

Conservation Area Tour with City of Hamilton Councillor John-Paul Danko and the second under 13.2. A property matter to be discussed in camera.

BD12,2630

MOVED BY: Dan Bowman
SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

4. HEARING

The Chair indicated that shortly before the meeting the applicant chose to withdraw their request for a hearing, instead opting to continue to work with staff to develop a design that will better satisfy HCA policy requirements.

5. DELEGATIONS

There were none.

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR APPLICATIONS, MINUTES, AND CORRESPONDENCE

The following consent items were adopted:

- 6.1 Applications – Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses
- 6.2 Approval of Board of Directors Minutes – April 4, 2019
- 6.3 Approved October 18, 2018 Budget & Administration Committee Minutes and Approved February 14, 2019 Conservation Advisory Board Minutes – for receipt only

7. MEMBER BRIEFING

7.1 Conservation Area Tour

Lisa Burnside provided members with a summary of a Conservation Area Tour staff hosted for Councillor John-Paul Danko. The group visited HCA's popular destinations and discussed challenges including high numbers of visitors and limited parking at sundry areas. The tour also included a visit to Christie Lake Conservation

Area to highlight the solutions that are being implemented, including the shuttle service, signage and fencing.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

8.1 HCA Climate Change Strategy Review

At the April Board meeting, Ian Graham delivered a delegation 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. It was agreed that staff consider the resolution and report back to the Board with recommendations, including a review of the existing HCA Climate Change Strategy to ensure it remains current and that the review not be limited to the Dundas Valley, rather include the entire HCA watershed.

In response to this direction, Scott Peck presented a report that included a summary of HCA's current Climate Change Strategy and the following issues to be considered in the update.

1. Introduction – update to include information on the implementation of the strategy since adoption and consultation undertaken that guided updated strategy
2. Background – provide updated science information relating to projected impacts and urgency of addressing climate change
3. Principles – review to ensure current
4. Overall Goal – review to ensure current
5. Strategies for Addressing Climate Change – this will be the focus of the review to highlight what we are currently doing and what further action is required. The focus will be less on science and modelling undertakings and more on education and awareness, maintenance and restoration of natural areas, wetland creation and restoration as well as site specific storm water management efforts such as rain gardens, swales and permeable driveways.

The goal is to have the updated strategy completed by the end of this year.

BD12,2631

MOVED BY: Brad Gautreau

SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman

THAT the HCA staff recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT staff be directed to undertake a review and update the HCA's Climate Change Strategy as detailed in the report titled "HCA Climate Change Strategy Review", dated April 15, 2019.

CARRIED

Resolution Number from Budget & Administration Committee Minutes – BA1904 – 2018 – 12 Month Audited Financial Statements and response to City of Hamilton Reserves Inquiry

BD12,2636

**MOVED BY: Dan Bowman
SECONDED BY: Brad Gautreau**

THAT the Board of Directors approve, as recommended by the Budget and Administration Committee, the 2018 Twelve Month Audited Financial Statements.

and

THAT the response to the City of Hamilton Reserves Inquiry, as provided herein, be approved.

CARRIED

Resolution Number from Budget & Administration Committee Minutes – BA1909 – 2020 Casual Wage Rates

BD12,2637

**MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT the revised 2020 Casual/Seasonal wage grids for Hamilton Conservation Authority and Confederation Beach Park/Wild Waterworks as outlined in the April 5, 2019 report be approved.

CARRIED

Resolution Number from Budget & Administration Committee Minutes – BA1910 – Records Management Policy and Draft Records Retention Schedule

BD12,2638

**MOVED BY: Brad Clark
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT the Budget & Administration Committee recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the Records Management Policy and Draft Records Retention Schedule as outlined in the April 5, 2019 report be approved.

CARRIED

10.3 Foundation Chairman's Report

Ine Wauben presented the report. The Foundation received a total of \$15,935 in donations in April. They break down as follows:

- \$6,715 for the Area of Greatest Need Fund
- \$5,050 for Outdoor Environmental Education
- \$2,500 for Tribute Benches in HCA Conservation Areas
- \$500 for the Dundas Valley CA Fund
- The remaining \$1,170 came in donations for Land Securement, Westfield Heritage Village and Trail Development.

This brings the total for the current fiscal year (Dec 2018 to Apr 2019) to \$147,341.

Ine advised that the Foundation Board met recently to work on a strategic plan for the next 5 years and are now finalizing the details and should have a completed plan sometime in the summer.

The Foundation will also be holding its Donor Appreciation Evening on Monday, May 13, 2019 at the Dundas Valley Golf & Curling Club beginning at 6:30pm. HCA Board members were invited by mail and it is hoped you will be able to join us.

Ine reported that after 4 years taking leave of absence from the Foundation Board due to new job responsibilities in her current position at McMaster University.

Chair thanked her for wonderful news and noted the upward trend in donations. It was requested that a reminder email for donor appreciation be sent to board members. The Chair also congratulated her on her new responsibilities and thanked her for all of her work as the Chair of the foundation.

BD12,2639

MOVED BY: Dan Bowman
SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic

THAT the Foundation Chairman's Report be received as information.

