

Cumberland Forestry Advisory Committee
May 13 2020
7:00-9:00pm, Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Attendees: Jonathan McClelland, Norman Paupin, Ron Furlong, Sheila Christie, Steven McLelan, Mac Davis, Keith Thompson, Matthew MacGillivray, Dave Ritcey, Craig Tupper, Jeff Black, Kevin Merriam - Meeting Chairman

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by meeting chair – Kevin Merriam

Item 1 – Meeting Chairman- Kevin Merriam welcomed all participants and informed the Committee that Jeff had intended on being the meeting chair but was going to be late. Kevin thanked everyone for joining the meeting. There were two items added to the – Update on activities of the Transition Team and an update on the State of Nova Scotia’s Forest. Kevin asked for approval on the agenda. Agenda approved.

Item 2 – Approval of the minutes of the May 6, 2020 meeting.
Minutes approved.

Item 3 – Business Arising from the Minutes – Review of May 6th action items.

Action Item 1: Provide the Committee with an editable copy of the short form document.

Was reported that the changes suggested had been made to both the short form documents and the long document.

Action Item 2: Scheduling of the community meeting. Tabled to later in the meeting.

Action Item 3: Provincial Transition Team to be contacted regards getting CFAC representatives on the agenda to present the short form of the CFAC Strategic Plan.

No official request had been made to the Transition Team.

Action Item 4: Status of the long form document.

Was reported that the Future of Forestry document had been distributed to the committee.

Action Item 5: Review of edits to the Terms of Reference. Tabled to later in the meeting.

Action Item 6: Request for an update on Northern Pulp. Tabled to later in the meeting

Update on the Debert Tree Nursery -Was reported that since the last meeting of the CFAC, there have been calls and meetings by several parties and that Northern Pulp had also been contacted regarding the future of the Nursery. The Government and DNR are aware of the need to keep the Nursery operating. Was also indicated that the nursery will be a topic of the update by Northern Pulp to the CFAC.

Item 4- Review of the Draft Terms of Reference Tabled to later in the meeting

Item 5 – New Business

Review and discussion of updated **“Future of Forestry – Strategic Plan” Summary** Was reported that the short document had been edited based on the discussion of May 6th. Committee in agreement that the document was very close to being completed. Was suggested that the Immediate Action Items should be moved to before the pathways. This would allow for the pathways to be on one page. Only cosmetics to the document. It was suggested that the document be changed as suggested and then brought back to the committee for final approval. The committee then discussed the long document and some changes and edits were suggested. It was stressed that the two documents needed to match, since the summary was of the long document.

Item 4- Review of the Draft Terms of Reference. Committee discussed the draft terms of references as presented. Working on the Terms of Reference to present a new draft to the committee for approval.

Item 5 – New Business: Update of the activities of the Transition Team.

The Transition Team are working on a long-term vision of the Team. The \$50 million Trust was being managed of the Deputy Minister of Business and no trustees have been named to date. It could be problematic that the trust was not being managed by DNR. It was reported that the Transition Team was working on several items: impact of spring weight restrictions, road closures and the speed of approval of special movement permits; the effects of COVID19 restrictions of the Team and the forest industry, biomass, wood heat and crown stumpage updates.

The committee discussed the suggestion of sending a letter to Mark S. Peachey, Executive Director, Maintenance and Operations, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal.

New Action Item: Development of a letter to Mark S. Peachey.

Item 6 – Date and planning for Community Meeting (Wednesday, May 27th of Sunday, May 31st)

Since the committee had approved the summary document, it was time to schedule the community meeting. It was discussed and agreed by the committee members to have the meeting on Sunday, May 31st, 2020.

Item 7- Update by Northern Pulp. Kevin Merriam thank Matt MacGillivray for the idea of asking representatives from Northern Pulp to provide an update to the CFAC.

The request had been made to Northern Pulp to provide an update to the CFAC and they are very interested in the opportunity. It was agreed to by the committee to request the participation at the next meeting.

Next meeting May 20th at 7pm. The agenda for this meeting will be preparation for the community meeting and the update from Northern Pulp.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.