

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mississippi Valley Conservation Centre
Carleton Place

MINUTES

May 17, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Karau, Chair;
D. Abbott, Vice-Chair;
M. Burnham;
F. Campbell;
G. Code;
E. El-Chantiry;
A. Gillis;
J. Hall;
G. McEvoy;
G. Martin;
J. Mason;
P. Sweetnam;
M. Wilkinson.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

D. Black;
J. Flynn;
B. MacDonald;
K. Thompson.

INVITED MEMBER ABSENT:

L. Antonakos.

STAFF PRESENT:

J. Sargeant, Secretary-Treasurer;
A. Broadbent, Information Technology Supervisor;
M. Craig, Manager, Planning and Regulations;
R. Fergusson, Operations Supervisor;
S. Gutoskie, Community Relations Coordinator;
A. Hewitt, GIS Specialist;
A. Moore, Regulations Officer;
G. Mountenay, Water Management Supervisor;
J. North, Water Resources Technologist;
J. Price, Director, Water Resource Engineering;
K. Stiles, Biologist;
A. Symon, Watershed Planner;
E. Levi, Recording Secretary.

VISITORS PRESENT:

D. Miller, Executive Director, A2A Collaborative.

Mr. Karau called the meeting to order at 1:15p.m.

BUSINESS:

1. Minutes – Board of Directors Meeting – April 19, 2017

B05/17/17-1

MOVED BY: E. El-Chantiry

SECONDED BY: F. Campbell

Resolved, That the Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on April 19, 2017 be received and approved as printed.

“CARRIED”

2. Naismith Collection Transfer Agreement

Ms. Gutoskie reviewed Staff Report #2913/17 regarding the transfer of Naismith Foundation assets to the Authority. She noted the draft transfer agreement was prepared and additional funds which were originally allocated for the Naismith museum from the Town of Mississippi Mills had now been transferred to MVCA.

Mrs. Campbell asked whether the agreement leaves MVCA committed to the Naismith collection, or if there are other options for managing the collections. Mr. Karau noted the board had previously discussed leaving opportunity for others in the future.

Mr. Sweetnam thanked members from Mississippi Mills for assisting in the allocation of the additional funds to the Mill of Kintail for the Naismith Museum.

Mr. Abbott suggested that in the future, a presentation to Town council should be prepared outlining what the museum is doing and where their costs are going for the two collections. He noted this year, the decision to make the extra funds available to the Mill of Kintail was easy since it was just a transfer of funds from one museum to the other who was acquiring it. In future years it may be more difficult.

Ms. Gutoskie also noted that one of the Naismith Foundation members will be invited to sit on the Mill of Kintail Museum Advisory Committee and will have input in that capacity.

B05/17/17-2

MOVED BY: M. Burnham

SECONDED BY: D. Abbott

Resolved, That the Transfer Agreement for the transfer of the Naismith Collection from the Naismith Basketball Foundation be approved for execution.

“CARRIED”

3. A2A Collaborative – Presentation

Mr. Karau introduced his colleague, David Miller from the Algonquin to Adirondacks Collaborative (A2A).

Mr. Miller gave a presentation regarding the large and intact corridor between the Adirondacks Park and Algonquin Park. A2A encourages a broad conservation approach for maintaining this unique and essential landscape. He stressed the importance of collaborating with organizations such as MVCA on a stewardship level.

In response to a question, Mr. Miller stated that the A2A trail does not directly connect to the Trans-Canada Trail, but does cross through it in a few locations. He added that A2A welcomes invitations to make public presentations.

Mr. Karau stated his interest in seeing how the A2A efforts evolve and connect with MVCA programs.

4. 2017 Flood Update

Mr. Price, Mr. Moutenay, Mr. Craig and Ms. Gutoskie gave a presentation providing a synopsis of the flooding to date in 2017.

Mr. Hall inquired as to the potential for damage at water control structures given the levels of the lakes and rivers. Mr. Moutenay responded that there was currently no concern at the levels that have been reached to date.

Mr. Moutenay stressed that the flooding on Mississippi River had no impact on the flooding on the Ottawa River. He noted that the amount of water flowing from the Mississippi system into the Ottawa system was a very small percentage given the overall size of the Ottawa system. He also noted that MVCA has very little information on the Ottawa system and is not familiar with how it's operated.

Mr. Price noted that the flood levels in Ottawa were comparable to a 1:50 year flood, not 1:100 year, but it was certainly site specific.

Ms. Mason suggested having a climate expert from Environment Canada speak to the Board regarding climate change and its impact on models which track weather trends.

Mr. Karau noted that given the conditions which have just occurred, it would be beneficial to see how that coincides with the MVCA climate change modelling.

Mr. Craig outlined the function of the planning advisory and regulatory services in terms of flooding. He reviewed an interactive map depicting areas with flooding and coinciding pictures of property to demonstrate how homes which incorporated floodproofing policies in accordance with permits issued by MVCA were notably less affected by flood damage.

Mr. Craig advised that given the extreme flooding in Constance Bay, the three partner CAs met with

the City of Ottawa task force to discuss a reduction of fees for permits to repair houses or shorelines affected by the flood.

Mr. El-Chantiry noted that approximately 560 homes were affected in his ward. He was not sure how many would have to be demolished or rebuilt. He noted one of his concerns was retaining walls, and shoreline work that would have to be completed, as disaster relief does assist with those projects. He suggested a reduction in fees in this regard would help victims do these type of repairs and avoid people doing it without permits. He declared a conflict of interest because of his property ownership in Constance Bay. He excused himself from participating in any vote for financial relief. He also declared that he will pay full price should he require a permit for repairs to his property.

Ms. Wilkinson agreed with Mr. El-Chantiry regarding the importance of rebuilding retaining walls and victims receiving a reduction in costs to do so.

Mr. Sweetnam suggested charging a nominal fee of \$25 for retaining walls permit applications.

Mr. Burnham questioned if there were any other areas aside from Constance Bay which should be considered for cost reductions to permits for repair work. Staff confirmed that Constance Bay was the main affected area.

B05/17/17-3

MOVED BY: M. Wilkinson

SECONDED BY: D. Abbott

Resolved, That the Board of Directors reduce fees by 50% to permits received in relation to reconstruction/repair of residences and charge \$25 for alterations of shorelines that have been impacted by the flood of 2017 along the Ottawa River in Constance Bay and Armitage Avenue. The reduction will apply to current landowner applications only which are received by December 31, 2017.

“CARRIED”

In response to a question, Ms. Gutoskie advised that a media release will be issued regarding the reduction of permit fees.

Mr. Craig noted that an information session will be held Wednesday, May 31 from 5-8pm at the Constance Bay Community Centre for residents who have been impacted by flooding in Constance Bay and surrounding area.

5. Program Updates - Regulation Compliance

Mr. Moore gave a presentation on regulation compliance and violations for 2015, 2016 & 2017. He noted that permits are issued with a two year window to complete the work, and that is why the compliance report dates back to 2015.

Mr. Karau congratulated Mr. Moore for a job well done.

6. Other Business

Ms. Gutoskie advised that the Board of Directors Tour will take place June 21, 2017. She confirmed that the final itinerary will be sent via email at a later date, however the tour will encompass a visit to Purdon Conservation Area, Wheeler's Sugar Bush, the Mill of Kintail for lunch and site tour, and finally the water treatment plant in Carleton Place to talk about Source Water Protection.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

B05/17/17-4

MOVED BY: M. Burnham
SECONDED BY: D. Abbott
Resolved, That the meeting be adjourned.

“CARRIED”

“E. Levi, Recording Secretary

J. Karau, Chairman”