



**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**JULY 15, 2009**

**WELLAND**

**7:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** D. Ransom, (Chairman)  
B. Baty  
B. Bentley  
G. Burroughs  
T. Dalimonte  
D. DiFruscio  
A. Fevez  
D. Goulbourne  
B. Greenwood  
B. Henderson  
B. Steckley

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** B. Butters (with regrets)  
C. D'Angelo (with regrets)  
B. Heit (with regrets)  
N. Johnson (with regrets)

**STAFF PRESENT:** T. D'Amario, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer  
L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary  
M. Stack, Director, Communications  
J. Kukalis, Director, Water Management  
D. Baker, Director, Land Management  
T. McDougall, Executive Director Conservation Foundation

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Randy Busbridge – Harmony Residents Group  
David Hennessey – Harmony Residents Group  
John Bergsma – Region of Niagara

**BUSINESS:**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance and requested that if anyone had a conflict of interest to so declare it.

**(1) MINUTES - FULL AUTHORITY MEETING – JUNE 17, 2009**

There were no errors or omissions with respect to the minutes. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-85-09**

**MOVED BY:** A. Fevez

**SECONDED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**THAT:** the Minutes of the Full Authority meeting held June 17, 2009, be received and approved as printed.

**"CARRIED"**

(2) **DELEGATIONS**

(a) **HARMONY RESIDENTS GROUP**

Chairman introduced members of the Harmony Residents Group who were in attendance to make a presentation and welcomed Randy Busbridge and David Hennessey. Mr. Busbridge thanked the Chairman and the board for the opportunity to attend.

Mr. Busbridge provided a power point presentation on the Onghiara Natural Heritage Park and the reasons the Harmony Residents Group were in disagreement with a proposal to develop music festival on Lakeshore Road in NOTL. He provided a conceptual vision of the park and a business plan for the eco park to attract tourists and for local residents wanting to enjoy nature, as well as for educational opportunities. He noted that it is the site of the 1813 Battle of Fort George and also has evidence of a first nations population. They are looking for key partnerships which would include Parks Canada, the Niagara Historical Society and Museum and the Friends of Fort George, the District School Board of Niagara and the Chamber of Commerce. A lengthy question period took place after which the Chairman thanked Mr. Busbridge for his presentation.

(b) **BUDGET GUIDELINES PRESENTATION**

John Bergsma from the Region of Niagara thanked for the board for the opportunity to attend from Region of Niagara and provided a power point presentation. He noted that the Region wants all agencies up to speed on the budget process for 2010. He outlined the process the Region is requiring and the timelines. Mr. Bergsma thanked the board for allowing the presentation. The chairman thanked Mr. Bergsma for his presentation and opened the floor to questions.

(3) **2010 BUDGET SCHEDULE – REPORT NO. 51-09**

The Chairman advised that he would like to deal with this report at this time, which was not included in the agenda. The CAO presented the report noting it would be necessary to form the Budget Review Committee and three members of the board would be needed to sit on it. He outlined the timelines and requested three members to sit on the committee. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-86-09**

**MOVED BY:** B. Steckley

**SECONDED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**THAT:** the Report No. 51-09 regarding the 2010 Budget Schedule be received and the recommendations contained therein approved, and;

That the Ad Hoc Budget Review Committee be comprised of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mickey DiFruscio, Andy Fevez and Tony Dalimonte.

**"CARRIED"**

**(4) BUDGET STATUS REPORT TO JUNE 30, 2009 - REPORT NO. 44-09**

The CAO outlined the report noting that there were some concerns with fees being lower than anticipated but are now picking up. He noted that in September he will make any adjustments as necessary. He then responded to questions. It was requested that an additional line item noting percentage of budget spent be added to the status report. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-87-09**

**MOVED BY:** B. Steckley

**SECONDED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**THAT:** the Budget Status Report for the period ending June 30, 2009 be received.

**"CARRIED"**

**(5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

**(6) CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chairman began by thanking staff who worked at Chippawa Creek Conservation Area on July 11<sup>th</sup> for the family fishing day. He noted that although it was rainy, the day was great and was pleased to see the fun everyone had, as well as prizes donated.

The Chairman noted that the alumni reunion is on the 25<sup>th</sup> and a lot of work has gone into it, to make what will hopefully be a good day. He encouraged members to help if they can.

The Chairman noted that in the project status report there is section regarding comments made in a log book from persons attending at the Centre for Conservation. He read aloud comments made from persons who had booked a wedding and noted that staff in general and particularly Henry Parker, the Custodian at the Centre had been very accommodating and they were extremely pleased with the service they received. The Chairman requested that the Director, Land Management pass the comments on to Henry and staff at the Centre for Conservation.

**(7) CAO'S REPORT**

The CAO reminded members that there will be no meeting in August.

The CAO advised that the Native plant workshop is set for August 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – noon at E.C. Brown Conservation Area.

The CAO noted that the Authority applied through the Rinc (Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program) program for funding for the Jordan Harbour project, however, it was not successful.

The CAO advised that Senior CA officials including himself went to Black Creek Pioneer Village regarding Source Water Protection to see where we go from here. He noted that a presentation was made by MOE advising that future responsibilities will rest with municipalities with the option that the Conservation Authority could undertake some or much of the work delegated. The question was raised on who is going to pay for this initiative. He noted that funding mechanisms will be in place, however, no firm details are known. He advised that the plans are to be completed in 2012 and implementation to follow.

The CAO indicated that the Director, Water Management and Mickey DiFruscio attended on July 1<sup>st</sup> at The Battle of Beaverdams Park in Thorold for a plaque dedication for Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

The CAO advised that the Authority had made initial contact with Regional Health regarding septic systems and have been advised this has been transferred to Public Works. He noted that the Director, Water Management will get in touch with Peter Collisimo of Public Works regarding this.

The Director, Communications advised that the next meeting of the Source Water Protection Committee is August 11<sup>th</sup> at Ball's Falls. A representative from the Walkerton Citizens Group, Mr. Bruce Davidson, has been invited by the Chair of the Source Water Protection Committee to attend the meeting. She requested that if anyone would like to attend to please let her know. She noted that dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. with the meeting to follow at 7:00 p.m.

The Chairman advised that he had attended the recent meeting of the Source Water Protection Committee and noted that it is a dynamic group with a very technical job to do.

**(8) UPPER WELLAND RIVER FLOODPLAIN MAPPING – AWARD OF WORK – REPORT NO. 45-09**

The Director, Water Management advised this is a straight forward matter following the Authority's watershed plan and floodplain mapping. He also noted a map was included indicating where the area is. After completion of this phase, one last phase of Welland River is required that being the bottom half in Welland to Wellandport and Oswego Creek. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-88-09**

**MOVED BY:** B. Steckley

**SECONDED BY:** A. Fevez

**THAT:**

- i) Report No. 45-09 regarding the Upper Welland River Floodplain Mapping Project be, received for information.
- ii) That the Board support execution of the Consulting Services Agreement with Aquafor Beech Limited with an upset limit of \$ 131,900.

**"CARRIED"**

**(9) 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY FORKS AND CORKS GALA – REPORT NO. 46-09**

The Director, Communications provided an outline of the gala to celebrate the Authority's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. She advised that the date is now changed to October 30<sup>th</sup> at Ball's Falls. Tickets will be \$100 per person and only 150 are to be sold and will be available mid August. She noted a silent auction will be held with proceeds directed to Jordan Harbour project. She advised that there will be entertainment by the Lamplighters, which is a group based out of the rotary club of the Town of Lincoln that for last several years has been doing theatrical performances. She noted they will be doing a ½ hour show of the best of the last 4 years. She indicated it should be a nice evening and tickets will go fast. If it is successful, it will be looked at to do on an annual basis. She requested that if anyone had any suggestions to please email her and asked that the members mark their calendar. She also advised that the Authority's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary wine will be uncorked at that event and orders will be taken.

Mary then outlined to the board a program through the LCBO where selected wineries are able to provide neck tags to place on selected varieties of their wines as a fundraising initiative. Cave Springs Cellars will have neck tags on their Sauvignon Blanc from mid July to mid August and encouraged the members to assist with this fundraising initiative. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-89-09**

**MOVED BY:** G. Burroughs

**SECONDED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**THAT:** Report No. 46-09 regarding the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Forks and Corks Gala be received for information purposes.

**"CARRIED"**

**(10) 2009 CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS – REPORT NO. 47-09**

The Director, Communications outlined the report noting the Authority is looking at the way this program operates. She noted there is a need to look at what is viable to incorporate the use of the Centre for Conservation at Ball's Falls. She advised that this is a very popular program but needs some revamping with a decision to be made on what to keep and the costs. She noted that consideration will be given to establish categories and public involvement in the nomination process. She indicated that there are many possibilities and requested assistance from board.

Mary then provided pins which were sold regarding the Boundary Waters Treaty 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary for both Canada and the USA. suggesting that perhaps the Authority do a similar type of promotion. From the sale of the Canadian pins, \$1 from each will go to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation.

Andy Fevez noted that changes should be made, perhaps we could partner with the Region and eliminate duplication. He suggested that it might be a good idea to see what other CA's do.

The Chairman suggested that we try it at the Centre for Conservation and feels there is an opportunity for the board members to be there to thank persons from their municipality personally. As well, he noted that many people have not been to the centre and this would provide them the opportunity to do so. Mary will come back in September with a draft recommendation for a proposed new format and possibly a different time of the year. The board members agreed unanimously it should be held at the Centre. Mary will look at holding it in January – February or perhaps a nice weather season.

The following resolution was presented.

**FA-90-09**

**MOVED BY:** M. DiFruscio

**SECONDED BY:** G. Burroughs

**THAT:** Report No. 47-09 regarding the Conservation Achievement Awards be received for information and discussion purposes.

**"CARRIED"**

**(11) CHANGES TO THE 2009 BINBROOK WATERFOWL HUNTING PROGRAM – REPORT NO. 48-09**

The Director, Land Management outlined the report noting that it is becoming very busy with the day use at Binbrook and more conflicts are arising. He noted that staff do not want day use and hunting to happen at the same time. Staff has looked at options one of which is to delay the start of the season and ending day use after thanksgiving Monday. He noted he would like to make the changes for this year and see how it works.

A lengthy discussion took place and Andy Fevez outlined his reasons for not delaying the start of hunting season. Darcy provided the Authority's reasons for doing so. He advised that if the board is really concerned, we could look at changing.

It was suggested that the recommendation be changed to note that the first hunting day would be the day after thanksgiving rather than the Saturday following Thanksgiving. It was also suggested that the hunting day be shortened to 11:30a.m. up to Thanksgiving, and up to 1:00 p.m. from Thanksgiving on with day use being permitted immediately thereafter and no hunting be allowed Thanksgiving Day. Also, 2 blinds will be added and Darcy will follow up with an information sheet to provide to the hunters and day users.

The following resolution was presented.

**FA-91-09**

**MOVED BY:** B. Greenwood

**SECONDED BY:** B. Bentley

**THAT:** Report No. 48-09 be received; and

That the start of the 2009 controlled Waterfowl Hunting Program at the Binbrook Conservation Area be changed to the day following Thanksgiving Day; and

That the hunting day be shortened to 11:30 a.m. up to Thanksgiving, and up to 1:00 p.m. from Thanksgiving on with day use being permitted immediately thereafter and no hunting be allowed Thanksgiving Day.

**"CARRIED"**

(12) **ACCESSIBILITY FOR ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT 2005 - REPORT NO. 49-09**

The Director, Land management advised this report is a result of the presentation made at the June meeting. He advised the Authority is required to adopt 2 policies working with the region for training and guidance. He also noted that other conservation authorities are doing the same. He indicated that he had taken the Region's policy and reworked it to be suitable for the Authority. Staff will be sent to regional training over the next several months.

**FA-92-09**

**MOVED BY:** B. Greenwood

**SECONDED BY:** B. Bentley

**THAT:** report No. 49-09 be received; and

That the Policy Statement on Training and the Policy Statement on Assistive Devices be approved.

**"CARRIED"**

(13) **PROJECT STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 50-09**

Damian Goulbourne advised that he was having some difficulties with the some of the technical terminology in the report and perhaps it can be presented in more understandable terms. A question was raised with respect to the managed forest item whether it means that the forest will be logged. The Director, Land Management advised that this would not take place, but selective cutting if necessary. Brian Baty questioned the date of the E.C. Brown workshop noted in the report. The Director, Water Management advised he had selected the July 23<sup>rd</sup> before clearing it with staff and because of vacation schedules, it was changed to August 11<sup>th</sup>.

The following resolution was presented.

**FA-93-09**

**MOVED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**SECONDED:** B. Steckley

**THAT:** Report No. 50-09 outlining the status of Authority projects be received for information.

**"CARRIED"**

**(14) IN-CAMERA**

In accordance with Authority policy, the following resolutions were presented.

**FA-94-09**

**MOVED BY:** B. Steckley

**SECONDED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**THAT:** this meeting do now move in-camera.

Received at 9:22 p.m. **"CARRIED"**

**FA-95-09**

**MOVED BY:** B. Greenwood

**SECONDED BY:** B. Bentley

**THAT:** this meeting do now move back into open session.

Received at 9:32 p.m. **"CARRIED"**

**(15) OTHER BUSINESS**

Barb Henderson wanted to thank Mary Stack for submitting information and pictures for a newsletter she was working on and noted that it was a nice addition, which she very much appreciated.

The Chairman reminded the Board that there was no August meeting and he would be away in September, therefore Brian Baty would assume the chair. The Chairman thanked Brian for agreeing to do so.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the following resolution was presented.



Authority Meeting - Minutes  
July 15, 2009 – continued

**FA-96-09**

**MOVED BY:** A. Fevez

**SECONDED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**THAT:** this meeting do now adjourn.

**Received at 9:32 p.m.**

**“CARRIED”**

**"L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary**

**D. Ransom, Chairman"**