), and Trevor Carter, a sub-committee member of the AOHS, addressed the Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee and filed submissions with the Committee Coordinator. Dave Smith and Paul Attwood also appeared before the Committee. The delegations provided the following comments and suggestions:

- neighbouring municipalities contributing to problem of siltation, should be requested to take corrective action and participate in the cost sharing of the problem;
- entire cost of dredging should not be borne by the boaters;
- more transparency in the Town's fiscal reporting with respect to what boat clubs contribute toward dredging fees and what Town tenants contribute on a slip by slip basis;
- development and implementation of a Master Plan for both harbours;
- necessity of understanding what happens in the whole watershed with respect to siltation and then organizing a way of managing it as a system;
- responsibility of municipalities to ensure that development does not contravene *Fisheries Act*, *Navigable Waters Protection Act*, *Ontario Water Resources Act*;
- possibility of levying a sediment management fee on development;
- reiterated that boaters do not cause the siltation in the harbours.

Following further discussion with respect to the feasibility and capacity study for additional slips in Oakville and Bronte harbours, it was requested that the study identify future capacity requirements based on the growth in Oakville, examine cost benefits of transient moorings, survey tenants' needs and required services, and compare services with other marinas.

Responding to comments regarding governance and stakeholder oversight, Mr. Lunardo indicated that governance of the harbours was not within the scope of the capacity study and he suggested that when the final report comes forward in January 2011, the Committee members could raise this matter directly with Council.

Mr. Lunardo advised that staff would take into consideration the comments and concerns raised by the members at this evening's meeting, as well as the submissions filed by the delegations. Mr. Lunardo also requested that the Committee members forward additional comments they wish to have incorporated into the final report directly to him within the next three weeks.

Moved by Jim Chamberlain

**That the comments provided by the Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee members and the delegations this evening, as well as any additional comments provided directly to staff within the next three weeks, be incorporated into the staff report to be submitted to Council in January 2011.**

CARRIED

*(Clerk's Note: Subsequent to the meeting, Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee members provided the additional comments directly to staff as attached in Appendix A.)*

**b. Extension of Advisory Committee Appointments**

Lyn Morgan, Committee Coordinator, advised the members that, on August 30, 2010, Oakville Town Council approved the extension of the current advisory committee appointments into the new year. She indicated that the Town Clerk had sent each member a letter providing more details with respect to the extension and application for reappointment.

The Committee Coordinator reported that advertisements were placed on the Town website on September 13, 2010, and in the local newspapers beginning September 15, 2010. She indicated that members could apply for a committee appointment either on line or in person at the Clerk's Department and that applications for committee appointments would be accepted until October 8, 2010.

Moved by Jim Chamberlain

**That the information regarding the extension of the advisory committee appointments be received.**

CARRIED

**c. Update - Harbours/Marine Security**

Matthew Kennedy advised that the harbours office had received a report from a Bronte tenant advising that someone had climbed on board his boat at 2:30 a.m., on Monday, September 20, 2010, but had been scared off. Chris Mark, Director of Parks and Open Space, indicated that the security camera tape could be reviewed, and staff would follow-up on any information gleaned from the tape.

Moved by Sara Gillians

**That the update regarding harbours/marine security be received.**

CARRIED

**d. Working Group Updates:**

**(i) Harbours Capacity Planning**

David Hickling indicated that the working group endorsed the capacity and feasibility study recommended by Council. Mr. Hickling also asked that prior to the end of the year, each Committee member visit the site immediately left of the Shell Pier, which could be considered as a location for a dingy facility.

**(ii) Communications**

No report.

**(iii) Finance**

Responding to a question, Heather Turenne advised that letters had been sent to the boat clubs for voluntary contributions for dredging fees, as in previous years, and she indicated that if the fees were not collected to the extent required, it would affect the potential transfer to reserve.

Ms. Turenne, in response to another question regarding mooring revenue, indicated that there were vacant slips in 2010 as some boats had relocated to other marinas due to the low water levels in the Oakville harbours earlier in the year.

**(iv) Oakville Harbours Boating Expo 2010 - Final Report**

No report.

**(v) 'Clean Marine' Information Brochure**

No report.

**(vi) Bronte and Oakville Foghorns**

Heather Turenne, Manager of Harbours and Cemeteries, reported that she had contacted the University of Waterloo engineering students regarding an update on the foghorn project, and that she would email the members when she had a response from the students.

Moved by Jim Chamberlain

**That the working group updates be received.**

CARRIED

**6. Information Item(s)**

- a. Lake Camera accessed on the TOWARF Website on Webcam
- b. Richard O'Hare advised the members that this would be the last Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee meeting Councillor Oliver would be attending as he was retiring on November 30, 2010--the end of the term of Council. Mr. O'Hare, on behalf of the members, took this opportunity to thank Councillor Oliver for his numerous years of service in Oakville and his guidance and assistance to the Committee over the years. Mr. O'Hare stated that the members were inspired by what Councillor Oliver had done in the harbours and he hoped Councillor Oliver would continue to share his expertise with the members during his retirement.

Moved by Richard O'Hare

**That Councillor Oliver be thanked for his many years of service in the Town of Oakville and his guidance and assistance to the Oakville Harbours Advisory Committee.**

CARRIED

**7. Items to be Discussed at Next/Future Meetings**

- Update on Dredge
- Working Group Updates

**8. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Wednesday, January 26, 2011  
Oakville Municipal Building  
Room to be Determined - 7:30 p.m.

**9. Adjournment**

Moved by William Cudmore

**That this meeting now adjourn.**

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.