

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation through Cooperation

MINUTES

MEETING: Board of Directors
DATE: Thursday, July 23, 2015
TIME: 7:00pm
LOCATION: Administration Office, Formosa

CHAIR: Luke Charbonneau

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Robert Buckle, Maureen Couture, Barbara Dobreen, John Eccles, Kevin Eccles, Brian Gamble, Wilf Gamble, Dan Gieruszak, Stewart Halliday, Dan Kerr, Sue Paterson, Mike Smith, Andrew White.

DIRECTORS ABSENT, WITH REGRET: Steve McCabe

OTHERS PRESENT: Pamela Scharfe, Director, Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation
Karen Alexander, Coordinator, Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation
Al Leach, Saugeen Valley Children's Safety Village
Wayne Brohman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Gary Senior, Sr. Manager, Flood Warning & Land Management
Erik Downing, Manager, Environmental Planning & Regulations
Janice Hagan, Recording Secretary

Chair Luke Charbonneau called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #G15-43

Moved by Robert Buckle
Seconded by Barbara Dobreen
THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No persons declared a conflict of pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

3. MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – May 28, 2015

MOTION #G15-44

Moved by John Eccles

Seconded by Dan Kerr

THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held on May 28, 2015, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

4. a. PRESENTATION: LAKE HURON CENTRE FOR COASTAL CONSERVATION

Pamela Scharfe, Director, brought greetings from the staff of the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation and gave a presentation on the organization. She outlined the strategic priorities, including biodiversity, climate change, coastal processes and water quality. Ms Scharfe described the program objectives which included conservation, elimination of phragmites, habitat conservation, and cycles of water levels. Chairman Luke Charbonneau congratulated Ms Scharfe on the work that the Centre has accomplished and specifically noted the phragmites elimination project. Mr. Brohman also presented several photos showing SVCA staff and others cutting the phragmites at the Brucedale Campground, as part of the Phragmites control project lead by LHCCC and funded by Enbridge.

Pamela Scharfe and Karen Alexander left the meeting at 7:42pm.

b. SAUGEEN VALLEY CHILDREN'S SAFETY VILLAGE: UPDATE AND MOTION

Wayne Brohman summarized the three primary concerns of the Property & Building committee.

1. Accommodation of the Saugeen Conservation Foundation and SVCA events
2. Ability of the SVCSV to fund its annual operating costs
3. Responsibility for maintaining the septic system

It was indicated that the Property & Building Committee was satisfied with the answers provided by Mr. Leach and had recommended that the Board direct Mr. Brohman to enter negotiations with the SVCSV with respect to their proposal.

MOTION #G15-45

Moved by Dan Kerr

Seconded by Andrew White

THAT the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to enter negotiations with the Saugeen Valley Children's Safety Village, with respect to their proposal to enter into a lease with SVCA

and FURTHER THAT the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer report back to the board on the progress of those negotiations and to seek board approval before any lease agreement is finalized.

Carried

Al Leach left the meeting at 7:56pm

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no specific matters arising from the minutes.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Email from KSP Toronto Music expressing their pleasure with the Saugeen Bluffs campground and the friendliness of the staff during a large group camping event, July 10-12 was **noted and filed**.

Email from Steve McCabe, Director appointed by Wellington North, regarding the zoning comments. The Municipality would prefer that SVCA does not comment on Municipal bylaws. This email was **noted and filed**.

Letter from the Municipality of Grey Highlands advising the Board that an alternate representative was appointed for the SVCA Board of Directors. This letter was dealt with later in the meeting under New Business.

Chairman Luke Charbonneau acknowledged a letter from Susan J. Dollar, Barrister, Solicitor & Notary Public in which she expressed her disappointment in the response time of SVCA for her client. Mr. Charbonneau had indicated that a response letter had been drafted, explaining the factors leading to the issue and assuring Ms. Dollar that the Board was actively working to improve the efficiencies of the Planning & Regulations department. Susan J. Dollar's letter was **noted and filed**.

7. REPORTS

a. Finance Report #7a

MOTION #G15-46

Moved by Mike Smith

Seconded by Maureen Couture

THAT the Financial Report to May 31, 2015 be accepted as distributed and further;

THAT the Accounts Payable, totaling \$534,627.08 be approved as distributed.

