# Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

# Minutes

# **Board of Directors Meeting**

# September 5, 2019

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, September 5, 2019, at Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:	Lloyd Ferguson – in the Chair	
	Jim Cimba	Susan Fielding
	Tom Jackson	Cynthia Janzen
	Santina Moccio	Esther Pauls
	Maria Topalovic	

**REGRETS:** Dan Bowman, Brad Clark, Chad Collins

STAFF PRESENT: Jonathan Bastien, Carissa Bishop, Rondalyn Brown, Lisa Burnside, Grace Correia, Gord Costie, Lindsey Darling, Matt Hall, Bruce Harschnitz, Christina Jager, Sara Kinnear, Neil McDougall, Mike Stone, Jaime Tellier and Nancy Watts

### OTHERS: None

# 1. Call to Order

The Chair welcomed the members back from the summer break. He shared highlights of a Watershed Tour staff held for the members over the summer and an overview of member briefing topics scheduled for the coming months to help inform and educate the board.

# 2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were none.

### 3. Approval of Agenda

The Chair indicated a correction to the agenda. Item 8.1 under Other Correspondence was incorrectly labelled as 5.4 in the agenda package.

### BD12,2670 MOVED BY: Santina Moccio SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba

### THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

## CARRIED

### 4. Delegations

There were none.

### 5. Consent Items for Applications, Minutes, and Correspondence

- 5.1. Applications Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses
- 5.2. Approval of Board of Directors Minutes June 6, 2019

The Chair indicated a correction to the minutes was required to note Esther Pauls as present at the meeting.

### BD12,2671 MOVED BY: Susan Fielding SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen

# THAT the minutes be amended to add Esther Pauls as in attendance.

### CARRIED

5.3. Approved April 18, 2019 Budget and Administration Committee Minutes and Approved June 13, 2019 Conservation Advisory Board Minutes – for receipt only

### BD12,2672 MOVED BY: Jim Cimba SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic

### THAT the Consent Agenda be approved, as amended.

### CARRIED

## 6. Member Briefing

### 6.1. Hamilton Conservation Foundation

Margaret Reid provided an overview of the Foundation's structure, governance and objectives. She highlighted their role in raising and stewarding funds for conservation projects and the environmental education program for HCA. Margaret further highlighted the benefits of the education program for its students.

The Foundation raises between \$500,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00 annually, on average. Since 2014, they have raised \$3.4 million and invested \$3.5 million into the work of the Conservation Authority.

Margaret noted that future work will focus on education, acquiring and protecting sensitive lands and ongoing maintenance of existing lands.

The members inquired about various mechanisms for making donations and discussed how they may help to engage new donors. On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked the Foundation for their great work.

### BD12,2673 MOVED BY: Santina Moccio SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls

THAT the presentation from the Hamilton Conservation Foundation be received as information

# CARRIED

### 6.2. FOTEK Cheque Presentation

Margaret Reid, as the Chair of the Friends of the Eramosa Karst (FOTEK), accompanied by Brad Gautreau and Doug Dunford, two founding members of the organization, presented a cheque for \$60,000.00 to HCA. To-date, FOTEK has donated over \$200,000.00 to HCA, as well as numerous volunteer hours. Their efforts have resulted in a number of restoration projects within the Eramosa Karst Conservation Area. FOTEK will be consulting with staff regarding their focus for the next two years.

Margaret also thanked Heritage Green Community Trust and the City of Hamilton for their donations contributing to the protection of the feeder lands to the Karst.

On behalf of the Board and staff, Lisa Burnside thanked FOTEK for their work and the funds donated.

### 7. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

### 8. Other Correspondence

8.1. <u>August 16, 2019 letter from the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks re. the More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019 and Conservation Ontario</u> <u>Media Release response, dated August 19, 2019</u>

The letter was reviewed. A lack of clarity in the direction was discussed, as details for defining non-core activities, and any new or revised regulations, have not yet been released. It was noted the letter also does not address agreements that can be made with municipalities. HCA currently has four agreements with the City of Hamilton.

The Chairman provided a draft response letter and requested endorsement from the Board to send the letter. The members discussed fine points of the letter but all agreed the letter conveyed that HCA's Conservation Areas provide numerous benefits to the community and are self-sustaining through collection of user fees, and additionally that the Conservation Areas generate revenues that contribute to support of our core mandate programs.

BD12,2674 MOVED BY: Jim Cimba SECONDED BY: Tom Jackson

> THAT the Chair be authorized to send the letter as is, with the addition of copying the Mayor for the Township of Puslinch and Ted Arnott, MPP for Wellington-Halton Hills.

### CARRIED

9. Reports from Budget & Administration Committee, Conservation Advisory Board, and the Foundation

9.1. Conservation Advisory Board – June 13 & August 8, 2019

<u>Resolution Number from Conservation Advisory Board Minutes - CA1922 - Cootes</u> to Escarpment Update and Management Plan Report.

BD12,2675 MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba

THAT the Conservation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the "Borer's Falls-Rock Chapel Management Plan" and "Cootes Paradise Management Plan" be endorsed, and further;

THAT Hamilton Conservation staff be directed to work with the Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System partners to implement the objectives of these plans.

### CARRIED

9.2. Budget and Administration Committee - August 22, 2019

<u>Resolution Number from Budget & Administration Committee Minutes - BA1923 -</u> <u>Governance Review</u>

BD12,2676 MOVED BY: Santina Moccio SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba

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

THAT the Board of Directors Administrative By-Law approved, September 6, 2018, be amended with the revisions noted in the attached draft, subject to and including any further revisions as noted during the August 22, 2019 meeting.

### CARRIED

<u>Resolution Number from Budget & Administration Committee Minutes - BA1927 –</u> <u>Budget & Administration Committee Vacancy</u>

BD12,2677 MOVED BY: Santina Moccio SECONDED BY: Tom Jackson

THAT Maria Topalovic be added to the membership of the Budget and Administration Committee for 2019.

CARRIED

### 9.3. Foundation Chairman's Report

### Donations

HCF received a total of **\$248,610** in donations between June 1 and August 31. They break down as follows:

- \$100,000 for the Canal Park platform from the Hamilton Future Fund
- \$100,000 for the Dofasco 2000 Boardwalk Renovation from ArcelorMittal Dofasco
- \$23,370 for the Dundas Valley CA Trails Fund. This included proceeds from the Ancaster Rotary Club A.M.'s annual Autumn Stroll, taking place this weekend in Dundas Valley
- \$17,733 for Outdoor Environmental Education
- \$3,150 for Tribute Benches
- \$3,116 for the Fifty Point CA Fund
- \$3,047 for the Valens Lake CA Fund
- \$1,975 for the Area of Greatest Need Fund
- The remaining \$3,144 came in donations for Westfield Heritage Village, the Christie Lake CA Fund, the Land Securement Fund and our Tribute Tree Fund.
- This brings our total for the current fiscal year (Dec 2018 to Aug 31) to \$410,295

### **Events**

A number of events are planned for the Fall including:

- Friends of Eramosa Karst (FOTEK) Planting Saturday, September 21, 9:30am
- Viewing Platform Ribbon Cutting/Concert in the Park: Sunday, September 29, 2-4pm – Canal Park
- Green Carpet Fundraising Event: Wednesday, November 13, 7:00pm Westdale Theatre

### BD12,2678

### MOVED BY: Santina Moccio SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls

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

### CARRIED

### **10. Other Staff Reports/Memorandums**

### 10.1. Designation of Provincial Offences Officers

Gord Costie presented a summary of the report, outlining the purpose and process for select HCA staff to be designated as Provincial Offences Officers. He advised that Conservation Area Assistant Managers, Lindsey Darling and Stacey McConnell, have met the criteria required for the designation to enforce Section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

### BD12,2679 MOVED BY: Susan Fielding SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic

THAT the HCA Board of Directors endorse the designation of Conservation Area Assistant Managers, Lindsey Darling and Stacey McConnell, as Provincial Offences Officers to enforce Section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

## CARRIED

### 10.2. Client Service Standards

Mike Stone presented the report, providing the background for the initiative as stemming from a Conservation Ontario effort to work collaboratively with the Province to achieve its objectives with regard to streamlining regulatory processes. HCA was largely meeting these standards prior to development of the document, with some minor adjustments having been made since. The document now formalizes our commitment to these standards. The members reviewed and discussed the document with staff. It was suggested the response time be changed to reflect current practice and for clarity.

#### BD12,2680 MOVED BY: Jim Cimba SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic

THAT the Hamilton Conservation Authority Client Service Standard Commitment, dated August 7, 2019, be amended to change the response time language to one business day, rather than within 24 to 48 hours.

### CARRIED

### BD12,2681 MOVED BY: Jim Cimba SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding

### THAT the Hamilton Conservation Authority Client Service Standard Commitment, dated August 7, 2019, be approved, as amended.

# CARRIED

### 10.3. Request for Quotation Christie Dam Lead Paint and Corrosion Removal

Jonathan Bastien presented the report, including a background of the process whereby the proposed work was identified. The details of the tendering process were presented. Staff advised they are recommending the second lowest bid be awarded the contract due to the level of detail included in the proposal to address specific challenges of the site and the project. Staff advised that both the lowest and second lowest bidders were re-contacted following the tender submission to ensure the scope of work was fully understood.

### BD12,2682 MOVED BY: Tom Jackson SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba

THAT the quotation for the Christie Dam Lead Paint and Corrosion Removal Project submitted by Beton Infrastructure-Construction-Restoration be accepted at a cost not to exceed \$118,200.00, excluding HST.

### CARRIED

### 10.4. Current Watershed Conditions as of August 26, 2019

Jonathan Bastien presented the report, advising that the conditions are largely the same as the last report. The Lake Ontario water level has dropped 10 cm since then, and almost 60 cm from its peak height earlier this season. The Control Board continues to actively drawdown the water levels.

### BD12,2683 MOVED BY: Esther Pauls SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio

THAT the memorandum entitled Current Watershed Conditions as of August 26, 2019 be received as information.

### CARRIED

### 10.5. Upcoming HCA and Partner Events

Gord Costie presented the memorandum, highlighting that the long weekend was very busy at all Conservation Areas. He specifically recognized WWW staff for their hard work ensuring another safe and successful season. Their attendance for the season was totalled at 103,000 visitors. Gord further highlighted the BRIGHT Run and Autumn Stroll at the Dundas Valley Conservation Area, the Christie Antique and Vintage Show and Tough Mudder at Christie Lake Conservation Area, and Telling Tales at Westfield Heritage Village.

### BD12,2684 MOVED BY: Santina Moccio SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls

THAT the memorandum entitled Upcoming HCA and Partner Events be received as information.

CARRIED

### 11.New Business

There was none.

### 12. In-Camera Items for Matters of Law, Personnel and Property

BD12,2685 MOVED BY: Tom Jackson SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen

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

### CARRIED

### 12.1. Confidential Memorandum - BD/Sep 01-2019

Lisa Burnside presented the memorandum regarding a property matter and answered the members' questions.

### BD12,2686 MOVED BY: Jim Cimba SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding

THAT the confidential memorandum entitled BD/Sep 01-2019 be received as information and remain in camera.

CARRIED

### 12.2. Confidential Verbal Update - BD/Sep 02-2019

Lisa Burnside provided a verbal update regarding a legal matter and answered the members' questions.

BD12,2687	MOVED BY: Tom Jackson SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic
	THAT the confidential verbal updated entitled BD/Sep 02- 2019 be received as information and remain in camera.
CARRIED	
BD12,2688	MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen
	THAT the Board of Directors moves out of in camera.
CARRIED	

# 13. Next Meeting – Thursday, October 3, 2019

# 14. Adjournment

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

Neil McDougall Secretary-Treasurer