

**PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
IN-PERSON MEETING
MINUTES**

**NPCA Main Office
250 Thorold Road West, 3rd Floor, Welland**

**Tuesday, February 27, 2024
5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Chair Albert Witteveen called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lennie Aarts
Philip Beale
Lageera Chatheechan
David Cribbs, Vice Chair
George McKibbon
Jonathan Musso
Naheed Qureshi
William Rapley
Albert Witteveen, Chair
David Wyllie
Cindilee Ecker-Flagg

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tracy Boese
Robert Foster
Leslie Clarke

STAFF PRESENT: C. Sharma, C.A.O. / Secretary – Treasurer
W. Baldin, Manager, Digital Transformation & IT
M. Davis, Manager Office of the CAO & Board
A. Christie, Director, Conservation Areas
J. Diamond, Manager, Watershed Monitoring and Reporting
B. Lee, GIS Specialist
L. Lee-Yates, Director, Planning & Development and A/Director,
Watershed Strategies & Climate Change
A. Powell, Manager, Conservation Areas' Programs & Services
K. Royer, Coordinator, Community Engagement
G. Shaule, Administrative Assistant

- 1. OPENING WELCOME FROM NOKOMIS CINDILEE ECKER-FLAGG**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Recommendation No. PAC-01-2024

Moved by D. Wyllie

Seconded by G. McKibbon

THAT the Public Advisory Committee Agenda dated February 27, 2024 **BE APPROVED.**

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Public Advisory Committee meeting dated November 30, 2023

Recommendation No. PAC-02-2024

Moved by L. Aarts

Seconded by P. Beale

THAT the Public Advisory Committee minutes of the meeting dated November 30, 2023 **BE APPROVED.**

CARRIED

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Presentation by Wendy Baldin, Manager, Digital Transformation & Information Technology, RE: GIS public-facing web-app.

Brian Lee spoke to this presentation. Members asked to submit feedback to gis@npca.ca.

6.2 Presentation by Adam Christie, Director, Conservation Areas RE: Green Infrastructure Updates and Conservation Area improvements.

Niagara College was consulted with project. Discussion ensued.

6.3 Presentation by Josh Diamond, Manager, Watershed Monitoring and Reporting, RE: Conceptual Framework – Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program

Recommendation No. PAC-03-2024

Moved by P. Beale

Seconded by W. Rapley

THAT the following presentations **BE RECEIVED** for Information:

- GIS public-facing web-app;

- Green Infrastructure Updates and Conservation Area improvements Conceptual Framework; and
- Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program.

CARRIED

7. DELEGATIONS

None.

8. CONSENT ITEMS

8.1 NPCA Main Office Relocation – Verbal update provided by Chandra Sharma, CAO / Secretary – Treasurer.

Informed the Committee that the Annual General Meeting will be at the new head office location at 3350 Merrittville Hwy Thorold. Celebrating 65 years, April 19th, 2024. PAC Members will receive formal invitations to attend opening celebrations.

Recommendation No. PAC-04-2024

Moved by W. Rapley

Seconded by D. Wyllie

THAT NPCA Main Office Relocation verbal update **BE RECEIVED** for information.

CARRIED

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 Report No. PAC-01-24 RE: Ball's Falls Festival 50th Anniversary Planning

Recommendation No. PAC-05-2024

Moved by P. Beale

Seconded by G. McKibbon

THAT Report No. PAC-01-24 RE: Ball's Falls Festival 50th Anniversary Planning **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Members' Updates (Verbal) – Information/Issues/Items of Interest

- Member Baird shared an update regarding research initiatives at the Global Centre for Climate Change Impacts on Transboundary Waters. The current focus is on the Great Lakes, with Niagara Region included as an area of interest.
- Seedy Saturday event was well attended and successful.
- Clean Air Hamilton Committee – air quality and effects of climate change

- Discussion held regarding highlights from the Birds on Niagara event held February 16-19.

11.2 PAC 2024 Workplan Discussion

- Circulating presentations in advance for comments was suggested.
- Discussion held regarding *Conservation Authorities Act* enactment and regulatory changes. Housekeeping changes to NPCA policies be brought forward for further discussions at Board meeting. Include Board report from PAC with transition plan to be a part of it.
- Discussion regarding increased engagement between meetings, staff will circulate proposed Work Plan spreadsheet, further feedback from members is encouraged.
- New provincial regulations O. Reg 41/24 and O. Reg 668/21 come into effect April 1, 2024.
- Staff will circulate monthly emails to Public Committee members regarding:
 - Volunteer and employment opportunities;
 - Upcoming community events;
 - Projects/portal updates; and
 - Full Authority Board agenda package and presentations.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Recommendation No. PAC-06-2024

Moved by D. Cribbs

Seconded by P. Beale

THAT the Public Advisory Committee Meeting **ADJOURN** at **6:58 p.m.**

CARRIED