

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Meeting
May 17, 2024, 9:00a.m.
Carolinian Hall
3350 Merrittville Hwy., Thorold ON
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: S. Beattie, Vice Chair
D. Cridland
R. Foster
B. Grant
D. Huson
J. Metcalfe, Chair
P. O'Neill
M. Seaborn
M. Tadeson

MEMBERS ABSENT: B. Clark

STAFF PRESENT: C. Sharma, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
A. Christie, Director, Conservation Areas
M. Davis, Manager, Office of the CAO & Board
M. Ferrusi, Manager, People & Performance
E. Gervais, Manager, Corporate Support Services
N. Green, Manager, Climate Change & Special Programs
L. Lee-Yates, Director, Planning & Development
S. Miller, Senior Manager, Infrastructure, Engineering &
Asset Management
E. Navarro, Communications & Marketing Specialist
A. Powell, Manager, Conservation Areas Programs & Services
G. Shaule, Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution No. FA-57-24

Moved by: Stew Beattie

Seconded by: Michelle Seaborn

THAT the Agenda for the Full Authority Board Meeting held on Friday, May 17, 2024, **BE APPROVED.**

CARRIED

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Resolution No. FA-58-24

Moved by: Diana Huson

Seconded by: Robert Foster

THAT the Minutes of the 65th Annual Meeting of the Full Authority Board dated April 19, 2024, Full Authority Meeting – Closed Session, dated March 22, 2024 and the Full Authority Meeting – Closed Session, dated April 19, 2024 **BE APPROVED.**

CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S UPDATE

- Chair Metcalfe shared that he joined Director Lee-Yates for an interview with Mike Balsom at YourTV Niagara to discuss recent successes in land acquisitions.
- Attended the opening of Rockway with its enhanced infrastructure and accessibility features, and encouraged all to check out the Conservation Area when they have a chance to do so.
- Chair Metcalfe yielded the floor to CAO/Secretary-Treasurer, Chandra Sharma, who provided an overview of the recent Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Cities' Initiative (GLSCI) annual conference, hosted in Montreal, QC.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Resolution No. FA-59-24

Moved by: Brian Grant

Seconded by: Diana Huson

THAT the following Correspondence **BE RECEIVED:**

- Item 5.1 from the Regional Municipality of Niagara RE: 2025 Budget Timetable CSD-2024;
- Item 5.2 from Long Point Region Conservation Authority RE: Recommended phase out of free well water testing in the 2023 Auditor General's Report;
- Item 5.3 from the Town of Lincoln RE: Notice of Intention to Designate pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O 1990*, lands and premises known municipally as 3292 Sixth Avenue in the Town of Lincoln; and
- Item 5.4 from Conservation Ontario RE: Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Review of proposed policies for a new provincial planning instrument" (ERO# 019-8462).

CARRIED

6. PRESENTATIONS

None.

7. DELEGATIONS

None.

8. CONSENT ITEMS

8.1. Report No. FA-26-24 RE: Solar Eclipse Summary

Resolution No. FA-60-24

Moved by: Stew Beattie

Seconded by: Diana Huson

THAT Report No. FA-26-24 RE: Solar Eclipse Summary **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1. Report No. FA-23-24 RE: Niagara River 'Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations' Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) Status Assessment

Manager, Climate Change & Special Programs, Natalie Green, provided an overview of the report and next steps. Discussion ensued regarding Lyons Creek East and fish consumption health.

Resolution No. FA-61-24

Moved by: Donna Cridland

Seconded by: Brian Grant

THAT Report No. FA-23-24 RE: Niagara River 'Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations' Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) Status Assessment **BE RECEIVED**;

THAT NPCA's Public Advisory Committee, Niagara Parks Commission, and municipalities adjacent to the Niagara River **BE ADVISED**;

AND FURTHER THAT a report about the final outcome of the BUI status re-designation **BE BROUGHT** back to the Board.

CARRIED

9.2. Report No. FA-24-24 RE: Ball's Falls Heritage Designation

Director, Conservation Areas, Adam Christie provided an overview of the report. Discussion ensued regarding grants available for capital infrastructure improvements to maintain current form. Member Foster expressed gratitude to staff for their efforts on this significant milestone over the past few years.

Resolution No. FA-62-24

Moved by: Robert Foster

Seconded by: Donna Cridland

THAT Report No. FA-18-24 RE: Ball's Falls Heritage Designation **BE RECEIVED**;

AND THAT the Board **ENDORSE** the Town of Lincoln's Intention to Designate Ball's Falls Conservation Area as a property of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND FURTHER THAT Report No. FA-24-24 **BE CIRCULATED** to the Town of Lincoln.

CARRIED

9.3. Report No. FA-28-24 RE: Contract Award – Woodend Conservation Area Roadway Improvements

Discussion regarding the heavy impact on roadway throughout the year from vehicular traffic ensued. Members emphasized the important work done through the partnership between NPCA and DSBN.

Resolution No. FA-63-24

Moved by: Stew Beattie

Seconded by: Diana Huson

WHEREAS NPCA has a long-standing agreement with the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) to utilize a two-acre portion of Woodend Conservation Area for the purpose of conducting environmental and outdoor conservation programs;

AND WHEREAS the District School Board of Niagara has agreed to fund the required road improvements at the Woodend Conservation Area to be managed by the NPCA;

IT IS RESOLVED THAT Report No. FA-28-24 RE: Contract Award – Woodend Conservation Area Roadway Improvements **BE RECEIVED**;

AND THAT a contract award to CRL Campbell Construction and Drainage Limited in the amount of \$744,150 (plus non-recoverable HST) **BE APPROVED**;

AND THAT a contingency of 10% or \$74,415 **BE ALLOCATED** to address any unanticipated costs during the project implementation process;

AND FURTHER THAT staff **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute all necessary documents to award the contract.

CARRIED

9.4. Report No. FA-25-24 RE: Niagara Geopark Memorandum of Understanding

Manager of Conservation Areas' Programs & Services, Alicia Powell, provided an overview of the above noted. Members noted the benefits of having a Geotourism hub at Ball's Falls and acknowledged the hard work and progress made on this initiative over the years.

Resolution No. FA-64-24
Moved by: Stew Beattie
Seconded by: Donna Cridland

THAT Report No. FA-25-24 RE: Niagara Geopark Memorandum of Understanding **BE RECEIVED**;

AND THAT the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding for a three-year term between NPCA and the Niagara Geopark **BE APPROVED**;

AND FURTHER THAT staff **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign the updated Memorandum of Understanding.

CARRIED

9.5. Report No. FA-27-24 RE: NPCA Comments on Proposed Regulation Detailing Minister's Permit and Review Powers

Director, Planning & Development, Leilani Lee-Yates, provided an overview of the report. Member Seaborn expressed appreciation for the expertise provided by staff on the above noted. Chair Metcalfe expressed that conservation of sensitive areas must be taken seriously when development is proposed.

Resolution No. FA-65-24
Moved by: Donna Cridland
Seconded by: Stew Beattie

THAT Report No. FA-27-24 RE: NPCA Comments on Proposed Regulation Detailing Minister's Permit and Review Powers – ERO Posting 019-8320 **BE RECEIVED** for information;

AND FURTHER THAT Report No. FA-27-24 **BE CIRCULATED** to upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities in Niagara Region, the City of Hamilton, and Haldimand County for their information.

CARRIED

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

11. MOTIONS

Resolution No. FA-66-24
Moved by: Robert Foster
Seconded by: Brian Grant

THAT Board Member Mark Tadeson **BE APPOINTED** to the NPCA's Finance Committee for 2024.

CARRIED

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

13. NEW BUSINESS

13.1 Verbal update RE: Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation

- NPCF turned 55 on the May 5, 2024 – fifth day of the fifth month.
- Finalized a \$125,000 land securement and \$50,000 legacy donation.
- Annual report development is underway.
- Annual General Meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2024.

14. CLOSED SESSION

None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Metcalfe adjourned the Full Authority meeting on May 17, 2024 at 9:42 a.m.