CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2017

Hamilton Conservation Authority

Vision
HCA works to ensure healthy streams and healthy communities in which human needs are met in balance with the needs of the natural environment, now and in the future.

Mission
To lead in the conservation and sustainable management of our watershed's natural environment.
NOTICE OF MEETING
CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
Thursday, August 10, 2017
7:00 p.m.
Fifty Point Marina
Ingledale Room, 1479 Baseline Road, Winona

1. CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS ~ Topalovic
2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. DELEGATIONS
5. MEMBER BRIEFING
   5.1 Fifty Point Bridge and Pond Work ~ Hall
6. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTIONS ~ Topalovic
   There was none.
7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
   7.1 Minutes – Conservation Advisory Board (June 8, 2017) ~ Topalovic
8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
   8.1 Tracking Report (for your information only)
9. STAFF REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS
   9.1 Naming of New East Escarpment Conservation Area ~ Correia
   9.2 Shuttle Service at Spencer Gorge (verbal update) ~ Costie
   9.3 Upcoming Events ~ Costie
10. NEW BUSINESS
11. IN-CAMERA ITEMS FOR MATTERS OF LAW, PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY
12. NEXT MEETING – Thursday, September 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
13. ADJOURNMENT
Minutes of the Conservation Advisory Board meeting held on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at HCA’s Woodend Administration Building commencing at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Maria Topalovic, Chair
John Barkovic
Lydia Cartlidge
Joanne Di Maio
Cheryl Larocque
Duke O’Sullivan
Kris Brown
Frank Cucullo
Susan Fielding
Chris Michels
John Shaw

REGRETS: Rob Booth, Kristen Brittain, Brad Gautreau, Donna Kydd, Santina Moccio, Robert Pasuta, Morgan Pirie, Marie Robbins, Wayne Terryberry

STAFF PRESENT: Jonathan Bastien, Grace Correia, Matt Hall, Lesley McDonell, Neil McDougall, Val Pazzi, and Scott Peck – HCA Staff

OTHERS: Richard Leitner - Media

1. **CHAIR’S REMARKS**

   Cheryl Larocque chaired the meeting to start as Maria Topalovic was caught in traffic. Upon arriving, Maria Topalovic apologized to everyone for being late, welcomed everyone, and indicated the regrets received for the meeting.

2. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

   The Chair asked members to declare any conflicts of interest. There was none.
3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

CA1714 MOVED BY: Duke O’Sullivan
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding

THAT the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1 Hamilton Burlington Trails Council

Matt gave a brief introduction to Alex Brodka, Hamilton Burlington Trails Council Executive Director, and acknowledged their achievements and success.

Alex Brodka presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Hamilton Burlington Trails Council. Alex credited that through generous grant funding from the province for the success of her position, and dedicated full time coordinator for the Hamilton Burlington Trails Council.

Alex indicated the Hamilton Burlington Trails Council has twelve members including Bruce Trail Conservancy Iroquoia Club, Royal Botanical Gardens, Conservation Halton, Hamilton Conservation Authority, Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System, McMaster University, Hamilton C.C., Ontario Trails, City of Hamilton, Hamilton Naturalists’ Club, City of Burlington, and Bike for Mike.

Alex reviewed the council’s mission, goals, and objectives. Their mission is to serve as a trail alliance in developing and communicating a first class system in the Hamilton Burlington region, to promote the health benefits of recreational trail use to residents and visitors while conserving our valuable natural ecosystems.

Alex provided an overview of previous and current projects. Alex highlighted on the Trailhead Conference held and how it strengthen Hamilton-Burlington Trails Council relationships.

Maria asked members for their questions and thanked Alex for the presentation.

5. MEMBER BRIEFING

There was none.
6. **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTOR’S ACTIONS**

Maria indicated that the May 2017 CAB minutes indicate that Motion CA1710 Ancaster Wells – Site Closure and Decommissioning was approved by the HCA Board of Directors. This error was noted as the Ancaster Wells recommendation was tabled by the Board of Directors.

7. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

7.1 **Minutes – Conservation Advisory Board (May 11, 2017)**

Maria Topalovic presented the minutes of the Conservation Advisory Board meeting held on May 11, 2017. An error was noted on page 4 – CA1710 Ancaster Wells – Site Closure and Decommissioning that the Board of Directors had approved this motion. The Board of Directors did not approve the motion and the matter was tabled.

Motion to Receive the Minutes

CA1715 MOVED BY: Kris Brown
SECONDED BY: Frank Cucullo

THAT the minutes of the May 11, 2017 Conservation Areas Advisory Board meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

8. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was none.

9. **STAFF REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS**

9.1 **East Escarpment EA – Final Report**

Scott Peck provided a PowerPoint presentation on updated information on the East Escarpment Wetland Restoration project.

Scott refreshed members on the goal and objective of this project, and advised that Grace is working on an official name for this new conservation area.
Scott gave an update on parcels of land acquired which are 99 hectares (245 acres) as of June 1, 2017.

Scott indicated the actions to date as follows:

- Environmental Assessment Process (Amec Foster Wheeler) – commenced
- 1st Public Information Centre held March 28, 2017
- Approximately 25 people attended
- Information boards from 1st Public Information Centre in front hall for your review
- Purpose of Public Information Centre is to highlight intent of the project

Scott overviewed steps moving forward with this project are:

- Initial work has demonstrated that upwards of 500,000 cubic metres of water can be held through creation of wetland features
- EA process currently reviewing alternatives to address project purpose and address flood and erosion issues
- EA preferred options will be developed and project finalized
- Additional Public Information Session will be held to obtain public comments – anticipated fall 2017


Scott asked for any questions and answered member’s questions.

Maria thanked Scott for the update.

9.2 Climate Change Program

Jonathan Bastien provided a PowerPoint presentation on HCA Climate Change Program.

Jonathan gave a review and status update on the following:

- Synopsis of the Strategy
- Principles – both mitigation and adaptation to climate change and collaboration of partners
- Overall Goals
- Strategies for addressing climate change
- HCA actions/initiatives to understand the problem
- Hamilton Climate Change Vulnerability Study – partner with City of Hamilton, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, and collaboration with Ontario Climate Consortium, McMaster University
Jonathan overviewed HCA actions:

- Ongoing HCA monitoring programs
- HCA HHRAP Water Quality program expansion
- Erosion monitoring
- Recent and enhancements to monitoring tools and data
- Potential future use of FloodNet Thunderstorm prediction modeling
- Potential future incorporation of City of Hamilton real time rain gauge data

Further strategies for addressing climate change is to communicate and share information, educate staff, HCA Board of Directors, and partners, integrate into existing policies, and develop new policies, plans, and programs.

Jonathan highlighted on the East Escarpment project as a way to address flood and erosion hazards in downstream areas.

Maria thanked Jonathan for his presentation and asked members for any questions.

9.3 HCA Managed Forest Plan and Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program

Lesley McDonell presented the memorandum and indicated that in 2007 and 2010 a Managed Forest Plans (MFP) was developed for forested sections of some HCA owned lands (900 ha in total). HCA is registered under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP) administered by the Government of Ontario. Properties covered by MFTIP are taxed at a reduced rate of 25% of the municipal tax rate for residential properties.

The MFPs are detailed plans that indicate the types of forest cover in each forest unit, including both coniferous and deciduous forest, and identifying corresponding management objectives.

HCA is currently in the process of updating the MFP with our forestry consultant Silv-Econ. The field work for this project is complete along with the background review of eligible properties. Lesley advised that 60 percent of the project is done of a ten year plan.

HCA has identified properties that could be placed under the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP). CLTIP is a program offered by the Provincial Government that allows for tax relief to property owners who own significant natural features in the province. This program offers 100% tax relief and is a yearly application.

HCA has completed a detailed review of these programs and will be moving forward with applying for a number of properties under the CLTIP. This should produce approximately a $20,000 tax benefit for HCA. The final Managed Forest
Plan and appropriate CLTIP applications will be submitted to the Province of Ontario before the July 31, 2017 deadline.

Maria asked members for any questions.

9.4 Upcoming HCA Events

Scott Peck provided an update of the upcoming events that was provided in the agenda package.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Duke O’Sullivan asked Scott about the inch worms this year. Scott advised members that he would send out an email to everyone with an update on the inch worm situation this year.

Lydia Cartlidge suggested that a Conservation Advisory Board could be held at one of the locations where flooding has taken place this year.

Scott informed members that there will be a Foundation meeting in August at Fifty Point Conservation Area for the official opening of the bridge and trail. Lydia advised that she would be away in August. Scott suggested that the next Conservation Advisory Board meeting in July could be at Confederation Park.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the CAB is scheduled for Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting was adjourned.
# Memorandum

**To:** Members of the Conservation Advisory Board  
**From:** Lisa Burnside, CAO  
**Recommended by:** T. Scott Peck, MCIP, RPP, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Director of Watershed Planning & Engineering  
**Prepared by:** Jaime Tellier, Watershed Officer  
**Date:** July 27, 2017  
**Re:** CAB Tracking Report – August 10, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Formal Recommendation</th>
<th>Idea/Comment</th>
<th>Board Approval</th>
<th>Action/Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 13, 2017</td>
<td>Ancaster Wells – Recommendation to the Board of Directors: That this report be received as information for project background and general understanding; and That the Conservation Advisory Board endorse the closure of the site; and further That the Conservation Advisory Board recommend to the Board of Directors that the site be closed.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Tabled May, 2017, deferred to November, 2017</td>
<td>Staff have responded to inquiries from members of the public; HCA erected a sign on-site notifying users that City of Hamilton Public Health Services informed HCA about regulatory changes and a requirement to comply with the new provincial drinking water quality standard.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 13, 2017</td>
<td>Gypsy Moth Surveys - That the Conservation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Directors:</td>
<td>That the memorandum titled Gypsy Moth Surveys and Update be received.</td>
<td>May, 2017</td>
<td>Staff are coordinating with the City of Hamilton; Information is being added to the HCA website; Management techniques being implemented in select areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8, 2016</td>
<td>Webster Falls - Spencer Gorge Members requested an update regarding Webster Falls – Spencer Gorge</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Promotion for the shuttle operation continues, to date 5910 cars have been diverted from the Greensville area; Visitor surveys are being undertaken; HCA continues to participate on a City of Hamilton waterfalls committee to discuss and address waterfall-related issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August, 2016</td>
<td>Natural Heritage Maintenance Plan</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>The plan has been included in the WP&amp;E Strategic Action Plan for 2017; Inventory of HCA lands to be included in the maintenance plan has begun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April, 2016</td>
<td>HCA Managed Forest Plan – received as information</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>HCA Managed Forest Plan currently being updated by consultant and is due to the MNRF on July 31, 2017. Funding application approved for tree planting and invasive species removal at CLCA harvest site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November, 2015</td>
<td>Valens Dam Safety Review Overview – Recommendation to the Board of Directors that the Valens Dam Safety Review by EXP Services Inc. be received; and further THAT the recommended works to address deficiencies be approved for implementation.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>December, 2015</td>
<td>Staff continue to collect water level data. Once sufficient data is collected, will be submitted to dam engineer for review.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>November, 2015</td>
<td>Millgrove Workshop – Storm Damage – received as information</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Building construction is complete. Finalization of lighting and fire suppression requirements is in progress.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June, 2015</td>
<td>Pond Decommissioning and Fish Habitat Improvement Project – received as information</td>
<td>Monitor for changes in water temperature as a result of the decommissioning</td>
<td>Ecological monitoring of Ponds 1-6 is ongoing; Fisheries and Oceans Canada funding for Pond 7 conditionally approved, subject to finalization of agreement and work plan.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>March, 2015</td>
<td>Hermitage Ruins Restoration – received as information</td>
<td>Inquiry regarding future works to fenced laundry building at the rear of the site.</td>
<td>Interpretive signage to be designed and installed in 2017. Report will be taken to HCA Board in 2017 for proposed works to laundry building.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>January, 2015</td>
<td>Roofed Accommodation Facilities – Valens Lake Conservation Area – received as information</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Initial review of MOECC Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) application is complete, a response to minor comments has been sent. Following site plan approval, staff will submit a building permit application.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>June, 2014</td>
<td>Desjardins Canal Parklands Restoration Project Update – Recommendation that the HCA Board of Directors approve the change in design approach to the chimney square area of the Desjardins Canal Parklands project as proposed by the Dundas Rotary Clubs; and that the staff update report on the Desjardins Canal Parklands Restoration Project be received</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>July, 2014 Replacement habitat islands have been received and installed. Turtle nesting site creation opportunities have been identified, to be installed Summer/Fall, 2017. Deck/lookout is currently under design.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April, 2014</td>
<td>HCA Planning &amp; Regulation Policies and Guidelines - Policy Review and Update – received as information</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>The policy and guidelines document continues to be reviewed, to be completed in 2017.</td>
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Report

TO: Conservation Advisory Board Members
FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
RECOMMENDED BY: Executive Staff Team
PREPARED BY: Grace Correia, Executive Director, Hamilton Conservation Foundation
DATE: July 6, 2017
RE: Naming of new East Escarpment Conservation Area

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

HCA Executive Staff Team recommends to the Conservation Advisory Board:

THAT the new Conservation Area in the East Escarpment be named Saltfleet Conservation Area; and further

THAT the new name be announced at the Foundation’s Nature Crawl event, scheduled for Saturday, October 14, 2017.

BACKGROUND

99 hectares (245 acres) have been acquired as of June 1, 2017 for the East Escarpment Wetland Restoration Project which provides substantial land to create a new conservation area in the East Escarpment.

A contest to name the new conservation area was initially launched to area schools in 2016. There was no response to that initial launch and the contest was subsequently expanded to include all residents of upper Stoney Creek early this year.

The contest information was distributed via various means, including email to schools and parents’ councils, at the HCA’s open house in the spring, and through local
traditional media, social media, and HCA and Foundation websites. The last round of the contest closed on May 31 and entries were vetted through HCA Executive team.

STAFF COMMENT

Eleven entries were received with suggestions for the new property name. These were:

Angel Park
Bob Love Conservation Area
Dominic Agostino Conservation Area
John Copeland Conservation Area
Love Nature Conservation Area
Montmorency Conservation Area
Scene Park or (S)toney (C)reek (E)scarpment (N)ature (E)scape Park
Spera Conservation Area
Salt Creek Conservation Area
Big Creek Conservation Area
Saltfleet Conservation Area

Along with the suggested name, entrants were asked to provide a brief (maximum 100 words) outline on why the suggested name was appropriate.

The “Saltfleet” entry referred to recognizing the former township of Saltfleet, whose name was derived from the words salt and fleet (from the Saxon word fleot, a creek or flood), signifying the salt creek on which salt works were built in the area in 1812. The township of Saltfleet was formed while these salt works flourished.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2014-2018:

- **Strategic Goal #3 – Conservation Area Experience**
  - Strategic Objective - maintain and enhance conservation area infrastructure and natural heritage features within the context of approved master plans.
  - Strategic Objective – focus marketing activities to attract visitors to conservation areas.
  - Strategic Objective – conserve cultural heritage assets on HCA lands in a sustainable manner.

AGENCY COMMENTS

Not applicable.
LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

CONCLUSIONS

While a majority of the suggested names referred to people who may have had a connection to the properties at some point, it is difficult to name something after one individual or family without disappointing others.

The name “Saltfleet Conservation Area” will tie the new conservation area to the history of the area where it is located.

The new property name will be announced at the Foundation's Nature Crawl event, on October 14. Nature Crawl is an event for donors, volunteers and HCA passholders/members. This year's event will also tie-in to Canada’s 150th celebrations with a grant that was received from Canada 150-Hamilton 2017. Residents of upper Stoney Creek, in the vicinity of the new conservation area will also be invited. In addition to the unveiling of the name, an interpretive plaque will also be created outlining the history of the area.
UPCOMING HCA EVENTS

Round the Reservoir Family Race
August 5
Valens Lake Conservation Area
1691 Regional Road 97 (R.R.#6), Flamborough, Ontario N1R 5S7
Compete with your family in this around the reservoir challenge filled with puzzles and clues that must be completed to win. You decide which route to take and what mode of transportation (run, hike, bike or boat) to get the best finishing time!! Prizes for the top 3 families for the fastest times. Runs from 9 AM to 3 PM For more information call 905-525-2183 or email valens@conservationhamilton.ca.

Ice Cream Carnival
Sunday, August 6 & Monday, August 7 - 10:00 – 4:00 pm
Westfield Heritage Village
1049 Kirkwall Road, Rockton, ON L0R 1X0
Celebrate summer with the sweet taste of ice cream at this lively family event. Enjoy Edwardian carnival foods, games, amusements and music. Hand cranked real ice cream making demonstrations and samples throughout the day. Don't miss this delicious and festive family outing! For more information visit www.westfieldheritage.ca

Equestrian Campout
August 11-13
Dundas Valley Conservation Area
650 Governors Road, Dundas, Ontario L9H 5E3
Camp overnight with your horse in the magnificent Dundas Valley and enjoy a weekend of trail riding and fun all in support of a great cause. Hosted by the Hamilton Conservation Foundation and the Hamilton Conservation Authority, the fundraising event offers guided trail rides, a poker run, silent auction, BBQ dinner and live entertainment. All monies raised go towards the Dundas Valley trail system including trail restorations and the installation of horse-friendly bridges. For more information, please visit www.hamiltonconservationfoundation.ca/equestrian
Season Pass Appreciation Day  
August 13  
Wild Waterworks  
Van Wagners Beach Road, Hamilton, ON L8E 3L8  
To show our appreciation for our Season pass holders we will be hosting a BBQ for the first 300 season pass holders from 12:00-2:00pm. First 300 season pass holders will receive a hot dog, canned pop and a chance to enter for some great giveaways including an iPod. For more information, visit www.wild-waterworks.com, phone 905-547-6141 or email wildww@conservationhamilton.ca

2018 Pass Sale  
August 14  
Wild Waterworks  
Van Wagners Beach Road, Hamilton, ON L8E 3L8

Textiles Day  
August 20 - 12:30 – 4:00 pm  
Westfield Heritage Village  
1049 Kirkwall Road, Rockton, ON L0R 1X0  
Come to the village and enjoy learning how different types of textile fibres are produced and used. Watch the labour-intensive process that transforms the coarse flax plant into a material that can be used to make lovely linen fabric. Discover the interesting process of spinning and dyeing wool and see what the weaver has on the loom today. For more information visit www.westfieldheritage.ca

Labour Day Camping  
September 1-4  
Valens Lake Conservation Area  
1691 Regional Road 97 (R.R.#6), Flamborough, Ontario N1R 5S7  
Reserve your campsite to avoid missing out on this busy weekend. For more information, please call Valens Lake at 905-525-2183 or email valens@conservationhamilton.ca
Autumn Sundays
September 3, 10, 24, October 15, 29 12:30 – 4:00 pm
Westfield Heritage Village
1049 Kirkwall Road, Rockton, ON L0R 1X0
Every Sunday and public holiday from March to the end of October you can immerse yourself in Westfield’s unique historic setting. Authentically costumed volunteers will take you back to earlier times and places through fun and educational demonstrations and activities. Westfield has more than thirty-five historical buildings to visit, including log homes, a one room schoolhouse, railway station, print shop, inn and cabinetmaker’s shop. Step up to the counter at the General Store for sweet treats and stop by the Gift Shop for unique finds. You can also enjoy Westfield’s trails and natural areas, set on 500 beautiful acres. For more information visit www.westfieldheritage.ca

Christie Antique & Vintage Show
September 9, 8:00am-5:00pm
Christie Lake Conservation Area
1000 Highway 5 West, Dundas, Ontario, L9H 5E2
Canada’s favourite antique & vintage show with hundreds of dealers and almost 10 acres of treasures to be discovered. Here you’ll find china, jewellery, golf items, tins, scientific instruments, folk art, postcards, native artifacts, Canadiana, fine art, nostalgia items, furniture and much, MUCH more! Food vendors on site for a snack or meal. Rain or shine. Admission fee applies. For more information visit www.christieshow.ca

Telling Tales: A Family Festival of Stories
September 17 -10:00 to 4:00 pm
Westfield Heritage Village
1049 Kirkwall Road, Rockton, ON L0R 1X0
Designated one of the province’s “Top 100” by Festivals and Events Ontario, this is a free event celebrating Canada’s leading children’s writers and illustrators. Meet authors, artists and musicians and take part in the popular Book Swap and Shop. Free parking at Rockton Fairgrounds with complimentary shuttle service to Westfield. (Please note there is no parking at Westfield.)