

Conservation Halton Board Meeting Minutes

Conservation Halton

February 15, 2024, at 1:00 PM EST

@ 2596 Britannia Road, Burlington, ON L7P 0G3

1. Roll Call

Members Present

Sameera Ali
Sara Bailey
Rob Burton
Allan Elgar
Jane Fogal
Chantal Garneau
Dave Gittings
Sammy Ijaz
Gordon Krantz
Marianne Meed Ward
Rory Nisan
Gerry Smallegange (Chair)
Shawna Stolte
Alvin Tedjo

Absent

Cameron Kroetsch
Sue McFadden
Alex Wilson
Maureen Wilson

Absent with Regrets

Cathy Duddeck (Vice Chair)
Kristina Tesser Derksen

Staff Present

Hassaan Basit, President & CEO/Secretary-Treasurer
Garner Beckett, Executive Director, Conservation Halton Foundation
Adriana Birza, Senior Advisor, Office of the President & CEO
Craig Machan, Director, Parks & Operations
Kellie McCormack, Director, Planning & Regulations
Marnie Piggot, Director, Finance
Plezzie Ramirez, Director, Human Resources
Barb Veale, Senior Director, Watershed Management & Climate Change
Mark Vytvytskyy, Chief Operating Officer
Justin Wei, Senior Manager, Finance
Kim Barrett, Senior Specialist, Research & Sustainability, Ecology
Leah Smith, Policy and Special Initiatives Lead, Planning & Regulations
Robyn Koutrouliotis, Admin. Assistant, Office of the President & CEO

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were **no disclosures of pecuniary interest.**

3. Acceptance of Agenda

CH 01 01

Moved by: Allan Elgar
Seconded by: Chantal Garneau

THAT the Agenda **be accepted as distributed.**

Carried

4. CEO Verbal Update

The President & CEO provided an update on various areas of the organization.

Financial

Grants

From Q4 2023 to present, Conservation Halton (CH) has received \$655,580 in grants. Staff is awaiting decisions on an additional \$903,000 in outstanding grants.

Crawford Lake Visitors Centre

CH received a \$2.4 million grant from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) for the Crawford Lake Visitors Centre project.

Glen Eden

Glen Eden opened on January 5, 2024, with over 20,000 visits to date, despite mild weather conditions.

Risk Mitigation

Risk Mitigation Update for Employee Safety and Compliance

Adjustments have been made to the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Committee by adding new functional areas for risk identification and mitigation.

Glen Eden Risk Assessment

A risk assessment conducted by BrokerLink, the insurance provider for Glen Eden, identified the park as the highest-ranking ski resort in its portfolio that includes almost all Canadian ski hills.

People

2024 Momentum Action Planning

Momentum Action Planning for 2024 is complete.

Staff Awards

The President & CEO thanked Board members Gordon Krantz and Kristina Tesser Derksen for attending the recent CH staff awards event. More than 150 nominations were submitted for nine (9) award categories.

Parks

Maple Season

Maple Season will run from March 2, 2024, through April 7, 2024.

Tap-a-Tree Event

During Maple Season, staff hosts a special Tap-a-Tree event at Mountsberg Conservation Area for CH Board members and local dignitaries. The event is a great opportunity to learn about one of CH's most popular family programs and celebrate the start of Maple Season. The event will include a sugarbush tour with the CH education team, taking part in a tree-tapping demonstration, sampling different kinds of maple syrup, a wagon ride, a Connected Campaign announcement, and a pancake lunch. A formal invitation will be circulated shortly.

Winterlit

The Winterlit event is now complete and, despite the mild weather, hosted over five thousand (5000) guests.

CEO Office

CH Board Representation for City of Hamilton

The Chair and staff representatives met with the CH Board appointees for the City of Hamilton (the City) to address meeting schedule conflicts. There are no City Council or committee meeting conflicts with the October 31, 2024, CH Board meeting. The City representatives have been offered the option to attend all 2024 CH Board meetings virtually. Board member Alex Wilson will attend CH Governance & Risk Committee meetings as his schedule permits.

