

Alternatively, the delegation would be added to the agenda for the next scheduled meeting. Lisa advised that a meeting with the Chair, CAO and the delegate has been offered for this coming Monday. The Chair advised that HCA has received a legal opinion on the matter and has been directed that should the delegation proceed, that it be done in-camera as it related to security of conservation areas and potential legal matter, and that the members hear the presentation but not make any comments or ask any questions.

BD12, 3054

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT the request to delegate by Andrea Coyne be deferred until the next scheduled Board meeting.

Lisa also indicated a confidential addendum memorandum to item 12.1 regarding a property matter and a confidential legal opinion were to be added in-camera.

BD12, 3055

**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

The following consent items were adopted:

- 5.1. Applications – Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses
- 5.2. Approval of Board of Directors Minutes – May 5, 2022

6. Foundation Briefing

Jennifer Stebbing reported the Foundation received a total of **\$509,518** in donations from May 1 to 31, 2022, bringing their fiscal year-to-date fundraising total to **\$602,275**.

This puts the Foundation well ahead of the total funds raised last year and well on their way to the \$828,000 goal for this year.

The donations break down as follows:

- \$500,000 as the first installment from Heritage Green Community Trust for Salfleet Wetland project
- \$4,614 for Dundas Valley Trails
- \$2,500 for Christie Lake Conservation Area
- The remaining \$2,403.50 was donated to Land Securement, Tribute Trees, Westfield, Dundas Valley, Environmental Education and Area of Greatest Need

The Foundation held its Annual General Meeting of Members on Monday, May 9th. One new Director, Guru Shimoga, was elected to the Board, and two Directors, Margaret Reid and John Laratta, left the Board, having completed their terms. The Foundation's audited financial statements are available for review on the Foundation website.

The members congratulated the Foundation on the continued fundraising success. Brad Clark commented on the Heritage Green Community Trust's continued contributions to HCA legacy projects.

Vacancies on the Foundation Board of Directors were discussed. There are currently three vacancies. Appointments to the Board can be made at any time throughout the year. Interested parties should contact Foundation Executive Director, Grace Correia.

BD12, 3056

MOVED BY: Santina Moccio

SECONDED BY: Tom Jackson

THAT the Foundation Briefing be received.

CARRIED

7. Member Briefing

There was none.

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

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

There were none.

10. Other Staff Reports/Memorandums

10.1. Right to Disconnect Policy

Nancy Watts presented the memorandum advising the Board of HCA's new Right to Disconnect Policy as required by the Government of Ontario's *Bill 27 - Working for Workers Act, 2021* and amended the *Employment Standards Act, 2000*. The policy captures the general expectation that all employees complete their work, including reviewing and responding to any work-related communications, during regular working hours, with some exceptions that will require employees to attend or respond outside of regular working hours as outlined in the policy. It is felt that the policy will promote the importance of a work-life balance for HCA employees at all levels of the organization.

BD12, 3057

**MOVED BY: Jim Cimba
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT the memorandum entitled Right to Disconnect Policy be received.

CARRIED

10.2. Watershed Conditions Report

Jonathan Bastien presented a summary of the memorandum, noting there are no recent or current reports of significant watercourse or Lake Ontario shoreline flooding. Watercourse flows are at baseflow conditions. Christie Lake reservoir is approximately 1.5 feet below the summer operating levels. Staff are continuing to raise the levels in balance with maintaining flows in downstream Lower Spencer Creek. Levels are raised particularly when there are rain events. Currently there is no significant precipitation forecast for the next two weeks. There are no Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events expected in the next week and half. The three-month precipitation levels are low and HCA's watershed is near a Level 1 Low Water Condition. The Low Water Response Team will continue to monitor the precipitation levels and if the trend continues they will make a decision on declaring a Level 1 condition at that time.

BD12, 3058

**MOVED BY: Brad Clark
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba**

THAT the memorandum entitled Watershed Conditions Report be received.

CARRIED**10.3. Conservation Areas Experiences Update**

Bruce Harschnitz provided a verbal update, noting there is a softening of day use entrance fees at some of our areas, partially due to increased membership pass sales and public resumption of traditional summer activities following the lifting of pandemic-related restrictions. New and renewing membership pass sales continue. HCA is entering the third weekend of the Spencer Gorge Reservation System and is running successfully. Camping at Valens was full for Victoria Day weekend and continues to be popular. The campground was at 92% capacity for the coming weekend. Staff are continuing to work to overcome the national lifeguard shortage to prepare to open Wild Waterworks later this month and the full extent of operations, including operation of Lakeland pool, will depend on final lifeguard numbers. The operation of WWW is the priority after a two year pause and Lakeland pool is secondary if there remains a shortage of lifeguards.

BD12, 3059**MOVED BY: Dan Bowman
SECONDED BY: Tom Jackson****THAT the verbal update on the Conservation Areas Experiences be received.****CARRIED****11. New Business**

There was none.

Russ Powers joined the meeting.

12. In-Camera Items**BD12, 3060****MOVED BY: Santina Moccio
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba****THAT the Board of Directors moves *in camera* for matters of law, personnel and property.****CARRIED**

During the *in camera* session, two property matters and one legal matter were discussed.

12.1. Confidential Report – BD/Jun 01-2022

12.1.1. Confidential Addendum Memorandum – BD/Jun 03-2022

Scott Peck provided a summary of the report and memorandum regarding a property matter and answered the members' questions.

BD12, 3061

**MOVED BY: Tom Jackson
SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio**

THAT the confidential report and memorandum entitled BD/Jun 01-2022 and BD/Jun 03-2022, respectively, be received and remain in camera.

CARRIED

12.2. Confidential Report – BD/Jun 02-2022

Scott Peck provided a summary of a report regarding a property matter and answered the members' questions.

BD12, 3062

**MOVED BY: Brad Clark
SECONDED BY: Russ Powers**

THAT the confidential report entitled BD/Jun 02-2022 be approved and remain in camera.

CARRIED

Esther Pauls left the meeting.

12.3. Confidential Verbal Update – BD/Jun 04-2022

Lisa Burnside provided a summary of the legal opinion and answered the members' questions.

BD12, 3063

**MOVED BY: Brad Clark
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba**

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

CARRIED

The following statement was made regarding item 12.2, the acquisition of 136 Ridge Road, in Stoney Creek.

Through the leadership of the Board and hard work of staff, HCA is pleased to announce a key acquisition of further lands towards the Saltfleet Conservation Area and its wetland restoration program.

With the addition of close to 50 acres, the acquisition will serve to create a future gateway to the areas conservation lands and will also see the construction of a wetland on this parcel, to help address flooding and erosion in lower Stoney Creek.

Since project conception, a total area of nearly 316 acres has now been purchased providing the ability to construct 3 of the 4 proposed wetlands and open the new Saltfleet Conservation Area to the public.

HCA sincerely thanks original funding partners, City of Hamilton and Heritage Green Community Trust that helped make this tremendous project a reality. It is a key initiative for HCA's watershed stakeholders and residents now and for the future to provide a healthy watershed for everyone, lead in the conservation of our watershed and connect people to nature. With the contributions of the funders and additions of funds from the past several years of operating surpluses, a new conservation area with expanded wetlands is becoming a reality.

HCA will now work to secure the final lands required to realize the full benefits of the wetlands.

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, July 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the HCA Main Administration Office – Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario.

14. Adjournment

On motion, the meeting adjourned.



Neil McDougall
Secretary-Treasurer