CARRIED

11. OTHER STAFF REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS

11.1 ERO Posting 013-5018 and ERO Posting 013-4992

Scott Peck advised the members of two postings made by the Provincial government to the Environmental Registry Office, the first outlining proposed changes to modernize conservation authority operations and the second to focus

conservation authority development permits on the protection of people and property.

Conservation Ontario is preparing comments for both postings. Staff will also separately submit HCA comments regarding the postings and HCA core mandate and responsibilities. One of the main identified objectives is clarifying Conservation Authority mandates and what is considered core vs. non-core programming. Staff comments included that natural hazards and land management programs and services are core, but from a watershed management perspective so are natural heritage related programs and services, as all are intertwined. Scott further commented that HCA has a good relationship with the City of Hamilton who has funded many additional programs. However, it was acknowledged the City may also face funding pressures for non-CA related programs as a result of Provincial funding changes.

Scott answered member questions.

Lisa Burnside noted to the board that the 50% cut to our Section 39 grant does put us into a deficit position for 2019 as our budget is already set and approved and will have to deal with it by year end

While we have not identified any specific service or program changes at this time, she affirmed that the HCA remains committed to its flood management program and priority of protecting life and minimizing property damage related to flooding and erosion and that staff will juggle program priorities and use reserve monies this year to make up the gap. Lisa noted that staff anticipate there will be some greater clarity from the province as some policies and regulations are made, which will then help the us assess impact and in our decision-making.

Brad Clarke requested the final report to ERO be shared with the Board.

BD12,2640

**MOVED BY: Chad Collins
SECONDED BY: Brad Gautreau**

THAT staff be directed to develop and submit a Hamilton Conservation Authority specific submission to the ERO Postings 013-5018 and 013-4992 based on staff review and in consultation with Conservation Ontario.

CARRIED

11.2 Proposal for Permanent October 1 Commencement of Rothsay's Annual Discharge Season

Scott Peck presented a report indicating Rothsay has requested the early allowable discharge date be changed to October 1 for their annual discharge season,

beginning this October 1, 2019, on a permanent basis and subject to certain criteria being met, including meeting conditions of their Environmental Compliance Approval, continued water quality monitoring with HCA staff and a report on the results of the early commencement to HCA and Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks staff.

Scott answered the members' questions.

BD12,2641

**MOVED BY: Dan Bowman
SECONDED BY: Chad Collins**

THAT, provided the wastewater to be discharged to Christie Reservoir complies with all standards identified in Rothsay's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) for wastewater works issued by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), the Hamilton Conservation Authority approve a change to the earliest allowable discharge date to October 1 for the Rothsay Annual Discharge Season, commencing October 1, 2019; and,

THAT all regular testing of wastewater, and associated reporting of results, continue by Rothsay; and,

THAT HCA staff work with Rothsay regarding a monitoring program (by HCA) as it relates to the continued review of downstream water quality, with costs covered by Rothsay as required; and further,

THAT Rothsay report on the results of the early commencement of the normal fall discharge period to the HCA and MECP staff.

CARRIED

11.3 Current Watershed Conditions as of April 23, 2019

Scott Peck indicated we have seen significant amounts of rain in April but came through the period without any reports of flooding associated with the watercourses or Lake Ontario. The creeks continue to run at elevated level. Lake Ontario is about 35 cm above average water levels for this time of year. Lake Ontario levels are currently being controlled to assist with flooding of the Ottawa River and in Montreal. Staff expect the level will decrease once the flooding has receded. Staff continue to monitor creek and levels.

BD12,2642

MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic

SECONDED BY: Brad Gautreau

THAT the memorandum titled Current Watershed Conditions as of April 23, 2019 be received.

CARRIED

11.4 Upcoming HCA and Partner Events

Gord indicated all Conservation Areas are ready for the May long weekend. He also highlighted the success of the early opening of the Shuttle Hub for the Easter long weekend, estimating that 1200 people and 400 cars were redirected from the Greenville community. He thanked the City of Hamilton for their support in piloting the special enforcement area, early indications are positive.

BD12,2643

**MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT the memorandum titled Upcoming HCA and Partner Events be received.

CARRIED

12. NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

13. IN-CAMERA ITEMS FOR MATTERS OF LAW, PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY

BD12,2644

**MOVED BY: Brad Gautreau
SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic**

THAT the Board of Directors moves *in camera* for matters of law, personnel and property.

CARRIED

13.1 Confidential Report – BD/Apr 02-2019

Scott Peck presented the report and answered member's questions.

BD12,2645

MOVED BY: Brad Clark

SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic

THAT Report BD/Apr 02-2019 be approved and remain in camera.

CARRIED

13.2 Confidential Verbal Update– BD/Apr 03-2019

Lisa Burnside provided a verbal update regarding property matter and answered the member's questions.

BD12,2646

**MOVED BY: Chad Collins
SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic**

THAT the Board of Directors moves out of *in camera*.

CARRIED

14. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the HCA Main Office, Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario. The meeting will be the Annual General Meeting.

15. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned.



Neil McDougall
Secretary-Treasurer