June CH Board Meeting/Board Tour

The June Board meeting/Board Tour has been moved to Friday, June 21, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

5. Presentations

- 5.1. Restoration of Sixteen Mile Creek (Bill Grierson, Landowner)

6. Consent Items

- 6.1. Approval of DRAFT November 23, 2023, Conservation Halton Board Meeting Minutes
- 6.2. Purchasing Activity – October 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023 (CHB 01 24 01)
- 6.3. Status of Conservation Halton's Regulatory, Spill Flood Hazard, and Land Use Planning Policy Reviews (CHB 01 24 02)
- 6.4. Permits & Letters of Permission issued under Ontario Regulation 162/06 from October 1 to December 31, 2023 (Q4 2023) (CHB 01 24 03)
- 6.5. Reid Road Reservoir Quarry Update (CHB 01 24 04)
- 6.6. Advancing Natural Asset Management Practices in the Grindstone Creek Watershed (CHB 01 24 05)

7. Action Items

- 7.1. Proposed reconstruction and expansion of a two-storey dwelling within 7.5 metres of the floodplain associated with Lower Wedgewood Creek, 466 Drummond Road, Town of Oakville (CHB 01 24 06)

CH 01 02 Moved by: Dave Gittings
Seconded by: Sammy Ijaz

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **approves the issuance of a permit for the reconstruction and expansion of a two-storey dwelling within 7.5 metres of the floodplain associated with Lower Wedgewood Creek, 466 Drummond Road, Town of Oakville (CH File No. RAPP-9058);**

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives the staff report entitled “Proposed reconstruction and expansion of a two-storey dwelling within 7.5 metres of the floodplain associated with Lower Wedgewood Creek, 466 Drummond Road, Town of Oakville (CH File No. RAPP-9058)”.**

Carried

- 7.2. Regulatory Allowance Policy Update (CHB 01 24 07)

Leah Smith, Policy and Special Initiatives Lead, Planning & Regulations, provided an overview of the draft regulatory allowance policies for public release and engagement.

The Board inquired about the feasibility of creating a standalone consulting business unit. Staff noted developers and municipal partners have shown interest in contracting consulting services from CH and provided a brief overview of legal considerations. Staff will bring a report to a future Board meeting.

The Board discussed the potential implications of the proposed *Get It Done Act* on the regulatory allowance policy.

CH 01 03 Moved by: Rory Nisan
Seconded by: Sameera Ali

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **endorses the draft policies for public release and engagement, as presented in the staff report entitled “Regulatory Allowance Policy Update”;**

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives the staff report entitled “Regulatory Allowance Policy Update”.**

Carried

- 7.3. Updated Conservation Halton Technical Submission Guidelines (CHB 01 24 08)

CH 01 04 Moved by: Chantal Garneau
Seconded by: Marianne Meed Ward

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **approves the updated versions of the technical submission guidelines entitled “Conservation Halton Guidelines for Landscaping and Rehabilitation Plans, 2024”, “Conservation Halton Guidelines for Stormwater Management Engineering Submissions, 2024”, and “Conservation Halton Guidelines for Slope Stability Assessments for Valleys, 2024”;**

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives for information the staff report entitled “Updated Conservation Halton Technical Submission Guidelines, 2024”.**

Carried

7.4. Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy Workplan, Timeline, and Status Update (CHB 01 24 09)

CH 01 05 Moved by: Dave Gittings
Seconded by: Rob Burton

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives for information the staff report entitled, “Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy Workplan, Timeline, and Status Update”;**

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **approves the proposed 2024 workplan and timeline for developing the Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy.**

Carried

7.5. Watershed Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment (CHB 01 24 10)

CH 01 06 Moved by: Alvin Tedjo
Seconded by: Gordon Krantz

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives for information the staff report entitled “Watershed Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment”;**

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **endorses the recommendations included in the report entitled “Watershed Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment”.**

Carried

8. Other Business

8.1 Request to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for an exemption on the terms of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Conservation Halton Board

CH 01 07 Moved by: Rob Burton
Seconded by: Marianne Meed Ward

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **requests the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) to grant an exemption to subsection 17(1.3) and (1.2) of the Conservation Authorities Act (CAA) pursuant to the Minister's authority under clauses 17(1.3) (a) and (b) for the chair and vice-chair positions in 2024 and 2025.**

9. In Camera

CH 01 08

Moved by: Jane Fogal
Seconded by: Shawna Stolte

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **move In Camera**.

Carried

- 9.1. Legal Matter (CHB 01 24 11)
- 9.2. Legal Matter (CHB 01 24 12)
- 9.3. Personnel Matter (CHB 01 24 13)
- 9.4. Legal Matter (CHB 01 24 14)
- 9.5. Legal Matter (CHB 01 24 15)

CH 01 09

Moved by: Sara Bailey
Seconded by: Sammy Ijaz

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **reconvene in public forum**.

Carried

10. Adjournment

CH 01 10

Moved by: Sara Bailey

THAT the Conservation Halton Board meeting **be adjourned at 2:48 p.m.**

Carried

Signed by:

Hassaan Basit, President & CEO/Secretary-Treasurer

Date:

April 18, 2024