



Grand River Conservation Authority

Minutes - General Membership Meeting

Date: January 25, 2019
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, Don Brunk, Brian Coleman, Bernie Corbett, Jim Erb, Susan Foxton, Guy Gardhouse, Joan Gatward, Rodrigo Goller, Michael Harris, Helen Jowett, Daniel Lawrence, Cindy Lunau, Ian MacRae, Jane Mitchell, David Neumann, Joe Nowak, Vic Prendergast, George Stojanovic, Bruce Whale, Chris White

Regrets Robert Bell, Geoff Lorentz, Kathryn McGarry, Warren Stauch

Staff Karen Armstrong, Dave Bennett, Sandra Cooke, Nancy Davy, Joe Farwell, Louise Heyming, Kayleigh Keighan, Melissa Larion, Samantha Lawson, Fred Natolochny, Sonja Radoja, Gus Rungis, Tracey Ryan, George Sousa, Lisa Stocco, Sara Wilbur, Pam Walther-Mabee, Krista Bunn, Eowyn Spencer

Others Jo-Anne Rzadki (Conservation Ontario), Ben Haak (KPMG), Bill Yeh (KPMG)

1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:35 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 19 Members present. A total of 22 Members attended the meeting.

3. Chair's Remarks

- The Chair welcomed new members attending their first meeting today, and thanked those who attended the orientation session on January 18. The Chair also extended thanks to GRCA staff who presented at the orientation session.
- GRCA staff have been presenting the 2019 budget as requested by municipalities. To date, staff have presented to respective councils of the City of Guelph, the Region of Waterloo, the City of Hamilton, and Brant County. Staff will also be presenting the budget to the Township of Perth East on February 5th.

J.Mitchell joined the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

4. Review of Agenda

19-01

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Bernie Corbett

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting of January 25, 2019, be approved as circulated.

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

19-02

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Vic Prendergast

THAT the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of December 14, 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

10.1 MECP Response - Unauthorized Tenting

- An additional correspondence item from the Woolner Trail Community Association regarding the City of Kitchener's proposed zoning by-law was distributed to members. In response to a question from the board, J.Farwell said that a board

report including information about the property discussed in the correspondence would be forthcoming.

19-03

Moved By Chris White

Seconded By Joan Gatward

THAT Correspondence from the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding unauthorized tenting, and from the Woolner Trail Community Association regarding the City of Kitchener's proposed zoning by-law be received as information.

Carried

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

None.

12. Reports:

12.1 GM-01-19-01 - Report of the Audit Committee

19-04

Moved By Vic Prendergast

Seconded By Les Armstrong

THAT the Report of the Audit Committee be received for information.

Carried

12.2 GM-01-19-07 - Grand River Conservation Foundation Member Appointment

19-05

Moved By Jane Mitchell

Seconded By Les Armstrong

THAT the following new Member be appointed to the Grand River Conservation Foundation until the next Annual General Meeting:

- Ted Smith

Carried

12.3 GM-01-19-12 - Budget 2019 - Second Draft

G.Stojanovic joined the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

S.Radoja presented the second draft of the 2019 budget highlighting the following:

- Changes since the September draft was presented include incorporating an approved wage increase for union and non-union staff, market wage adjustments, and changes in estimated revenue
- A brief overview of capital and operating expenditures and information about revenues and surplus allocations
- An estimated 2.5% increase to the municipal levy

- A brief background and overview of the Hamilton appeal of the December 2017 decision of the Mining and Lands commissioner and its potential impact on the budget
- An overview of 2019 special projects and their respective external funding sources
- Members discussed the board composition in light of the Hamilton levy appeal, reserve funds, revenue sources, lost revenue from the residential program wind-down, and available sources of funding to assist with potential unauthorized tenting issues in 2019
- J.Farwell noted that both the board composition and unauthorized tenting concerns would be addressed in separate reports to the board in the near future. He added that the tenting concerns are not a one agency issue, and that the GRCA continues to work collaboratively with partners and agencies throughout the watershed on this issue

19-06

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Bruce Banbury

THAT Report Number GM-01-19-12 Budget 2019 – Draft #2 be received as information.

Carried

12.4 GM-01-19-09 - Per Diems and Honorariums

19-07

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Jane Mitchell

THAT Report Number GM-01-19-09 – Per Diems and Honorariums for 2019 be received as information.

Carried

12.5 GM-01-19-06 - Cash and Investment Status

19-08

Moved By Chris White

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT Report Number GM-01-19-06 Cash and Investment Status – December 2018 be received as information.

Carried

12.6 GM-01-19-03 - Award of Tender - Driveway Installation

19-09

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Chris White

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the tender for the driveway installation at 5500 Jones Baseline Guelph Eramosa to Bomar Landscaping of Elora, Ontario in the amount of \$114,091.50 including HST.

Carried

12.7 GM-01-19-10 - Award of Tender - 2019-2021 Firewood Supply

19-10

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Joan Gatward

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the tender for the supply of firewood for the 2019, 2020 and 2021 camping seasons to Gerber's Firewood for the estimated sum of \$643,770.00 over a three year period (excluding HST).

Carried

12.8 GM-01-19-08 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines Regulation

19-11

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Vic Prendergast

THAT Report Number GM-01-19-08 – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation, be received as information.

Carried

12.9 GM-01-19-13 - Environmental Assessments

19-12

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Jim Erb

THAT Report Number GM-01-19-13 – Environmental Assessments be received as information.

Carried

12.10 GM-01-19-02 - Brant Rural Water Quality Program Delivery Agreement Renewal

19-13

Moved By Guy Gardhouse

Seconded By Jane Mitchell

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority renew the agreement with the County of Brant and City of Brantford to continue delivery of a Rural Water Quality Program on their behalf.

Carried

12.11 GM-01-19-04 - Bill 66 - Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, 2018

- N.Davy noted that since submitting comments on January 20, the province has informally announced that Schedule 10 will be removed from Bill 66

19-14

Moved By Bernie Corbett

Seconded By David Neumann

THAT Report Number GM-01-19-04 – Bill 66 – Restoring Ontario’s Competitiveness Act, 2018 be received as information.

Carried

12.12 GM-01-19-05 - A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan

19-15

Moved By Chris White

Seconded By Vic Prendergast

THAT Report Number GM-01-19-05 – A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan (ERO Posting #013-4208) be approved,

AND THAT this report be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks through the Environmental Registry.

Carried

12.13 GM-01-19-11 - Grand River Watershed Flood Warning System

- J.Farwell advised the board that any members interested in the 2019 flood coordinators meeting on February 14 at 2:30 p.m. meeting are welcome to attend

19-16

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT Report Number GM-01-19-11 – Grand River Watershed Flood Warning System be received as information.

Carried

12.14 GM-01-19-14 - Current Watershed Conditions

M.Harris joined the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

- G.Rungis provided an overview of the current watershed conditions noting warmer than average temperatures and near normal precipitation for the long range
- GRCA reservoirs are at normal storage levels
- B.Corbett inquired about the availability of the ice-breaker at the mouth of the Grand in light of last February's ice storm. G.Rungis said that current lake data has been hampered due to the US government shut-down, and added that the same weather conditions that led to the ice storm are not expected this year.

- G.Rungis also provided an update of the January 13th jet fuel spill on Highway 401 near Mill Creek. GRCA has been in contact with MECP, who have focused clean up efforts at the spill site and downstream. On January 22nd fuel was detected downstream of Shade's Mills reservoir. Ice fishing has been closed for the season until potential impact on the fishery is known.
- In response to a question, J.Farwell said that the Ministry orders clean up and GRCA will make an insurance claim if required. G.Rungis responded to a separate question, noting that nearby wells were closed following the spill

19-17

Moved By Rodrigo Goller

Seconded By Vic Prendergast

THAT Report Number GM-01-19-14 – Current Watershed Conditions as of January 16, 2019 be received as information.

Carried

13. Election of Officers

The Chair asked Jo-Anne Rzdaki, a representative of Conservation Ontario, to assume the chair and conduct the election. Ms. Rzdaki declared the position of Chair vacant for the purpose of conducting the election and reviewed the elections procedures in accordance with GRCA By-law 1-2018.

13.1 Appointment of Scrutineer(s) - Motion Required

19-18

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Les Armstrong

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority appoint Bill Yeh and Ben Haak as scrutineers for the purpose of electing officers of the General Membership.

Carried

13.2 Election of Chair

13.2.1 Call for nominations

- S.Foxton nominated H.Jowett for the position of Chair on the first call for nominations. H.Jowett accepted the nomination
- No further nominations were presented during the second and third calls

13.2.2 Motion to Close Nominations for Chair

19-19

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Les Armstrong

THAT nominations for the position of Chair of the Grand River Conservation Authority General Membership be closed.

Carried

13.2.3 Distribution and collection of ballots by Scrutineer

- Not required.

13.2.4 Announce Election Results

- H.Jowett was acclaimed as Chair of the Grand River Conservation Authority for a one year term to commence January 25, 2019. J.Rzadki congratulated H.Jowett and invited her to speak. H.Jowett thanked the membership and staff for their continued support and hard work.

13.2.5 Motion to Destroy Ballots

- Not required

13.3 Election of Vice-Chair

13.3.1 Call for nominations

- B.Coleman nominated C.White for the position of Vice-Chair on the first call for nominations
- No further nominations were presented during the second and third call

13.3.2 Motion to Close Nominations for Vice-Chair

19-20

Moved By Jane Mitchell

Seconded By Rodrigo Goller

THAT nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Grand River Conservation Authority General Membership be closed.

Carried

13.3.3 Distribution and collection of ballots by Scrutineer

- Not required

13.3.4 Announce Election Results

- C.White was acclaimed as Vice-Chair of the Grand River Conservation Authority for a one year term to commence January 25, 2019. J.Rzadki congratulated C.White and invited him to speak. C.White thanked the membership and staff and is looking forward to another year as Vice-Chair.

13.3.5 Motion to Destroy Ballots

- Not required

14. Committee of the Whole

Not required.

15. General Business

There was no General Business.

16. 3rd Reading of By-Laws

None.

17. Other Business

- C.Lunau advised members that this would be her last meeting as an appointed member, adding that it has been a pleasure to be a part of this board and thanking GRCA staff and board for their continued hard work
- S.Foxton advised the board that she is attending ROMA this year and will be meeting with MECP and MNRF. She is working with C.White to bring GRCA's voice to the meetings.
- J.Farwell added that GRCA is happy to provide any information or handouts to all members when they are meeting with Ministers or MPPs. Making the watershed healthy and safe really is a collaborative effort with municipalities and should be stressed with partners whenever possible
- The Chair noted that Heritage Day tickets are now sold out

18. Closed Meeting - Motion Required

- The Chair asked if there were any questions regarding the closed agenda and seeing that there were none the board did not enter a closed session

18.1 Proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of property

- The GRCA has been approached by the City of Hamilton asking if the GRCA would accept a donation of land in the former Flamborough area. The subject property is located within the Beverly Swamp Life Science ANSI and the Beverly Swamp Provincially Significant Wetland, which is a high priority acquisition area within the GRCA Land Acquisition Policy.

19-21

Moved By Guy Gardhouse

Seconded By Jane Mitchell

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority accept as a donation, lands described as South ½ Lot 3 Plan 334; City of Hamilton, being all of PIN 175300004, comprising 4.98 acres (2.01 hectares).

Carried

21. Next Meetings

- Annual General Meeting of the General Membership - February 22, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.
- General Membership - March 22, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.
- Joint Special Recognition Committee (GRCA & GRCF) - March 22, 2019, immediately following the General Membership

22. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

19-22

Moved By Les Armstrong

Seconded By Bruce Banbury

THAT the General Membership Meeting be adjourned.

Carried

23. Grand River Source Protection Authority Meeting - Not required

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer