



**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
FULL AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday November 16, 2016; 9:30 am
Ball's Falls, Centre for Conservation-Glen Elgin Room
3292 Sixth Avenue, Jordan, ON

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** B. Timms (Chair)
S. Annunziata (Vice-Chair)
S. Beattie
B. Baty
F. Champion
P. Darte
D. DiFruscio
J. Diodati
B. Hodgson
A. Jeffs
D. Joyner
J. Kaspersetz
J. Maloney
R. Shirton
T. Quirk
- MEMBER REGRETS:** None.
- STAFF PRESENT:** P. Graham, Acting CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
D. Barrick, Director, Corporate Services
S. McInnes, Acting Director Watershed Management
M. Brickell, Director, Operations
G. Furtney, Operations Supervisor
A. Christie, Manager, Strategic Initiatives
M. Reles, Communications Specialist
L. Conte, Administrative Assistant, Office of CAO & Board
- VISITORS/GUESTS:** David Hemmings,
Don Labute,
Don Smith,
Len Aarts,
Bev Lepard,
Glen Robins

The Full Authority meeting was called to order at 9:40 am. Chair, Timms welcomed Acting CAO, Peter Graham as a result of the former CAO, Carmen D'Angelo accepting a new position at Niagara Region. Chair and Vice-Chair made the appointment and asked for the board's support in this decision resulting in the following resolution:

Resolution No. FA-147-16

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT, Peter Graham be appointed by the Board as Acting CAO effective November 14, 2016 until further advised.

CARRIED

Chair reminded the Board members, staff, guests and members of the public that the Full Authority board meeting is live streamed on our website, and, will be archived along with the official written minutes of the meeting. As such, comments and opinions expressed may be published and any comments expressed by individual Board members, guests and the general public are their own, and do not, represent the opinions or comments of the Full Authority and/or the NPCA Board of Directors.

NOTE: The archived recorded meeting is available on the NPCA website. The recorded video of the Full Authority meeting is not considered the official record of that meeting. The official record of the Full Authority meeting shall consist solely of the Minutes approved by the Full Authority Board. *NPCA Board of Directors Policy Handbook Regulation #2, Meeting Procedures Sec.17.0*

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Member B. Baty would like to add an in-camera item regarding a staffing issue with the following;

Resolution No. FA-148-16

Moved by: R. Shirton

Seconded by: B. Baty

THAT the agenda for the Full Authority Meeting be **ADOPTED** with the noted change.

CARRIED

DELEGATION

Presentation by David Hemmings "In pursuit of World Heritage Designation", Niagara-on-the-Lake UNESCO Committee.

UNESCO through the designation of World Heritage sites, seeks to encourage the identification, protection and preservation and presentation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. Niagara-on-the-Lake is unique in its cultural, historic and natural environment. The NOTL UNESCO Committee is seeking a letter of support in this regard.

Member's comments:

- Member Darte expressed his support and that of NOTL Council for this designation.
- B. Baty inquired whether the UNESCO designation would support or perhaps restrict use in that area for other purposes, for plan, open access to Lake Ontario etc. Hemmings responded there would be no restrictions. Further, member Baty noted that NOTL is currently a UNESCO designation through the Escarpment Commission, is it possible to have a dual designation one as a natural feature, second, cultural. Mr. Hemmings responded that there is a difference between the world heritage designation and the biosphere designation. They are two separate functions within the UNESCO Organization. Member Baty requested Mr. Hemmings consider presenting to the Niagara Escarpment Commission.
- Member Diodati asked whether this designation would impact or hinder development in that area, and was concerned whether this may neutralize opportunities for the Town. Mr. Hemmings assured members that this is a cultural submission and the Town has management plans that would not be affected by this designation.
- Member Maloney inquired whether there would be any restrictions on lands the Conservation Authority owns. Mr. Hemmings commented there would be no restrictions.
- Member Joyner requested Mr. Hemmings present to the Cultural Committee at the Region to which Mr. Hemmings responded affirmatively.

Resolution No. FA-149-16

Moved by: P. Darte
Seconded by: D. Joyner

THAT the presentation on the UNESCO World Heritage Designation for NOTL by David Hemmings be received for information; and, THAT a letter of support, in principle, and conditional upon a nomination to Canada's Tentative List, be attached to the "Niagara-on-the-Lake Cultural Landscape" submission in December 2016.

CARRIED

NOTICE OF MOTION – Canada's 150th Anniversary Watershed Project

Member B. Baty provided some background information respecting the Watershed Project for Canada's 150th anniversary. As a result of speaking with Mrs. Lazareth; a senior resident of Pelham who shared a poem created for Canada's 100th anniversary, she proposed a rewording of that poem to promote maple trees and their relationship to our Nation. Foundation board members held discussions with NPCA staff to determine the merits of initiating a watershed-wide project for Canada's 150th anniversary. The following project parameters were proposed;

That Canadian Sugar Maple trees be presented by NPCA to every elementary, secondary, private school, Brock U and Niagara College with a commemorative framed plaque featuring the Comfort Maple tree either through a photo or pressed leaves, noting the dedication of the tree and including the poem created by Shirley Lazareth.