Carried

b. Program Reports #7b

MOTION #G15-47

Moved by John Eccles

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT the Program Report be adopted as presented.

Carried

c. Planning & Regulations Zoning Comments

Director appointees from Brockton, Chatsworth, Kincardine and Arran-Elderslie indicated that their municipality preference was to eliminate zoning comments from SVCA permit letters. Following discussion the Board directed SVCA staff to eliminate zoning comments on all permit and general enquiry letters.

MOTION #G15-48

Moved by Kevin Eccles

Seconded by Maureen Couture

THAT SVCA Planning & Regulations staff be instructed to cease providing zoning comments in all permit and general enquiry letters.

Carried

d. Planning & Regulations Mapping Working Group

Mr. Brohman presented a sample letter that had been previously sent at the direction of the Board of Directors of SVCA to the watershed municipalities regarding the Mapping Working Group initiative. Seven municipalities have confirmed their participation in the group. Other municipalities are welcome to appoint a representative in the future. Mr. Brohman confirmed that the inaugural meeting for the group would be August 25th 2015 at 9:00am, at the Formosa office.

A coffee break was called at 8:42pm.

Chair Luke Charbonneau called the meeting back to order at 8:50pm

e. Planning & Regulations department Review Report

Wayne Brohman summarized the general parameters of the Planning & Regulations department review and explained specific recommendations. Following discussion, the Board accepted the plan and approved the recommendations with the requirement that a report on the department's progress be presented at each Board meeting.

MOTION #G15-49

Moved by Dan Kerr

Seconded by Dan Gieruszak

THAT the Planning & Regulations Department Review Report prepared by the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer dated July 23, 2015 be accepted and further that the GM/S-T and the Manager Environmental Planning & Regulations be directed to implement the Recommendation contained in the report and report back to the board on progress made at each meeting.

Carried

f. Maple Syrup Festival update

Dan Kerr informed the Board that the Property & Building Committee had attended the Saugeen Conservation Foundation Board of Directors meeting and asked them to reconsider their recommendation regarding moving the annual Maple Syrup Festival from the Bluffs Campground to the Sulphur Springs Conservation Area. Local community support has been offered, such as snow removal and promotion of the event, and the Foundation has deferred its final decision to its next board meeting.

g. Bluffs Campground Update

Wayne Brohman told the Board that the Parks Committee is considering other options since the RFP was unsuccessful and will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

8. New Business

a. Alternate Board of Director appointments

Stewart Halliday referred to the letter from the Municipality of Grey Highlands as presented in correspondence and explained the preference to appoint an alternate director. Chairman Luke Charbonneau indicated that there is no provision in the Conservation Authorities Act or the Administration Resolutions for an alternate director and it has not historically been the practice. Following discussion of the matter the following motion was presented:

MOTION #G15-50

Moved by Dan Kerr

Seconded by Brian Gamble

THAT the Chair be directed to send a letter of reply to the Municipality of Grey Highlands to indicate that member municipalities are not entitled to appoint alternate SVCA Board members.

Carried

b. Sending SVCA Board minutes by email to municipalities

Stewart Halliday requested that approved Board minutes be sent to each member municipality. Following discussion SVCA staff was directed to forward approved Board minutes by email to the clerks or designated individual of each member municipality.

c. Public Open House

Wayne Brohman indicated that a public open house meeting has been tentatively scheduled for October 7, 2015 in the Formosa office. The purpose of the meeting is to inform members of the public of our programs and the works that SVCA does, and to answer questions they may have.

d. MNRF Discussion Paper

Wayne Brohman reminded the Directors that a Discussion Paper had been released from the MNRF reviewing the Conservation Authority Act. Directors had been previously provided with an email link to the Paper. Municipalities are encouraged to contact the MNRF with their comments.

e. Basket Ball Court

Wayne Brohman presented a layout map showing a proposed basketball court to be constructed by the Durham Homecoming organization. They would like to put it on SVCA property adjacent to the tennis courts in Durham. Following discussion Mr. Brohman was directed to move forward with this initiative.

Barbara Dobreen thanked SVCA staff for organizing the tour 'Water to Drink' and would like to pass on her appreciation to staff and encouraged other directors to attend future tours.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17pm on motion of Kevin Eccles.

Luke Charbonneau
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary