

HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting

February 7, 2019

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, February 7, 2019, at Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: **Susan Fielding, in the Chair**
 Chad Collins
 Brad Gautreau
 Santina Moccio
 Maria Topalovic

Lloyd Ferguson
Tom Jackson
Esther Pauls

Fred Fuchs, Foundation Vice Chair

REGRETS: **Dan Bowman, Brad Clark**

STAFF PRESENT: **Lisa Burnside, Grace Correia, Gord Costie, Bruce Harschnitz, Judy Love, Neil McDougall, James O'Neill, Scott Peck, Sandy Root, Jaime Tellier - HCA Staff**

OTHERS: **Richard Leitner - Media**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Chair asked members to declare any conflicts under the Board's Governance Policy. There was none.

Susan Fielding thanked the Burlington Runners Club for their generous donation.

6.2 Outdoor Environmental Education Program – Overview

Grace Correia indicated that the Outdoor Environmental Education program is designed to provide students from elementary to secondary school with hands-on outdoor environmental education experiences that meet overall student learning expectations.

The program, run by education professionals, is based out of Dundas Valley Conservation Area.

Program costs are shared between the participating schools, school boards, and the Hamilton Conservation Foundation. In 2018, the Foundation increased its support of the program from \$55,000 to \$125,000 annually. The Foundation also raises additional funds to provide transportation subsidies to At-Risk schools that may not have the funds to send students to Dundas Valley.

Donations to the Foundation are instrumental in ensuring the Outdoor Environmental Education Program is available to all students across the City of Hamilton and continue to thrive.

6.3 Presentation for the Conservation Areas Innovation Award

Grace Correia indicated that the work of the education staff was recently recognized with a Conservation Areas Innovation Award. HCA's Outdoor Environmental Education program was selected to receive the 2018 award in recognition of the introduction of iPads into the education programming in 2017.

This introduction enhanced the students' experiences while out in the field and activities were successfully implemented for most grades. These activities help the students identify aquatic invertebrates, birds, animal tracks, wildflowers, trees, and even cloud formations.

Recognizing that technology is part of the students' lives, program educators, Beth Stormont, Sandy Root, and James O'Neill, found a way of using the technology to connect the students to nature and enhance their learning experiences.

It's the staff that bring the education program to life and inspire an appreciation for nature and the environment in the students. Sandy Root and James O'Neill were in attendance and accepted the award.

Susan Fielding thanked Sandy and James and indicated that it is very important work that you do.

- \$2,506 for plantings as part of the Christie Lake CA stream restoration project
 - \$2,130 for the Dundas Valley Trail System
 - \$1,425 for the Westfield Heritage Village Building Fund
 - \$1,125 for the Dundas Valley CA Fund
 - The remaining \$2,208 came in donations for Land Securement, the Stewardship Program, and Trail Development
- The Foundation will be undergoing a Strategic Planning process this spring to set its course for the next few years and to align with HCA's new strategic plan. In addition, a recent focus on the recruitment of new Board members will provide opportunities for new prospect development and new ideas for fundraising activities.
 - The Foundation has raised over \$500,000 and exceeded our goal for 2018.

10. OTHER STAFF REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS

10.1 Fifty Point Conservation Area – Watercourse No. 11 Environmental Assessment

Scott Peck presented the report and answered member's questions. Watercourse No. 11 is located along the western boundary of the Fifty Point Conservation Area. The watercourse drains from the south end of the conservation area adjacent to Baseline Road and flow northerly along the length of the conservation onto private property at Windermere Road and then drains into Lake Ontario.

Two land owners on Windermere Road are experiencing flood issues and they are quite concerned.

HCA staff meet with the residents and the local City of Hamilton Ward Councillor to explain the issues and consider options. It was agreed to undertake an environmental assessment study report to investigate the causes of the flooding and develop alternatives to resolve the flooding issues.

The Class EA Flood Remediation Project – Watercourse 11, Fifty Point Conservation Area report has been completed. The report identifies five alternatives to the identified issue.

Alternative 2 is the preferred option. This alternative ensures removal of 67% of the total flood water from the Fifty Point Conservation Area while maintaining a positive impact on the environment.

10.3 Addendum Report for Request for Proposal – Stoney Creek and Battlefield Creek Flood Plain Mapping Study

Scott Peck presented the report and answered member's questions. A Request for Proposal for the Stoney Creek & Battlefield Creek Flood Plain Mapping Study was developed and a call for proposals issued. Nine proposals were submitted prior to the deadline of February 1, 2019.

Based on the review of the proposals provided, it is recommended that this project work be awarded to Water's Edge Environmental Solutions Team.

BD12,2609

**MOVED BY: Chad Collins
SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio**

THAT the Board of Directors approve the following recommendations:

THAT the proposal for the Stoney Creek and Battlefield Creek Flood Plain Mapping Study submitted by Water's Edge Environmental Solutions Team be accepted at a cost of \$59,990.00 plus HST.

CARRIED

10.4 Addendum Report for Request for Proposal – Wetland Design – Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Restoration Project

Scott Peck presented the report and answered member's questions. A Request for Proposal for the Wetland Design – Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Restoration Project was developed and a call for proposals issued. Seven proposals were submitted prior to the deadline of February 1, 2019.

Based on the review of the proposals provided, it is recommended that this project work be awarded to Water's Edge Environmental Solutions Team.

Water's Edge is also the recommended consultant for the Stoney Creek & Battlefield Creek Flood Plain Mapping Study Request. Having the same firm work on both projects will streamline project development and remove any concerns related to duplicate work or communications between two different consulting firms.

Lloyd Ferguson has concerns that the low bidder will complain. Scott indicated the Water's Edge submission is detailed with tasks noted with associated specifics and costs. The lowest quote does not provide this level of review.

12.3 Confidential Verbal Update BD/Feb 03-2019

Lisa Burnside provided a verbal update.

BD12,2614**MOVED BY: Lloyd Ferguson****SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic****THAT the Board of Directors moves out of *in camera*.****CARRIED****13. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, March 7 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario.

14. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned.



Neil McDougall
Secretary-Treasurer