



**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
58<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday January 18, 2017; 9:30 am

3292 Sixth Avenue; Jordan, ON Ball's Falls Centre for Conservation - Elgin Room

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>		
<b>S. Annunziata (Chair)</b>	B Baty	S. Beattie
F. Champion	P. Darté	D. DiFruscio
J. Diodati	B. Hodgson	A. Jeffs
D. Joyner	<b>J. Kaspersetz (Vice-Chair)</b>	J. Maloney
T. Quirk	R. Shirton	B. Timms

<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>	
P. Graham, Acting CAO	D. Barrick, Director, Corporate Services
M. Brickell, Director, Operations&Strat.Initiatives	S. McInnes, Acting Director Watershed Management
G. Furtney, Supervisor, Operations	A. Christie, Manager, Strategic Initiatives
M. Reles, Communications Specialist	L. Conte, Admin. Assistant, Office of CAO & Board

<b>Visitors Present</b>			
Dave Augustyn	Mark Bagu	George F. Bell	Kathleen Bell
Marilyn Bell	Liz Benneian	Rhonda Brown	Allen C. Bunyan
Rob Burns	Kaitlin Cain	Mark Campaner	Klara Young-Chin
D. Cridland	Philip Curtis	Dennis Edell	Ethel Farnsworth
MPP Cindy Forster	Rick Gelineau	Terry Gilmore	Lynn Glover
Lynda Goodridge	R. W. Gordon	J. T. Grassie	Mike Haines
Don Hallett	B. Hamilton	George Hamilton	Ken & Carol Hayner
Ron Honey	Carol Horvat	Rebecca Hunt	Dan Irish
Marcie Jacklin	George Jardine	Corin Johnston	Derek Jone
Lorraine Brown-Joyce	Brenda Kearns	Janet Kellam	Kerry Kennedy
Bea & Wayne Kenny	Gary King	Betty Konc	Win Laar
Don LaBute	Terry Lemick	Bev Lepard	Anna Levay
Juli Longaphie	Tami Lyons	Debbie MacGregar	Ken Mackenzie
Alfred Marinelli	David Martin	Claire Masswohl	Sheryl McRoberts
Lise & Tim Milenkoff	Teresa Naromeczki	John & Mary Potter	Doug Ransom
Glen Robins	Janice Ryan	Colin Ryrie	Joyce Sankey
Norm Sawatsky	Tom Schulz	Pierre Sjaarda	Don Smith
Eddi Smith	K.J. Smith	Vicki-Lyn Smith	Joseph Somers
Emily Spanton	John Spanton	Dan Sundy	Stephen Svenson
Bob S.	David White	Nadine Wickens	Tom Wiley
Barbara Wilson			

## INTRODUCTION

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The Meeting was called to order at 9:34 am. 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*

NPCA Chair, Bruce Timms welcomed the board members and guests to its 58<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. Each year at the AGM the NPCA holds an election for the Chair and Vice-Chair. As part of the election process, the CAO is appointed as Acting Chair; with the following resolution:

**Resolution No. FA-01-17**

**Moved by: J. Kaspersetz**

**Seconded by: P. Darte**

**THAT the Acting CAO/Secretary Treasurer be appointed Chair for the election of the Authority Chair and Vice-Chair for 2017.**

**CARRIED**

The appointed Chair, P. Graham assumed his seat and thanked all those in attendance. For the purpose of counting ballots in the event of an election, scrutineers are appointed by way of resolution as follows:

**Resolution No. FA-02-17**

**Moved by: J. Kaspersetz**

**Seconded by: R. Shirton**

**THAT Mark Brickell and David Barrick be appointed as scrutineers in the event of an election.**

**CARRIED**

## BUSINESS:

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### 1. Election of the Chair

- ◆ **Chair, P. Graham called for NOMINATIONS for the office of Authority Chair 2017;**

Moved by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT member Bruce Timms be nominated for the office of Authority Chair for 2017.

Note: D. DiFruscio seconded the motion.

- ◆ **Chair, P. Graham called for NOMINATIONS for the office of Authority Chair a second time;**

Moved by: T. Quirk

THAT member S. Annunziata be nominated for the office of Authority Chair for 2017.

- ◆ **Chair, P. Graham called for NOMINATIONS for the office of Authority Chair for a third and final time.**

Having no further nominations, the office of Authority Chair for 2017 was closed with the following resolution:

**Resolution No. FA-03-17**

**Moved by: F. Campion**

**Seconded by: P. Darte**

**THAT the nominations for the office of Authority Chair for 2017 be closed.**

**CARRIED**

Chair, P. Graham advised that each nominee had 3 minutes to speak for the office of Chair.

**Nominee #1 – S. Annunziata**

*“We had a simple mandate...protect the watershed. So how did that simple 3 word sentence evolve into the complexities we as a Board are facing today?*

*Flood plain Management (1970's), Hazard Land Management including the management of local areas susceptible to flood and erosion (1983), Great Lakes shoreline Erosion management (1988), Regulation of Development, specifically how it relates to Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shoreline and Watercourses (2006).*

*To say our role has expanded is an understatement. Conservation Authorities also provide comment on development applications; specifically, in regards to natural heritage features on private property. We receive environmental impact studies for potential development. Once received, we provide comment based on the Provincial Policy Statement, the Planning Act, and section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act. Most recently, we've added Source Water Protection, Regional Tree bylaw enforcement. All this from a regulatory perspective before we've even talked about the management of over 2,870 hectares of some of the most sensitive and unique natural areas in Niagara as well as efficient operations of 39 Conservation Areas. Not to mention the occasional bog fire. Restoration projects, tree planting, master plans, workshops, open houses, public meetings. Stewardship, management and operations of our Parks, properties and trail systems. Festivals, fairs and weddings. All this while juggling different Ministries, different policies, different regulations and Acts while collaborating with 4 levels of government. We are a Commenting agency, and at times when we can be certain a violation has occurred, an enforcement agency as well. An infinite amount of work on a finite budget. We have important work to do.*

*The Board exists to help achieve balance and to help reconcile Provincial policy with the concerns of our stakeholders. Now some, may not appreciate that approach. You may think, along with others, it's creation and role is not to interpret but simply rubber stamp a previously simple, black and white Issue. I can assure you, the issues are never black and white and the concerns are very diverse. We must continue to take previous black and white issues from property owners, residents, investors and conservationists and inject colour into them. Not because we want too, but because we have no choice. As the demands from Provincial Legislators keep expanding the roles of Conservation Authorities, we must adapt and evolve. That adaptation, that evolution is sometimes frightening. And in that regard, we must do a better job of educating, showing patience, compassion and communicating what that evolution will look like, not just this year but 4 years from now. We have important work to do.*

*Quite simply we've had to evolve from a talking Authority to a listening Authority. And with so many voices, sometimes talking over each other, or the loudest drowning out the concerns of the smaller but equally important voices, the challenges to maintain balance seem unachievable. But as Municipal Leaders we have to show incredible concern for that balance. Not only for an economically prosperous Hamilton, Haldimand and Niagara, but for a healthy, vibrant watershed. The two go hand and hand. Under this leadership we will not choose one over the other. The two can co-exist and we'll strive every day to achieve that goal. Residents of the watershed, farmers, the development community, Environmental groups, private property owners, Conservation Clubs, Municipal Councils, in Hamilton, Niagara and Haldimand, all deserve to be heard. But we cannot be so naive to think, that by upholding that important principle, conflict,*

*disagreement, difference of opinion will not be a part of what we do. Democracy is messy and disagreement will always be a part of a healthy Board conducting important business. We should encourage and be leaders in respectful public discourse. We have important work to do.*

