



Grand River Conservation Authority

Minutes - General Membership Meeting

Date:	October 27, 2017
Time:	9:30 am
Location:	Auditorium Grand River Conservation Authority 400 Clyde Road, Box 729 Cambridge, ON N1R 5W6
Members Present	Les Armstrong, Bruce Banbury, Robert Bell, Elizabeth Clarke, Brian Coleman, Bernie Corbett, Susan Foxtan, Guy Gardhouse, Helen Jowett, Geoff Lorentz, Cindy Lunau, Kirk McElwain, Fred Morison, David Neumann, Joe Nowak, Vic Prendergast, Wayne Roth, Pat Salter, Sandy Shantz, Shirley Simons, George Stojanovic, Warren Stauch, Chris White, George Wicke
Members Regrets	Jane Mitchell, Mike Salisbury
Staff	Karen Armstrong, Dave Bennett, Dwight Boyd, Nancy Davy, Joe Farwell, Samantha Lawson, Keith Murch, Sonja Radoja, Tracey Ryan, George Sousa, Lisa Stocco, Sara Wilbur, Cameron Linwood, Fred Natolochny, Eowyn Spencer
Others	Ray Martin (Cambridge Times), Dian Shannon (Pinehurst), Steven and Corey Toering (Pinehurst), Tom Grimshaw (Pinehurst), Clint Langer (Pinehurst), Laurell Wasiewicz (Pinehurst), Marie Comeau (Pinehurst), Valerie and George Prince (Pinehurst)

1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – 13 Members constitute a quorum (1/2 of Members appointed by participating Municipalities)

The Secretary-Treasurer called the roll and certified a quorum with 23 Members present. A total of 24 Members attended the meeting.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed the Members and made the following remarks:

The annual GRCA staff recognition party is scheduled for the evening of November 30th. The event will be held at the Old Marina and all board members are welcome to attend. A formal invitation has been distributed, and a meeting invitation will be sent by email. Please RSVP by November 17 to Eowyn or Dawn Gosney - contact details on the invitation.

An invitation to the Children's Christmas Party on Sunday, November 26 has also been distributed to members. Please RSVP by November 15 to Eowyn or Matt Amy - contact details on the invitation.

On October 18 GRCA staff presented the draft 2018 Budget to Mapleton Council. Ms. Pat Salter was in attendance.

The annual Watershed Awards ceremony was held at head office on October 19 with over 80 recipients and guests in attendance. The ceremony included the presentation of GRCF Community Conservation Grants, Scholarships, and Watershed and Honour Roll awards. Staff were honoured to have Minister Kathryn McGarry attend the event as our guest speaker. The Hon. Dave Levac, MPP for Brant was also among the guests. Thank you to board members Brian Coleman, Jane Mitchell, Pat Salter, Vic Prendergast, Warren Stauch, and David Neumann for attending, and to Chris White, for emceeding the evening.

The Best Dam Gala was held at Cambridge Mill on October 26. The event was well attended. Thank you to the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association, Sara Wilbur, and the Foundation for hosting this event.

4. Review of Agenda

F. Morison requested that closed session item 17c be moved to immediately following agenda item 11. There were no concerns with this amendment.

2017-178

Moved By Fred Morison

Seconded By Bernie Corbett

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting be approved as amended.

Carried

5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests made in relation to the matters to be dealt with.

6. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

2017-179

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Wayne Roth

THAT the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of September 22, 2018, be approved as circulated.

Carried

7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

8. Hearing of Delegations

There were no Delegations.

9. Presentations

There were no Presentations.

10. Correspondence

2017-180

Moved By Elizabeth Clarke

Seconded By Warren Stauch

THAT Correspondence from Conservation Ontario regarding Bill 139, and correspondence from Sherre Tremblay regarding Pinehurst seasonal camping, and correspondence from Minister Kathryn McGarry regarding the 2017 Grand River Watershed awards be received as information.

Carried

10.1 Conservation Ontario re: Submission on Bill 139/Conservation Authorities Act Review

J. Farwell reviewed Conservation Ontario's submission on Bill 139. There was some discussion regarding the proposed regulation to prescribe requirements for the appointment and qualifications of board members. J. Farwell said that GRCA has been very clear in regard to board members stance on this concern, and that he and the Chair did present this issue to the Province at the AMO conference in August. The Chair noted that she would reiterate GRCA board's concern to Conservation Ontario.

With the proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act, J. Farwell said that it is an opportune time to review the GRCA's strategic plan, and requested input from board members. The consensus from members was that strategic

planning meetings should be set up in the new year, and should remain separate from board meetings.

10.2 Sherre Tremblay - Pinehurst Conservation Area Seasonal Camper

10.3 Hon. Kathryn McGarry - 2017 Grand River Watershed Awards

11. 1st and 2nd Reading of By-Laws

None.

17.3 GRCA Lands - Report

2017-181

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Pat Salter

THAT the General Membership enter a closed meeting to discuss a proposal involving disposition and acquisition of properties. .

Carried

2017-183

Moved By Fred Morison

Seconded By Vic Prendergast

THAT the General Membership return to open session.

Carried

12. Reports:

12.1 GM-10-17-113 - 2018 Meeting Schedule

There were no questions or concerns with regards to this report.

C. Lunau joined the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

2017-184

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Elizabeth Clarke

THAT the Meeting Schedule for 2018 be approved.

Carried

12.2 GM-10-17-104 - Cash and Investment Status

B. Corbett asked what the expectation is for earnings on investments that will be maturing over the next five months. K. Murch responded that the GRCA follows

the Municipal Act with regard to investments, and that earnings are dependent on interest rates in effect at the time the investments are made.

2017-185

Moved By Shirley Simons

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT Report Number GM-10-17-104 – Cash and Investments Status Report as of September 30, 2017 be received as information.

Carried

12.3 GM-10-17-112 - Financial Summary

There were no questions or concerns with regards to this report.

2017-186

Moved By George Wicke

Seconded By Susan Foxtton

THAT the Financial Summary for the period ending September 30, 2017 be approved.

Carried

12.4 GM-10-17-107 - 2018 Planning and Permit Fees

B. Coleman asked how these fees compare to other conservation authorities, and F. Natolochny answered that GRCA fees are in a comparable range.

2017-187

Moved By Bernie Corbett

Seconded By Guy Gardhouse

THAT Report Number GM-10-17-107 Permit, Plan Review and Inquiry Fee Schedule 2018, attached as Appendix 1, be approved for use effective January 1st 2018.

Carried

12.5 GM-10-17-110 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines Regulation

There were no questions or concerns with regards to this report.

2017-188

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Bruce Banbury

THAT Report GM-10-17-110, Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation, be received for information.

Carried

12.6 GM-10-17-109 - Environmental Assessments

W. Stauch informed the board that the Holland Mills Road Bridge is an important feature in Truss and Beam, and noted that all municipalities should have this publication on-hand as a reference.

2017-189

Moved By Shirley Simons

Seconded By Sandy Shantz

That Report Number GM-10-17-109 Environmental Assessments be received as information.

Carried

12.7 GM-10-17-105 - Residential Program Wind-Down - Demolition

There were no questions or concerns with regards to this report.

2017-190

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By George Wicke

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority demolish the house, known as the **Stockdale Residence**, located on the East Half of Lot 1 West of the Grand River, Concession 5, in the County of Brant, known municipally as 404 West River Road.

Carried

12.8 GM-10-17-106 - Seasonal Camping Update - 2017

D. Bennett provided a presentation to accompany this report, which included details of the current practice for seasonal camping and financial highlights regarding costs and revenue. A seasonal camping guide is currently being created to provide campers with a more concise outline of seasonal camping regulations.

In response to questions from board members, D. Bennett noted that both the occupancy rates of nightly sites, and the desirability of the sites, varies across the parks and that additions on seasonal sites must not be concrete or have a permanent foundation; decks and sheds must be removable. S. Simons asked if Pinehurst campers will be required to move their trailers for this upcoming winter, and D. Bennett confirmed that trailers in the Pinehurst sites will not move this

year. Staff do have requirements from the ESA, and staff are working towards removal of trailers at all seasonal sites, recognizing that it will take time to transition to this practice. Alternative options for winter storage are being reviewed. S. Simons requested that campers be kept informed of any changes to their current agreements.

G. Lorentz noted that the report does not seem to reflect actual policies. D. Bennett responded that the seasonal camping guide is being drafted in order to more clearly outline policies and procedures of seasonal camping at GRCA parks. A full report will be brought back to the board when the new guide is complete. G. Lorentz asked about wait lists for seasonal sites and the percentage of campers who do not renew their sites on an annual basis. D. Bennett said that turnover rates are low, and that they vary across the parks. G. Lorentz said that an element of fairness to all members of the public should be considered when reviewing the current policy. C. Lunau added that public campgrounds are intended to serve the public, and that a termination policy for seasonal camping should be in place.

2017-191

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT Report Number GM-10-17-106 be received for information.

Carried

12.9 GM-10-17-108 - Pines Campground Sanitary Servicing Project - Phase One Cost Estimate

There were no questions or concerns with regards to this report.

2017-192

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Bernie Corbett

THAT Report Number GM-10-17-108 be received as information; and

THAT staff be authorized to proceed with the tender for Phase One of the Pines Campground Sanitary Servicing Project.

Carried

12.10 GM-10-17-111 - Current Watershed Conditions

S. Shifflett presented an overview of the current watershed conditions, highlighting that precipitation is tracking at normal to high levels for the month, October temperatures were five degrees above seasonal, and that reservoir levels are on target for the season. Warmer weather indicates that there is less

chance of freezing for the Great Lakes, which increases the chances of lake effect snow.

2017-193

Moved By Bob Bell

Seconded By Bruce Banbury

THAT Report Number GM-10-17-111 – Current Watershed Conditions as of October 18, 2017 be received as information.

Carried

12.11 Chaplin YMCA (Cambridge) Licence Agreement

J. Farwell informed that board that the Chaplin YMCA has requested to move their current play area on to a portion of GRCA land. The YMCA will also construct a kiosk on the site to provide information to the public regarding the history of Dumfries Conservation Area.

2017-194

Moved By Geoff Lorentz

Seconded By Guy Gardhouse

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority supports a request from the Chaplin Family YMCA to construct a children's play area on a 0.06 hectare portion of Dumfries Conservation Area;

AND THAT GRCA enters into a license agreement with the Chaplin YMCA for the use of the area for YMCA programs.

Carried

13. Committee of the Whole

Not required.

14. General Business

There was no General Business.

15. 3rd Reading of By-Laws

None.

16. Other Business

17. Closed Meeting

2017-195

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT the General Membership enter a closed meeting to discuss advice received from the Authority's solicitor regarding ongoing Landlord Tenant Board hearings.

Carried

Carried

17.1 Minutes of the previous closed session

17.2 Update - Landlord Tenant Board Hearings

2017-196

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Susan Foxtan

THAT the General Membership return to open session.

Carried

2017-197

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Pat Salter

THAT the minutes of the previous closed session be approved as circulated.

18. Next Meetings

General Membership - Friday, November 24, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

Audit Committee - Friday, November 24, 2017, immediately following General Membership.

19. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

2017-198

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Chris White

THAT the General Membership Meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer