

**PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

5:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Cribbs, Vice Chair
Julia Baird
Philip Beale
Lennie Aarts
George McKibbon
William Rapley
David Wylie

MEMBERS ABSENT: Albert Witteveen, Chair
Lageera Chatheechan
Lesley Clarke
Cindilee Ecker-Flagg
Jonathan Musso
Naheed Qureshi
John Metcalfe, ex-officio

STAFF PRESENT: Leilani Lee-Yates, CAO / Secretary-Treasurer
Wendy Baldin, Manager, Digital Transformation & IT
Kerry Royer, Specialist, Land Planning
Eric Baldin, Manager, Land Planning
Geoff Verkade, Senior Manager, Integrated Watershed
Strategies
Melanie Davis, Manager, Office of the CAO & Board
Sofia Zavarella, Manager, Communications & Public
Relations

1. OPENING WELCOME

CAO/Secretary – Treasurer, Leilani Lee-Yates, provided opening remarks and welcomed Committee Members.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation No. PAC-12-24

Moved by: Lennie Aarts

Seconded by: David Wylie

THAT agenda for the Public Advisory Committee meeting held on

September 17,2024 **BE AMMENDED** to address Item 8.1 immediately following Item 4.1

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Public Advisory Committee meeting dated May 25, 2024.

Recommendation No. PAC-13-24

Moved by: Philip Beale

Seconded by: Tracy Boese

THAT the Minutes of the Public Advisory Committee meeting dated May 25, 2024 **BE APPROVED.**

CARRIED

8. CONSENT ITEMS

8.1 Report No. PAC-04-24 RE: Open Data GIS Portal – Watershed Explorer

Recommendation No. PAC-14-24

Moved by: Julia Baird

Seconded by: Tracy Boese

THAT Report No. PAC-04-24 RE: Open Data GIS Portal – Watershed Explorer **BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Recommendation No. PAC-15-24

Moved by: Lennie Aarts

Seconded by: George McKibbon

THAT the following correspondence items presented at the September 17, 2024 PAC meeting **BE RECEIVED:**

- Correspondence from NPCA RE: Notice of Public Information Centre – Conservation Area Strategy; and
- Correspondence from NPCA RE: Notice of Public Information Centre – Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy.

CARRIED

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Conservation Area Strategy – Discussion Paper and Preliminary Feedback.

Eric Baldin, Manager, Land Planning, and Kerry Royer, Conservation Area Land Planning Specialist provided a presentation on the above noted. Discussion ensued regarding programming for older adults and families. Members emphasized the importance of connecting the Strategy to regulatory requirements.

Recommendation No. PAC-16-24

Moved by: George McKibbon

Seconded by: William Rapley

THAT the presentation regarding NPCA’s Conservation Area Strategy – Discussion Paper and Preliminary Feedback **BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

6.2 Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy – Discussion Paper and Preliminary Feedback.

CAO/Secretary-Treasurer, Leilani Lee-Yates and Geoff Verkade, Senior Manager, Integrated Watershed Strategies provided a presentation on the above noted. Discussion regarding increased complexities in flood insurance claims along the shorelines ensued.

Members expressed identifying areas of prioritization as high importance. Members identified the need for science brokering and quantitative methods to better understand system needs and cumulative impacts of increased growth pressures.

Recommendation No. PAC-17-24

Moved by: Philip Beale

Seconded by: Julia Baird

THAT the presentation regarding NPCA’s Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy – Discussion Paper and Preliminary Feedback **BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

7. DELEGATIONS

None.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion regarding the importance of prioritization of wayfinding signage and AODA compliance ensued. Members expressed interest in receiving a progress report on signage.

Recommendation No. PAC-18-24

Moved by: Philip Beale

Seconded by: David Cribbs

THAT the Public Advisory Committee endorse initiatives enhancing the adequacy and accessibility of signage at Conservation Areas;

AND THAT the Public Advisory Committee endorses the investment in physical and digital wayfinding and interpretative signage as an area of focus in the 2025 Budget;

AND FURTHER THAT staff present a progress report on signage updates to the Public Advisory Committee on or before November 26, 2024.

CARRIED

Discussion regarding Committee attendance and representative vacancies ensued.

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

- Member Beale shared a volunteer update in preparation for the Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival, encouraged PAC Members to attend October 11-14, 2024.
- Member Boese noted that overwhelming positive feedback was received after hosting Métis Nation of Ontario's Harvest Dinner at Ball's Falls.
- Member Baird shared a funding update for World Water Day and expressed deep appreciation for NPCA's continued partnership on the event.
- Member McKibbin shared that a land use technician course he teaches at McMaster will be modified to be taught at the graduate level.
- Member Aarts shared an update on notable impacts of climate change in the agricultural community.
- Member Cribbs shared that consultation on the Official Plan in the Town of Pelham is kicking off in the fall.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Recommendation No. PAC-19-24

Moved by: Philip Beale

Seconded by: Tracy Boese

THAT the Public Advisory Committee meeting **ADJOURN** at 7:10 p.m.

CARRIED