*The NPCA will continue to listen to its Partners. We will always be bound by Provincial Policy and we will continue to make that perfectly clear to every stakeholder. We will not approach our responsibilities with a heavy hand and we will not stop searching for common ground in order to help our partners move forward. I remain committed to utilizing the expertise and knowledge of our very talented staff. I remain committed to open, transparent decision making with a focus on executing the NPCA mandate, despite the complexities, as prescribed by the Conservation Authorities Act. I remain committed to efficient and responsible spending of public dollars. We will be sensitive to the needs of residents, First Nations, small business, farmers, job creators, volunteers, conservation members and we will manage those many voices and expectations within the language of the Conservation Authorities Act.*

*Thank you for your consideration and please know how much all your contributions to the NPCA are respected and appreciated."*

## **Nominee #2 – B. Timms**

*"Our Strategic Plan is in its fourth year and I ask the board for your support in seeing to its completion as Chair of this Authority. I look forward to a review of that plan and the implementation that will form the development of the next four year Strategic Plan.*

*We've accomplished a great deal in the last few years. We've recognized the issues with the Welland River Floodplain Mapping; we've worked through the Master plans for Binbrook Conservation Area and Cave Springs Conservation Area. We recognize and have addressed within the Provincial Legislation, the levy apportionment issues with Hamilton, which is still before the Commissioner of Mining and Lands"; we acquired the Lake Erie Waterfront property and took on the management of Niagara Region's Lake Erie Beach Property significantly increasing public ownership and public access to Wainfleet beaches" The Authority has initiated a Lake Erie Waterfront Properties Master Plan which adds significant land holdings; we took over full management of the St. Johns Centre and resolved the operating cost issues through a partnership with Brock University and Niagara Catholic School Board and First Nations on that property. We addressed the financial control issue raised by Grant Thornton in our annual audits, we were one of the first Source Water Protection Authorities to achieve provincial approval. We have met the provincial budget guidance requests from our funding municipalities for the last five years and at the same time have improved Ball's Falls, Binbrook and Chippawa Conservation Areas.*

*I am confident and pleased with the progress this Authority has made in the delivery of service in fulfillment of our mandate, the full range of our mandate, which is far beyond the initial mandate of Authorities. I ask the members of the Board for your support in seeing this strategic plan through to completion as the Chair of the Authority for 2017."*

Chair, P. Graham thanked the nominees for their comments and requested the ballots be distributed to the Board for the purpose of placing their vote.

Scrutineers, D. Barrick and M. Brickell handed out the ballots and then collected all the ballots; left the meeting room for the purpose of counting ballots. Upon returning, scrutineers provided the results to the Chair, P. Graham who announced;

**That, Member Sandy Annunziata has been declared Chair of the Authority for 2017.**

## 2. Election of Vice-Chair

- ◆ **Chair, P. Graham called for NOMINATIONS for the office of Authority Vice-Chair 2017.**

Moved by: T. Quirk

THAT member J. Kaspersetz be nominated for the office of Authority Vice-Chair for 2017.

- ◆ **Chair, P. Graham called for NOMINATIONS for the office of Authority Vice-Chair 2017 a second time.**

Moved by: J. Diodati

THAT member B. Timms be nominated for the office of Authority Vice-Chair for 2017.

- ◆ **Chair, P. Graham called for NOMINATIONS for the office of Authority Vice-Chair 2017, for a third and final time.**

Having no further nominations, the office of Authority Vice-Chair for 2017 was closed with the following resolution:

### **Resolution No. FA-04-17**

**Moved by: B. Baty**

**Seconded by: D. Joyner**

**THAT the nominations for the office of Authority Vice-Chair for 2017 be closed.**

**CARRIED**

**The Acting Chair advised that each nominee has 3 minutes to speak for the office of Vice-Chair.**

#### **1. Nominee #1 – J. Kaspersetz**

*"I am a citizen appointed on behalf of the City of Hamilton. Currently I'm an environmental professional working in the area of environmental compliance and permit approvals. My background is air dispersion modelling and project management. My client base consists of industrial, commercial and provincial ministries. Currently, I am under contract with the MOECC providing Environmental Consulting Services to the Business and Fiscal Planning Branch.*

