



Grand River Conservation Authority

Minutes - General Membership Meeting

Date:	May 24, 2019
Time:	9:30 am
Location:	Auditorium Grand River Conservation Authority 400 Clyde Road, Box 729 Cambridge, ON N1R 5W6
Members Present	Marcus Adili, Bruce Banbury, Robert Bell, Don Brunk, Richard Carpenter, John Challinor II, Brian Coleman, Jim Erb, Susan Foxton, Guy Gardhouse, Rodrigo Goller, Michael Harris, Helen Jowett, Geoff Lorentz, Ian MacRae, Jane Mitchell, Joe Nowak, Vic Prendergast, Warren Stauch, Bruce Whale, Chris White
Members Regrets	Les Armstrong, Bernie Corbett, Joan Gatward, Daniel Lawrence, Kathryn McGarry
Staff	Karen Armstrong, Dave Bennett, Dwight Boyd, Krista Bunn, Nancy Davy, Joe Farwell, Samantha Lawson, Sonja Radoja, Tracey Ryan, George Sousa, Lisa Stocco, Pam Walther-Mabee, Martin Keller, Eowyn Spencer, Beth Brown, Scott Robertson, Janet Ivey, Trisha Hughes
Others	Elinor Hueton, John Hueton, Rick Hilborn, Kathy White, George Bikas

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 20 Members present. A total of 21 Members attended the meeting.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair made the following remarks during the meeting of the Source Protection Authority and they are copied here for ease of reference:

- Thank you to staff board members Richard Carpenter, Joan Gatward and Brian Coleman for attending the Brantford Brant Children's Water Festival Lunch and Tour on May 15
- Conservation Ontario will hold its next board meeting on June 24, Joe Farwell and I will attend
- On Wednesday May 22 the Federal Government announced funding from the Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Fund for flood protection initiatives in Kitchener, which will include rehabilitation and capacity improvement of the Bridgeport Dikes. The GRCA is pleased to be working with the City on this project, and this is a wonderful example of how the GRCA leverages funding opportunities in partnership with our municipalities to make the most of municipal levy dollars

4. Review of Agenda

19-92

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting of May 24, 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

19-93

Moved By Marcus Adili

Seconded By Rodrigo Goller

THAT the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of April 26, 2019 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

8.1 John and Elinor Hueton - History of Dumfries Conservation Area

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

- Mr. John Hueton presented an overview of the history of Dumfries Conservation Area located in Cambridge and displayed photographs of trails, benches, and trees throughout the area

- 73 hectares of land was donated to the Province by P.R. Hilborn in 1967, and in 1970 ownership and maintenance of the land was transferred to the GRCA. Dumfries Conservation Area provides space for outdoor recreation and nature appreciation

8.2 Rick Hilborn - Current Affairs at Dumfries Conservation Area

- Mr. Rick Hilborn addressed the Board regarding current social issues facing communities today, highlighting the vulnerability of Dumfries Conservation Area due to its proximity to the downtown core of Cambridge
- Mr. Hilborn noted the importance of collaboration in order to properly face social issues like homelessness, mental health and addiction, adding that a citizen group called Cambridge Safe and Strong is willing to offer assistance and has reached out to all levels of government to raise awareness of the issues
- The Chair thanked Mr. Hilborn for his presentation, noting that GRCA staff are innovative and collaborative in their search for solutions when they affect GRCA properties
- J.Farwell added that GRCA has joined a harm reduction working group; a collaborative group of concerned agencies committed to finding appropriate solutions for these social issues

9. Presentations

There were no Presentations.

10. Correspondence

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

None.

12. Reports:

12.1 GM-05-19-54 - Cash and Investment Status

19-94

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT Report Number GM-05-19-54 Cash and Investment Status – April 2019 be received as information.

Carried

12.2 GM-05-19-59 - Financial Summary

19-95

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Chris White

THAT the Financial Summary for the period ending April 30, 2019 be approved.

Carried

12.3 GM-05-19-57 - General Levy Apportionment Legal Update

- K.Armstrong stated that the GRCA received notice on May 23, 2019 that the City of Hamilton will not be appealing the decision issued on April 30, 2019 that Hamilton's appeal of the December 21, 2017 decision of the Mining and Lands Commissioner was unsuccessful. The two levy appeal submissions that the City of Hamilton had made regarding their levy apportionment in 2018 and 2019 were contingent upon the 2017 appeal decision. The City of Hamilton has requested that the 2018 and 2019 levy appeals be dismissed without costs.
- Board members discussed funds that municipalities may have held in reserve until the outcome of the decision in case adjustments to levy apportionment occurred and whether or not they should continue to do so. J.Farwell indicated that if a municipality had already set the funds aside, they may want to wait another month to ensure no further action is being taken with respect to the 2018 and 2019 levy apportionments.
- Members asked about the composition of the board in light of this decision and K.Armstrong said a meeting of the Composition Review Committee struck on February 22, 2019, would be scheduled in the near future

19-96

Moved By Guy Gardhouse

Seconded By Vic Prendergast

THAT Report Number GM-05-19-57 - General Levy Apportionment Legal Update be received as information.

Carried

12.4 GM-05-19-55 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourse Regulation - Application 219/19

- B.Brown provided a presentation to highlight a development permit application that requires board approval because it does not meet specific GRCA policies. Staff are recommending approval of this permit application and B.Brown described the project in detail
- Board members discussed the development, the sections within the floodplain, lot depths, liability concerns, future floodplain adjustments and how to ensure future homeowners are informed about regulations on the property
- Staff were directed to continue discussions with the developer regarding informing future purchasers of regulations within the floodplain, and possible additional grading to remove the areas from the floodplain

19-97

Moved By Geoff Lorentz

Seconded By Michael Harris

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority approve permit application number 219/19.

Carried

The Chair called a short recess at 10:35 a.m. to allow delegations to exit the room. M.Harris left the meeting at this time.

The meeting resumed at 10:40 a.m.

12.5 GM-05-19-56 - Environmental Assessments

19-98

Moved By Richard Carpenter

Seconded By John Challinor II

THAT Report Number GM-05-19-56 Environmental Assessments be received as information.

Carried

12.6 GM-04-19-60 - Pines Campground Reconfiguration - Elora Gorge Conservation Area

19-99

Moved By Jim Erb

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the tender for the Pines Campground Reconfiguration project to Kieswetter Excavating Inc. of St. Clements, Ontario in the amount of \$1,120,565.00 excluding HST.

AND THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority approve a total project budget for the Pines Campground Reconfiguration project of \$1,289,065.00.

Carried

12.7 GM-05-10-53 - GRCA Applications Intake 5 of the National Disaster Mitigation Program Update

19-100

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Marcus Adili

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority approve matching funding of \$90,000 for the New Hamburg Flood Mitigation Study from the Land Sale Proceeds Reserve.

Carried

12.8 GM-05-19-58 - Current Watershed Conditions

- D.Boyd presented an overview of current watershed conditions, highlighting the continued high water level of Lake Erie, a cool and damp summer forecast, and that GRCA reservoir levels are in a good position for Spring storage

19-101

Moved By Marcus Adili

Seconded By Bruce Banbury

That Report Number GM-05-19-58 – Current Watershed Conditions as of May 15, 2019 be received as information.

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

- W.Stauch asked about GRCA's position on Bill 108 and requested that an information report be brought to a future meeting. J.Farwell noted that GRCA has been providing comments to the Province where appropriate and that information will be brought to the Board once more details regarding regulations under the proposed bill are received
- W.Stauch also advised members of the annual New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale happening May 24 and 25 in New Hamburg, and of the World Crokinole Tournament in Tavistock on June 1

17. Closed Meeting

19-102

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Rodrigo Goller

THAT the General Membership enter a closed meeting to discuss proposed or pending acquisitions or dispositions and a personal matter regarding an identifiable individual.

Carried

19-103

Moved By Chris White

Seconded By Vic Prendergast

THAT the General Membership return to open session.

Carried

18. Resolutions from Closed Session

17.1 Minutes of the previous closed meeting

19-104

Moved By Susan Foxtton

Seconded By Brian Coleman

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

Carried

17.2 GM-05-19-C07 - Amendment to Land Disposition - Former McCormick Residence

On March 22, 2019 staff presented to the Members for approval the disposition of the former McCormick residence (6 McCormick Lane, Puslinch). The General Membership approved the disposition (Resolution 19-62). The buyer undertook an inspection of the house and requested release from the agreement of purchase and sale. On March 26, the first offer was mutually released and the property was made available for showings again. The second highest bidder was contacted to advise that the property was again available for sale and the house was made available for showings. There were four (4) showings between March 26 and April 1, 2019. The second highest buyer then re-submitted their offer. The purchaser completed their due diligence and the only conditions remaining on the sale of the property is GRCA Board approval and MNRF approval.

19-105

Moved By Geoff Lorentz

Seconded By Bruce Banbury

THAT Resolution 19-62 adopted on March 22, 2019 be amended by updating the purchaser information and sale price as written below, in accordance with information provided at the previous meeting:

IN ORDER TO FURTHER THE OBJECTS OF the Grand River Conservation Authority by raising funds through the disposition of surplus lands,

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority sell the lands described as Part Lot 4, Concession 1, being Part 2 on Plan 62R-21385; Township of Puslinch, together with an easement for ingress and egress over Part 1 on Plan 61R-21385, municipally known as 6 McCormick Lane, Puslinch comprised of 1.89 acres (0.76 hectares), to **Kokila Rajarathna**, at the offered price of **\$775,000**.

Carried

17.3 GM-05-19-C08 - Acquisition - Personal Property, Mapleton Township

In 1955 the Grand River Conservation Commission acquired the West Half of Lot 1, Concession 5 in the Township of Peel for the Conestogo flood control project. Located on this property was a house, a garage, fences and trees. The seller retained the buildings, fences and trees, while the Grand River Conservation Commission acquired the land and permitted the seller to lease the premises. Based on the legal opinion obtained and a review of the options available, GRCA staff recommend acquiring the chattels for the price offered by the purchasers (\$580,000).

19-106

Moved By Warren Stauch

Seconded By Joe Nowak

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority purchase all buildings, structures, infrastructure, fences and trees located at 6741 Lake View Road, Township of Mapleton for the purchase price of \$580,000 from Ray McDonald and Kim McDonald.

Carried

17.4 GM-05-19-C09 - Chair's Report of the CAO Hiring Committee

19-107

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Chris White

THAT the Chair's Report of the Chief Administrative Officer Hiring Committee be received as information,

AND THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority appoint Samantha Lawson as the Chief Administrative Officer, effective July 15, 2019.

Carried

19. Next Meetings

- General Membership - June 28, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.
- GRCA Composition Review Committee - At the call of the Chair

20. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

19-108

Moved By Chris White

Seconded By Susan Foxton

THAT the meeting of the General Membership be adjourned.

Carried

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer