

## Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

### Minutes

#### Board of Directors Meeting

April 4, 2019

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, April 4, 2019, at Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

<b>Susan Fielding, in the Chair</b>	
<b>Dan Bowman</b>	<b>Brad Clark</b>
<b>Chad Collins</b>	<b>Lloyd Ferguson</b>
<b>Brad Gautreau</b>	<b>Tom Jackson,</b>
<b>Santina Moccio</b>	<b>Esther Pauls</b>
<b>Maria Topalovic</b>	

**REGRETS:** Ine Wauben, Foundation Chair

**STAFF PRESENT:** Lisa Burnside, Grace Correia, Gord Costie, Matt Hall, Bruce Harschnitz, Neil McDougall, Scott Peck, Jaime Tellier, and Nancy Watts - HCA Staff

**OTHERS:** Media – Not Present

**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.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda.

**BD12,2622****MOVED BY: Dan Bowman  
SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls****THAT the agenda be approved.****CARRIED****4. DELEGATIONS**

- 4.1 Ian Graham delivered a presentation entitled "Presentation to Hamilton Conservation Authority regarding Climate Emergency". Mr. Graham presented his position on climate change and provided a specific resolution for the HCA to address climate change by implementing direction from the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision.

The Chair thanked him for an interesting presentation and shared that all members are concerned for the future with regard to the changing climate. Susan highlighted the work HCA undertakes to protect people and property from flooding, ecological and hydrological monitoring programs, as well as a major wetland creation project on the east escarpment.

Lisa Burnside added that HCA has a Climate Change strategy that was adopted by the Board of Directors in 2012 and includes strategies and actions to be implemented as part of HCA programs. Staff have undertaken a number of actions resulting from the strategy, including a seven-part video series available on the HCA website and an educational brochure. Staff are also members of the Bay Area Climate Change Council. HCA considers climate change in all programs and services provided, however, its greatest tool is its acquisition and maintenance of large tracts of natural lands.

The members discussed the recommendation for a resolution regarding climate change. It was agreed that staff consider the resolution and report back to the Board with recommendations, including a review of the existing the Climate Change Strategy to ensure it remains current. For clarity, Brad Gautreau added a request that the review not be limited to the Dundas Valley, rather include the entire HCA watershed.

**BD12,2623****MOVED BY: Lloyd Ferguson  
SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic****THAT staff consider the resolution put forward by Mr. Graham and report back to the Board with**

**recommendations, including a review the existing the HCA Climate Change Strategy.**

**CARRIED**

**5. CONSENT ITEMS**

The following consent items were adopted:

- 5.1 Applications – Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses encompass
- 5.2 Approval of Board of Directors Minutes from March 7, 2019

**6. MEMBER BRIEFING**

There was none.

**7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was none.

**8. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

There was none.

**9. REPORTS**

9.1 Foundation Chairman's Report

Grace Correia reported on the following:

We received a total of **\$22,409** in donations in March. They break down as follows:

- \$9,000 for the Dundas Valley Trails Fund
- \$6,500 for Tribute Benches in HCA Conservation Areas
- \$4,387 to be used as needed
- \$1,200 to install new field gates at Christie Lake CA
- \$1,000 for the Dundas Valley CA Fund

- The remaining \$766 came in donations for Land Securement, Westfield Heritage Village and Outdoor Environmental Education.
- This brings our total for the current fiscal year (Dec 2018 to Mar 2019) to **\$130,741**

The Foundation will be holding its Donor Appreciation Evening on Monday, May 13 at the Dundas Valley Golf & Curling Club beginning at 6:30pm. HCA Board members will receive an invitation by mail shortly and are encouraged to attend.

## 10. OTHER STAFF REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS

### 10.1 Meeting Provincial Priorities for Reducing Regulatory Burden

Scott Peck presented a summary of the report, outlining Conservation Ontario and staff's positions with regard to priorities identified by the new Provincial government, as they relate to HCA programs and services. Staff comments highlighted HCA's good working relationship with our member municipalities and that staff continually work toward streamlining processes and ensuring timely responses. Scott added the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks held a webinar earlier in the day announcing a proposal to streamline Conservation Authority processes, which will include revisions to the Conservation Authorities Act and associated regulations. The proposals are to be posted on Ontario's Environmental Registry tomorrow, with 45 day commenting periods. The proposed resolution and potential implications of the provincial announcement were discussed. Brad Clark suggested the resolution be amended to indicate the Board of Directors endorsed the recommended three key solutions 'in principle'.

**BD12,2624**

**MOVED BY: Chad Collins  
SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls**

**THAT HCA staff recommends to the Board of Directors the following:**

**WHEREAS the provincial government intends to increase the supply of housing and streamline the land use planning and development approval process to achieve this goal; and**

**WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities play an important role in the planning and development review process with respect to watershed protect and hazard lands; and**





A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil McDougall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent underline at the end.

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Neil McDougall  
Secretary-Treasurer