*I recently completed a restoration project on my own property in conjunction with Ducks Unlimited where we restored a dried up wetland; proving that a wetland can be regenerated. In the past 2 years I've attended Conservation Ontario's Annual General Meetings and I have deep concerns that some of the recommendations proposed to the Province are going to negatively affect landowners in our jurisdiction, Niagara Region, Hamilton and Haldimand. I look forward to working with the board in trying to represent their interests.*

#### **2. Nominee #2 – B. Timms**

*Member Timms thanked members for the nomination and conceded Vice-Chair position to member Kaspersetz, who represents the City of Hamilton. Member Timms expressed his acceptance of the board's decision for a change in leadership and commented on the significant and importance of having a Hamilton member sit on the executive committee team as Vice-Chair.*

Chair Graham, thanked the nominees for their comments and announced;

**That Member James Kaspersetz has been declared Vice-Chair of the Authority for 2017**

The Board formalized the 2017 nominations as follows;

**Resolution No. FA-05-17**

Moved by: R. Shirton

Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT member S. Annunziata has been nominated as Authority Chair of NPCA for 2017; and further,

THAT member J. Kaspersetz has been acclaimed as Authority Vice-Chair of NPCA for 2017.

CARRIED

NOTE: During the Full Authority Meeting and at the request of board members, the following was resolved;

**Resolution No. FA-21-17**

Moved by: J. Diodati

Seconded by: R. Shirton

THAT all voting ballots (AGM Election Procedure) be destroyed.

CARRIED

**3. Remarks from newly acclaimed Chair**

Member Annunziata assumed his seat as Chair of NPCA 2017 and thanked members for their confidence in electing him as Chair and looks forward to working with Vice-Chair Kaspersetz. Chair Annunziata resumed the meeting with the Selection of members to standing committees as follows;

**4. Selection of Board Members to Standing Committees**

**a. CLAC (Community Liaison Advisory Committee)**

**Resolution No. FA-06-17**

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: D. Joyner

THAT the Chair, Vice-Chair, members A. Jeffs, J. Maloney and B. Timms be appointed to the CLAC committee.

CARRIED

**b. Budget Steering Committee**

**Resolution No. FA-07-17**

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: A. Jeffs

THAT the Chair, Vice-Chair, members S. Beattie, D. DiFruscio, B. Hodgson, T. Quirk and B. Timms be appointed to the Budget Steering Committee.

CARRIED

**c. Audit Committee**

**Resolution No. FA-08-17**

Moved by: P. Darté

Seconded by: D. Joyner

THAT the Chair, Vice-Chair, members B. Baty, S. Beattie, D. DiFruscio and T. Quirk be appointed to the Audit Committee.

CARRIED

d. Watershed Flood Plain Committee

Resolution No. FA-09-17

Moved by: P. Darte

Seconded by: T. Quirk

THAT the Chair, Vice-Chair, members B. Baty, S. Beattie, F. Campion, J. Diodati, A. Jeffs, D. Joyner and R. Shirton be appointed to the Watershed Flood Plain Committee.

CARRIED

e. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation

Resolution No. FA-10-17

Moved by: S. Beattie

Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT Chair, Vice-Chair and members B. Baty, T. Quirk and B. Timms be appointed to the NPCF Committee.

CARRIED

f. Source Protection Committee – Liaison

Resolution No. FA-11-17

Moved by: T. Quirk

Seconded by: D. Joyner

THAT member B. Baty continue to serve as the appointed liaison for the Source Protection Committee.

CARRIED

## ADJOURNMENT

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

Resolution No. FA-12-17

Moved by: P. Darte

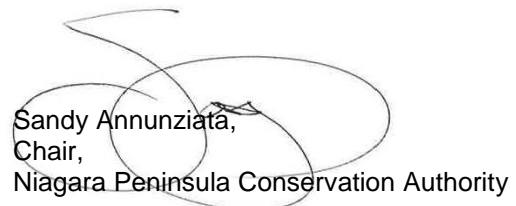
Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

THAT the Annual General Meeting be adjourned. Received at 10:13 am

CARRIED



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



Sandy Annunziata,  
Chair,  
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority