

WELLAND

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
MAY 18, 2011

7:00 p.m.

FULL AUTHORITY MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT:

B. Maves (Chairman)
B. Timms (Vice-Chairman)
B. Baty
S. Beattie
T. Dalimonte
C. D'Angelo
D. DiFruscio
T. Easton
D. Eke
A. Jeffs
D. Joyner
D. Ransom
B. Steckley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

D. Barrick (with regrets)
B. Sharpe (with regrets)

STAFF PRESENT:

T. D'Amario, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary
D. Baker, Director, Land Management
J. Kukalis, Director, Water Management
M. Stack, Director Communications
T. McDougall, Executive Director Conservation Foundation
B. Wright, Coordinator, Source Water Protection

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Neufeld, Chairman Source Protection Committee
Randy Busbridge, Harmony Residents Group
Bill Charnetski, Harmony Residents Group

BUSINESS:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m., welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who had a conflict of interest to declare it. He then introduced our new Hamilton member Stewart Beattie. The Chairman asked Mr. Beattie to give the board a brief overview of himself which he did. A question was raised with respect to the order of the delegation in the agenda. The CAO advised that historically this is the position the delegations have been placed in, however, if it was the wish of the Board it could be moved. The Chairman advised we would continue in the order as presented.

(1) MINUTES

(a) FULL AUTHORITY MEETING – APRIL 13, 2011

There being no errors or omissions, the following resolution was presented. Trevor noted that the Media release, with respect to the PFOS matter, was well done. The Chairman also thanked Bruce Timms for taking the Chair at the last meeting. The Chairman asked what a crappie derby was and Doug Ransom provided the information. The following resolution was then presented.

FA-52-11

MOVED BY: T. Dalimonte

SECONDED BY: D. Ransom

THAT: the Minutes of the Full Authority meeting held April 13, 2011, be received and approved as printed.

"CARRIED"

(b) NIAGARA REGION TREE AND FOREST CONSERVATION BY-LAW ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – APRIL 21, 2011

There being no errors or omissions, the following resolution was presented.

FA-53-11

MOVED BY: M. DiFruscio

SECONDED BY: D. Ransom

THAT: the Minutes of the Niagara Region Tree and Forest Conservation By-law Advisory Committee meeting held April 21, 2011, be received and approved as printed.

"CARRIED"

(2) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

(3) CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman again thanked Bruce Timms for taking the chair at the last meeting.

The Chairman first commented on the planting at E.C. Brown for Earth Day where a large number of students attended to plant trees and shrubs. He thanked Mickey DiFruscio and Brian Baty for also attending. He also indicated that staff took him on a good walking tour of the site. He noted that this event was very successful.

The Chairman then advised the Board about the annual Bob Welch Memorial Classic golf tournament on June 7. He then outlined the event, and noted that it would be appreciated if Board members could put together a foursome and attend.

The Chairman noted that he has had several visits from a variety of persons from around the Region, and indicated that people are generally not aware of all the things the Authority does. He advised the Board that if they hear of anyone who would like to see him he will be happy accommodate them.

The Chairman indicated that the first meeting of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee was held on the previous Monday and noted that the members very impressed and it was an excellent first meeting. The Consultant is also very well qualified for this matter.

(4) CAO'S REPORT

The CAO advised that on April 23rd the St. Johns trout pond opened for the season and thanked Mickey DiFruscio for being there to make the first cast. He noted that it was not a large turnout, possibly due to the early date and the weather. He also indicated that on Friday April 22nd the annual Hawkwatch open house was held at Beamer Memorial Conservation Area and approximately 600 people were in attendance for that event.

The CAO noted that the Crappie derby, that was scheduled for the previous weekend, was cancelled due to bad weather.

The CAO indicated that on April 30th the Foundation had a rain barrel sale and sold 250 rain barrels. He noted it was quite successful and that the Foundation was working with the Township of West Lincoln for another sale on May 28th, so if anyone was interested in purchasing one they should advise Terry McDougall and they can get one there.

The CAO advised that Albert Marinelli passed away. He was the brother of Alfred Marinelli a former Chairman and member of the Authority board for many years. He noted condolences from the Authority have been sent.

The CAO apologized for not preparing a report on the Fonthill Kame ansi, however a package is available for handout and a report will be presented at the next meeting.

The CAO suggested that for the next meeting, it be held at the Woodend Conservation Area. He noted that since the School Board had made a presentation in April, it would be good for the Board to see the site. He recommended that perhaps a site tour of some CA's and projects could be done at that time, if they wished to do so. He noted that the original date of June 15th might be a conflict with some board members due to the Great Lakes Conference and suggested it could be moved to June 22nd. The Chairman recommended it be discussed in other business.

The Chairman added that the Region of Niagara had a "Niagara Week" at Queen's Park where councilors meet with all three parties and others. One issue they talked about was the Fonthill Kame and that it remain whole instead of being broken up. Brian Baty requested that he would like the Authority's position documented noting that we do support the Region and Town that it remain as one piece. The CAO advised that a resolution to that effect will be available at the next meeting.

(5) DELEGATION

The Chairman advised that Randy Busbridge and Bill Charnetski from the Harmony Residents Group were in attendance. Randy Busbridge was the spokesperson for the group and thanked the Authority for opportunity to attend the meeting. He outlined the reasons for attending the meeting and noted that the Harmony Residents Group is a non-profit organization and wanted to discuss property owned by Parks Canada in NOTL being the former Department of National Defense property. He then provided a power point presentation with proposals on making the area a natural heritage park. He noted that it was the site of the Battle of Fort George in 1813, and there were 2 km of Lake

Ontario waterfront, which made it a unique site for the country, with approximately 270 acres in total. He noted they have endorsements from many groups, clubs and Niagara-on-the-Lake Town Council who passed a motion approving their proposal and to approach Parks Canada to come to an agreement regarding the property.

He noted that the NPCA is in the best position to partner with Parks Canada and cited reasons for same. They would like the board to pass a motion to explore the potential and approach Parks Canada to see how this can be done.

A lengthy discussion and question period took place on many issues from concern about unexploded ordinances to the money needed to create this park.

It was agreed that this is an important piece of history and should be preserved, however, a question on how the funds would be obtained was raised with no current solutions available. There were suggestions on those to approach including B&B's in the area, local business and Niagara Parks.

In conclusion it was agreed that this was a significant matter that should be looked into further. The following resolution was presented.

FA-54-11

MOVED BY: B. Baty

SECONDED BY: M. DiFruscio

THAT: the Board receive the presentation and request staff to speak with Parks Canada with regard to what their intentions are with respect to the partnership and what resources they will make available and provide a report which includes a motion that supports this project in principle.

"CARRIED"

(6) CONSERVATION FOUNDATION APPOINTMENT – REPORT NO. 24-11

Carmen questioned how Ms. Meyer got to be recommended for the board. The Executive Director outlined the process and advised that Doug Ransom put her name forward and she had indicated an interest in being on the board. The following resolution was then presented.

FA-55-11

MOVED BY: T. Easton

SECONDED BY: B. Baty

THAT: Ms. Gail Meyer be appointed to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation for a term to expire December 31, 2013.

"CARRIED"

(7) BUDGET STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 25-11

The CAO summarized the budget to date, noting that not much has happened since it is early in the year and our parks have not yet opened for the season. He noted that we are within the approved budget. He also noted that CA revenues are continually

monitored and will be adjusted throughout the year and that subsequent reports will be much more detailed. After responding to questions, the following resolution was presented.

FA-56-11

MOVED BY: D. Ransom

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: the Budget Status Report for the period ending April 30, 2011 be received.

"CARRIED"

(8) PFOS COMPOUNDS AT BINBROOK C.A. (UPDATE) - REPORT NO. 26-11

The Director, Land Management advised that this will be included as a standard article in all future agendas. He then provided an outline in chronological order of the events since last meeting as well as a FAQ's list. He noted that NPCA staff will continue to work with the City of Hamilton and MOE.

A lengthy question period took place with such items as whether the testing will show a gradual reduction or if what is in there will continue on as is or will it increase. Will it increase in the warm weather and why the USA standards are being used to which staff responded to all.

A question was raised on how this was initially determined. The Director, Land Management provided the information.

FA-57-11

MOVED BY: B. Steckley

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: Report No. 26-11 regarding PFOS Compounds at the Binbrook Reservoir be received for information purposes.

"CARRIED"

(9) LAKE ERIE ACCESS SITE MANAGEMENT – REPORT NO. 27-11

Director, Land Management outlined the report noting that the Authority has worked with the Region on many aspects of the site.

Questions were raised regarding the amenities, garbage, washrooms, and will security enforcement be maintained 24/7. The Director, Land Management noted that the original proposal has the park closing at 8:00 and Authority staff will be doing routine patrols and all the amenities will be in place. It was also questioned whether this park was going to have the water tested for ecoli by Regional Health. It was also asked that if there was no lifeguard on duty, would it need to be posted. The Director Land Management advised that all posting was the responsibility of the Region and they have been advised accordingly. Carmen raised the question of the agreement noting he was not willing to support this without first seeing the agreement. The Director, Land Management provided an agreement the Authority has with the Region on another property, noting it would be very similar.

Authority Meeting - Minutes
May 18, 2011 – continued

Several concerns were raised regarding indemnification and the following resolution was presented.

FA-58-11

MOVED BY: C. D'Angelo

SECONDED BY: A. Jeffs

THAT: Report No. 27-11 be received; and,

That staff be authorized to enter into a management agreement for the Lake Erie Access Site for the 2011 operating season subject to legal review and acceptance by our insurance company based on the concerns of indemnification.

"CARRIED"

(10) NPCA GUIDELINES – SECTION 28 ENFORCEMENT – REPORT NO. 28-11

The Director, Water Management outlined the report and document noting it is essentially what staff are doing at this time. It was suggested that amendments be made in several areas, which he indicated would be done and then would be forwarded to the members when completed. Following a lengthy discussion, the following resolution was presented.

FA-59-11

MOVED BY: C. D'Angelo

SECONDED BY: D. Joyner

THAT: Report No. 28-11 be received for information

That NPCA adopt the appended Policy Document – NPCA Section 28 Enforcement Guidelines, dated May 18, 2011 as amended.

"CARRIED"

(11) PROJECT/PROGRAM STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 29-11

A question was raised with respect to the Canopies for Kids program and a request was made that the Mayors of the municipalities be contacted prior to our staff attending their respective schools for planting, which staff agreed is possible. The following resolution was presented.

FA-60-11

MOVED BY: D. Joyner

SECONDED BY: C. D'Angelo

THAT: Report No. 29-11 outlining the status of Authority projects and programs be received for information, as amended.

"CARRIED"

(12) OTHER BUSINESS

As he indicated earlier in the meeting, the CAO advised that the next meeting is scheduled for June 15 which the Board may wish to move to June 22 in light of the Power of Shared Waters Conference being held that same day and many of our Board members may be attending. He noted that it would include a tour of some of the Authority properties and would begin at 1:00 from the Woodend Conservation Area. He requested that if any of the members would like to see a specific property to let him know. A meeting request will be sent out to the members to see how many are available on the 22nd.

Carmen D'Angelo noted that the last Board considered having their agendas sent electronically, which was deferred until a new Board was appointed. He requested that this report be redistributed to the current members for consideration. He also would like to receive a report on Foundations tax form submission to Revenue Canada showing the money raised vs. administration fees.

April Jeffs advised she had been approached by Quad Niagara regarding the Authority blocking off the parking lot at the Station Road landfill. She noted that staff from the Region will be meeting to discuss this matter. They are looking to park on the south side of the park. The Director, Land Management noted that allowing quads to use the parking lot would not be advisable.

Doug Joyner questioned how many members were on the Foundation Board. The Foundation Executive Director advised there are currently 9 volunteer members and 3 ex-officio members.

Doug Ransom welcomed Stewart Beattie from Hamilton and indicated that we should do something special for Andy Fevez for his 19 years on the board and his dedication to the Binbrook Conservation Area. The Director, Communications noted she will be nominating him for a Pioneer award at the Latornelle Conference and we can do something special at our conservation achievement awards. Several suggestions were made including giving him a picture of Binbrook, perhaps a naming opportunity at Binbrook or a plaque on the fishing dock, together with a formal ceremony. It was agreed that it would be left to staff to decide on an appropriate recognition.

(13) IN-CAMERA

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

FA-61-11

MOVED BY: B. Baty

SECONDED BY: D. Eke

THAT: this meeting do now move in-camera.

Received at 10:16 p.m.

“CARRIED”

Authority Meeting - Minutes
May 18, 2011 – continued

FA-62-11

MOVED BY: B. Steckley

SECONDED BY: C. D'Angelo

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

Received at 11:05 p.m. **“CARRIED”**

The following items were approved in camera.

Report No. CR-07-11

FA-63-11

MOVED BY: D. Joyner.

SECONDED BY: T. Easton **“CARRIED”**

Report No. CR-08-11

FA-64-11

MOVED BY: D. Joyner

SECONDED BY: D. Ransom. **“CARRIED”**

Report No. CR-09-11

FA-65-11

MOVED BY: A. Jeffs

SECONDED BY: D. Ransom **“CARRIED”**

April Jeffs made a comment that the new owners of the Lakewood Easter Seals camp may be willing to sell a 25 acre parcel as well as the beachfront and hoped that the Authority would be interested in it.

ADJOURNMENT

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

FA-66-11

MOVED BY: S. Beattie

SECONDED BY: B. Steckley

THAT: this meeting do now adjourn.

Received at 11:06 p.m. **“CARRIED”**

"L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary

Bart Maves, Chairman”