

**CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
HESPELER WEST SUBWATERSHEDS STUDY WORKING COMMITTEE
MEETING NO. 11
MINUTES**

Thursday, May 6, 2004
Galt Room, Farmers' Market Building, Dickson St., Cambridge (Galt)

Committee Present: Councillor Rick Cowsill (City) (Chair), Erich Ritzmann (MGWA), Cathy Murphy (MGWA), John Vasiga (MGWA), Charlene Schiedel (MGWA), Nancy Davy (GRCA), Chris Gosselin (RMOW), Ken Cornelisse (MNR), Wendy Wright (City), April Souwand (City), Ian Rawlings (Large Property Owners)

Others Present: Ron McKittrick (alternate for Charlene Schiedel (MGWA)), Brenda Khes (alternate for Ian Rawlings), Mary, Don and Larry Hammer (landowners)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Rick Cowsill.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None

3. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by John Vasiga Seconded by Charlene Schiedel

THAT the Minutes of the Hespeler West Subwatersheds Study Working Committee meeting held April 15, 2004 be amended as follows:

- Add to page 3, last paragraph on Section 4, "Charlene pointed out an enhancement at Mohawk Road and Speedsville Road that might also be inappropriate."

And adopted as amended.

CARRIED

Ken Cornelisse clarified that his definition of the wetland boundary from April 1, 2004 meant, where plants that are water loving or water tolerant form 50% of the vegetation community.

4. Presentation and Discussion– Natural Heritage System Enhancement and Stewardship Areas – Wendy Wright, City of Cambridge

Wendy Wright led a discussion on Natural Heritage System Enhancement and Stewardship Areas, using several maps. She clarified that the maps do not yet reflect the

changes that have been made to the PSWs by Ken Cornelisse, nor the revisions that may be made to the floodline. Erich Ritzmann questioned why some potential ESPAs are shown south of Maple Grove Road. Chris clarified that 6.33, 6.32d should not have been identified on the mapping as potential ESPAs, but that he did want to look at the other areas that are identified south of Maple Grove Road. The high constraint areas map was then divided into three sub-groups (FOD/FOM/FOC, CUP/CUW and "other"). Wendy Wright handed out three tables that showed the features of these polygons. She then showed a buffer map and discussed the GRCA wetlands buffer policy (1992) and the new GRCA Wetlands Policy (2003). She clarified that MNR does not generally comment on development applications, so the GRCA policy is particularly important with respect to wetland protection. Nancy Davy indicated that the new policy states that where a subwatershed study provides direction on buffers, the GRCA uses that in implementing their policies. She said best management practice is 30 metres and if this was to be reduced, it would have to be done in a comprehensive way.

Wendy Wright pointed out on a map where 30 metre buffers adjacent to PSWs were shown. Cathy Murphy asked why the buffers from Moffat Creek (which in some cases were less than 30 metres) were not used in the HWSS. Rick Cowsill requested staff to look into this and report back to the group. Ian Rawlings pointed out that the GRCA policy does not distinguish from different types of wetlands (PSW, LSW and non-evaluated wetlands) when protecting them. Nancy Davy clarified that some very small ones or man-made ones may not be protected and she will look at them to see what should be said about their buffers. Ian Rawlings suggested that since existing development is to be recognized, the pit licenses should also be shown on the maps. Wendy Wright indicated she had asked Ken Cornelisse to look at the score for the Maple Grove Wetland Complex if the pit license removed all of the wetland within its bounds. Cathy Murphy questioned how the GRCA could go beyond what is mandated by the PPS with respect to wetland protection. Nancy Davy clarified that local government can go beyond the PPS and the GRCA board is made up of local municipal representatives that have made the decision for the entire Grand watershed with respect to wetland protection.

Buffers next to potential ESPAs (yellow on the map) were then reviewed. These widths have not yet been determined, nor the policies associated with them. There were also buffers adjacent to high constraint areas that are in the floodplain (shown as orange). The buffers that were not coloured in were what was left over and appropriate buffers have yet to be determined for these areas. Finally, there were red areas where there were inappropriate buffers shown on the opposite side of roads that are suggested to be removed. Erich Ritzmann asked what would happen if Chris determined some areas were not to be ESPA after looking at them. Wendy Wright indicated that there would be an addendum to the subwatersheds study to reflect this change, as it would be treated as an open file.

Wendy Wright showed the conceptual watershed linkage and enhancement areas map, without the underlying land uses shown and Erich Ritzmann's suggestions for changes to the enhancement areas shown on the Greenspace Management Strategy. She then handed

out a table that addressed each of the suggested changes for consideration by the group and discussion at the next meeting.

The following materials which were part of the agenda package were used in the discussion:

- a) Memo from April Souwand dated April 22, 2004 Re: Greenspace Management Strategy- Figure 3.3.1
- b) Maple Grove Wetlands Association – Issues List April 30, 2004
 - Buffers – Note items 2 to 6
 - Enhancement Land Uses – Note items 7 & 8
- c) E-mail from Nancy Davy – GRCA – Wetland Buffer policies re: 1992 Policy and GRCA Wetlands Policy adopted March 28, 2003 (see Policies 6.2.8 to 6.2.15)
- d) E-mail and Map – Erich Ritzmann – Enhancements

Cathy Murphy asked if future discussions could look at why Middle Creek corridor is proposed to be 200 m, versus the 50 m for East and West Creeks. Rick Cowsill asked if the MGWA group could get their concerns with this information, once they have had the opportunity to review it, to staff before the next meeting. The following material was not covered in the meeting, as the meeting ended at 5 pm. This material will be moved to the next meeting agenda:

5. Other Business

- a) Follow-up List – Wendy Wright went over the list with the committee and explained that she has tried to slot follow-up items in the upcoming topics list.
- b) List of Topics for Upcoming Meetings – Wendy Wright distributed an update of the list of topics for upcoming meetings.
- c) Field Visits – Scope to be discussed at next meeting.
- d) Ponds Discussion – Maple Grove Wetlands Association
- e) Memo from Hans Madan Re: Toyota Lands and Fill Regulations

R Cowsill motioned to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next meeting – Galt Room, Farmers’ Market Building – 3:30 to 5:30 pm, May 20, 2004