Staff are currently researching materials, costs and sponsorships, however, the contingency plan is to rely on OPG reserve funds with an upset limit of \$35,000. Staff is supportive of this initiative.

- Member DiFruscio suggested approaching industries and businesses through the Chamber of Commerce for sponsorships.
- Clarification was provided that this would include NPCA's entire watershed, Hamilton and Haldimand inclusive, one tree per school.

- Member Annunziata suggested giving the members of the board the opportunity to absorb this information, given potential timeline constraints.
- Member Baty recommended the motion be approved in principle on the premise that full costs and details be provided to the board in January.
- Member Hodgson suggested checking with the schools prior to initiating this project for their feedback as they may already have plans for the same celebration; perhaps there may be a way to leverage the two to work closely together.

Resolution No. FA-150-16

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: R. Shirton

THAT the rules of procedure be waived to allow NPCA board to entertain the notice of motion.

CARRIED

The notice of motion was approved in principle as follows:

Resolution No. FA-151-16

Moved by: B. Baty

Seconded by: S. Annunziata

THAT the watershed-wide, "Canada 150" Project involving the presentation of Sugar Maple trees to local schools with an upset limit of \$35,000 from the OPG (Ontario Power Generation) Reserves Fund be approved in principle, subject to final review in a detailed report to be presented at the next board meeting.

CARRIED

BUSINESS:

1. A. Approval of the Minutes - Full Authority Board Meeting October 19, 2016

- Member Beattie wanted to clarify his comments on pg. 8 that a 2016 year-end summary report be provided along with the quarterly status reports.

B. Committee Meeting Minutes (Draft):

- *Cave Springs Steering Committee – October 11, 2016*

Resolution No. FA-152-16

Moved by: S. Beattie

Seconded by: J. Maloney

THAT, the minutes of the **Full Authority Meeting** held October 19, 2016 be APPROVED with the noted change; and,

THAT, the DRAFT minutes for **Cave Springs Steering Committee Meeting** held October 11, 2016 be RECEIVED for information.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

3. Correspondence

1) NPCA letter to Minister of Natural Resources

It was noted that the office of the Chair contacted the MPP's Welland office and a meeting has been scheduled as a result. NPCA's audited financial statements for the past few years will be brought and form a basis for discussions with MPP Forster along with our comments to the Minister's office.

- Members suggested having the meeting recorded so as to report back to members. Members are concerned about the innuendoes and feel strongly about NPCA's reputation as an open and transparent Organization and as members representing this Organization are concerned about the false accusations being circulated.
- There was consensus among Board Members that the unfounded accusations being disseminated are affecting not only the board members that represent Niagara Region but also, Hamilton and Haldimand. As such, it was deemed appropriate to have member representation from Hamilton and Haldimand attend this meeting as well.

2) Letter from Hamilton Councillor Brenda Johnson

- Brenda Johnson thanked the NPCA Chair and members for the framed pictures of Binbrook Conservation Authority donated for a community fundraiser event and stated, "It is always a pleasure working together for the benefit of the community"

Resolution No. FA-153-16

Moved by: F. Campion

Seconded by: P. Darte

THAT correspondence items be received for information.

CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

- Chair attended the final public meeting for the Cave Springs Plan and commended board members who co-chaired and staff for their work to bring this plan to its final stage for approval by the board and to be forwarded to NEC and MNRF.
- B. Timms also attended the Lakefront Master Plan in Wainfleet and this project is off to a great start with the consultant and workshops and commended staff for their part in organizing this initiative.
- Vice-Chair and Chair look forward to working closely with Acting CAO, Peter Graham and thanked the board for confirming this decision. It is the intention of the board to launch a search for a new CAO following the Annual General Meeting in January and to have a recruitment strategy prepared for board approval and the election of a committee.
- 2017 is the final year of the Strategic Plan with 85% implementation completed. Chair recognized and thanked the former CAO, Carmen D'Angelo for his leadership in the implementation of that Strategic Plan to-date; for modernizing the NPCA and having positioned the Organization to deliver quality conservation and regulatory programs and services that determine the level of our success through clear performance measures. It has established a healthy balance of our administration with a solution based approach respecting the interests of landowners, farmers and the natural resources of our watershed.

5. **Acting CAO Comments**

P. Graham thanked Chair, Vice-Chair and former CAO for this opportunity to step into the role of Acting CAO and is confident that with the strong senior management team, they will continue to work towards completing the remaining initiatives identified in the current strategic plan and welcomed Suzanne McInnes as the Acting Director of Watershed Management during this transition.

Reports for Information:

6. **Project Status Reports:**

6.1 **Watershed Status Report No. 114-16**

6.2 **Operations Status Report No. 115-16**

6.3 **Corporate Services Status Report No. 116-16**

7. **Tree & Forest Conservation By-law Status – Report No. 117-16**

8. **Financial & Reserves update – month ending October 31, 2016 – Report No. 118-16**

Information Status Reports were received with the following resolution:

Resolution No. FA-154-16

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: P. Darte

THAT Status Reports 114, 115, 116, 117 and 118 be **RECEIVED** for information.

CARRIED

Reports for Consideration:

9. **Long Beach CA – Water Truck Purchase or Finance - Report No. 119-16**

- Member Kaspersetz asked that staff explore other opportunities with truck load delivery services, suggesting that through public tendering the current contractor price of \$110 per load may drop down considerably. Member Kaspersetz asked that staff contact 6 or 7 different contractors for prices and report back.
- Member Beattie would like to have this report deferred until staff can provide the information requested.
- P. Darte suggested investigating another source of ground water well.

Requested item in report was deferred as follows:

Resolution No. FA-155-16

Moved by: S. Beattie

Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT this item be deferred to January's board meeting.

CARRIED

10. **2017 Planning and Regulations Fees - Report No. 120-16**

- Member Annunziata asked what defines “major” and “minor” on the fees schedule. Staff responded that “major” requires supporting technical reports and staff review whereas, minor does not. It is through the consultation process that we define these priorities so that the public / client is aware beforehand.

Note: the “major” and “minor” refers to planning and not permit fees

- After comparing NPCA fees against other Conservation Authorities , Member Kaspersetz noted that our fees for plan subdivision seem low compared to Grand River and asked whether a comparison has been conducted with other CA’s. Staff reported that a comprehensive review with the municipalities and other Conservation Authorities was conducted last year. Our average cost recovery over the past 3 years for plan reviews and permitting about 50%; GRCA’s cost recovery is 100% and their municipal partners also charge higher than NPCA’s municipal partners. NPCA tried to find a balance, but needed to ensure we did not charge higher than our municipal partners. We are scheduled to complete another review of our fees in 2017.

Resolution No. FA-156-16

Moved by: S. Annunziata

Seconded by: J. Maloney

THAT Report No. 120-16 be APPROVED; and that the 2017 fee schedule take effect January 1, 2017; further,

THAT the 2017 fee schedule be posted on the NPCA website; and,

THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the watershed municipalities.

CARRIED

11. **Cave Springs Management Plan Approval and Actions – Report No. 121-16**

Members acknowledged and thanked board members and staff for all their hard work and time spent on this project to bring it to its final stage. Once endorsed by the NEC and approved by MNRF, NPCA will begin to look at how to finance this project beginning in their 2018 budget.

- Member Beattie suggested staff look into the Heritage Funds (Trillium fund) now purportedly offered to CA’s by the Provincial government.

Resolution No. FA-157-16

Moved by: B. Hodgson

Seconded by: S. Beattie

THAT Report No. 121-16 be RECEIVED for information;

THAT the Draft Cave Springs Management Plan be APPROVED, and the recommendations therein be ADOPTED, upon final approval from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry; and,

THAT the CAO be AUTHORIZED to submit the Draft Cave Springs Management Plan to the Niagara Escarpment Commission for review and endorsement, and then to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for final approval.

CARRIED

12. **Draft 2017 Meeting Schedule – Report No. 122-16**

Members opted for daytime meetings with the following resolution;

Resolution No. FA-158-16

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: J. Diodati

THAT the NPCA Board of Directors **APPROVE** the NPCA Board of Directors 2017 meeting schedule, with the daytime options presented.

CARRIED

13. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

There being no further business in public session, the meeting moved to closed session with the following resolution:

Resolution No. FA-159-16

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: P. Darte

THAT the Full Authority meeting move to closed session to discuss a confidential matter of advice identifying an individual(s).

CARRIED

ROLL CALL

Regrets: F. Campion
A. Jeffs

Closed Session

1. Confidential Matter of Advice.....[Verbal update](#)

Resolution No. FA-160-16

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: R. Shirton

THAT the meeting rise from closed session with report.

CARRIED

Public Session

The following resolution resulted from discussions in closed session:

Resolution No. FA-161-16

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: P. Darte

THAT staff follow direction of the board given in closed session.

**CARRIED
(with 2 opposed)**

It is noted that Member Hodgson opposed this motion.

The meeting returned to closed session with the following resolution:

Resolution No. FA-162-16

Moved by: P. Darte

Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT the Full Authority meeting move to closed session to receive a verbal status update on violations and discuss a personnel issue.

CARRIED

Note: Members F. Campion and A. Jeffs were not in attendance.

Closed Session

1. Violations Status - verbal update
2. Personnel issue, verbal

Resolution No. FA-163-16

Moved by: S. Beattie

Seconded by: P. Darte

THAT the meeting rise from closed session.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to consider, the Full Authority meeting was adjourned at 12:43 pm with the following resolution;

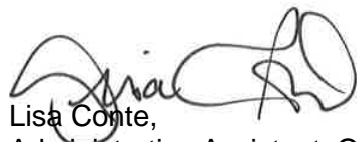
Resolution No. FA-164-16

Moved by: S. Beattie

Seconded by: D. Joyner

THAT the Full Authority Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED



Lisa Conte,
Administrative Assistant, Office of CAO
and Board of Directors



S. Annunziata
NPCA, Chair