

NICKEL DISTRICT CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Minutes of General Board Meeting

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Room C-12
Tom Davies Square

Commenced: 4:08 p.m.
Adjourned: 5:46 p.m.

PRESENT: Lin Gibson, Chairperson
 Jacques Barbeau
 Jennifer Davidson
 Evelyn Dutrisac
 Joscelyne Landry-Altmann
 Mark Signoretti
 Russ Thompson

ALSO PRESENT: P. Sajatovic, N.D.C.A.
 Mariane Lamontagne, N.D.C.A.
 Ashley Dupont, N.D.C.A.

COMMUNICATION: Joe Cimino
 Anne Watelet

1. Chairperson Gibson opened the meeting by welcoming all present. Chairperson Gibson noted that the last General Board meeting had been held in March. A number of initiatives had occurred since the March meeting and many would be reported on at this General Board meeting.

Before proceeding to regular meeting business Chairperson Gibson introduced Mariane Lamontagne and Ashley Dupont to the General Board members. Mariane is the Environmental Education Assistant working at the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area. Ashley is the N.O.H.F.C. Volunteer Program Intern working on a variety of initiatives including the Friends of Lake Laurentian, Greater Sudbury Climate Change Consortium, etc. General Board members welcomed Mariane and Ashley to the N.D.C.A., and wished them all the best.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No declarations of conflict were declared by any member present.

3. Adoption of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Resolution 2014-36

Davidson - Signoretti

That the agenda for the May 8, 2014 N.D.C.A. General Board meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

a) March 6, 2014

Resolution 2014-37

Signoretti - Barbeau

That the minutes of the March 6, 2014 General Board meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

b) Business Arising from Minutes

P. Sajatovic updated members in relation to a few items including the Nickeldale Dam property matter; the Lake Laurentian Signage Plan and discussions with the BioSki and Snowshoe Club; and preliminary approvals that the N.D.C.A. had been advised about in relation to the 2014 Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Program (WECl).

Chairperson Gibson advised that more detailed information would be provided during the meeting by herself and Member Landry-Altman in relation to the Fast Flowing Water Program.

5. General Business

a) Funding Request to Nickel District Conservation Foundation

A memo from P. Sajatovic had been distributed to General Board members outlining the background to this request. Member Barbeau inquired about the level of funding provided by the N.D.C.F. in 2013 and the expectations for 2014. Member Landry-Altman sought clarification as to how this funding is used to support activities and if the program fees achieve full cost recovery. The questions were answered to the satisfaction of members and the following resolution was tabled.

Resolution 2014-38

Thompson - Dutrisac

That the Nickel District Conservation Foundation be requested to provide funding for the following activities in 2014 at the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area:

1) Lake Laurentian School and Camp Bitobig Programs \$55,000.

Carried.

b) Request for Proposal - Provision of External Audit Services

The N.D.C.A. had appointed Edward A. Jakubo, Chartered Accountants, on an interim basis to complete the N.D.C.A. and N.D.C.F. 2013 financial audits. The N.D.C.A. was now in a position to proceed with a request for Proposal (RFP) process for external audit services for the period 2014 to 2018. An information package had been distributed to General Board members with a recommendation for consideration. After a number of questions were answered, the following resolution was presented.

Resolution 2014-39

Dutrisac - Thompson

That the N.D.C.A. proceed with the Request for Proposal (R.F.P.) For Audit Services (2014-2018) based on the information provided in the General Manager's report dated March 28, 2014,

AND FURTHER that a recommendation indicating the preferred firm, be brought forward at the June, 2014 General Board meeting for the consideration of members.

Carried.

c) Application to Trillium Foundation (F.A.N.S. Initiative)

Chairperson Gibson asked Member Davidson to speak to this topic. Member Davidson is taking the lead in moving forward with activities associated with the Greater Sudbury Climate Change Consortium. Member Davidson provided a written report to members. Jennifer noted that the Social Planning Council of Sudbury has expressed a willingness to submit an application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation to move the Friends and Neighbours (F.A.N.S.) Initiative forward. The application to Trillium would be for a staff position for at least one year devoted solely to the F.A.N.S. project. General Board members expressed full support for this proposal and the following resolution was tabled.

Resolution 2014-40

Thompson - Dutrisac

That the Nickel District Conservation Authority be part of an application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation, with this application to be submitted by the Social Planning Council of Sudbury,

AND FURTHER that this application will seek to secure a one year, full time staff person to support the Greater Sudbury Climate Change Consortium's F.A.N.S. project,

AND FURTHER that if this application is approved and if the N.D.C.A. has to provide any funding to support the position, such funding will be obtained from the Greater Sudbury Climate Change Consortium funding which is contained within the approved 2014 N.D.C.A. operating budget.

Carried.

d) Drinking Water Source Protection Staffing (2014-2015)

A report from P. Sajatovic had been distributed to General Board members. The content of that report and the details associated with the recommendations contained in the report were thoroughly discussed. After a number of questions were answered, the following resolution was presented.

Resolution 2014-41

Davidson - Signoretti

That the report from the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer dated March 29, 2014 related to the staff complement associated with the Drinking Water Source Protection Program be adopted,

AND FURTHER that the General Manager is hereby authorized to proceed with the recommendations contained in the report and as approved by the N.D.C.A. General Board.

Carried.

e) Friends of Lake Laurentian Steering Committee Update

Member Signoretti who is also the Chair of the Friends of Lake Laurentian Steering Committee, presented a verbal update on some of the current and planned activities for 2014. Member Signoretti highlighted the work being done on the L.L.C.A. Signage Plan; discussions with the BioSki and Snowshoe Club to incorporate their signage needs; volunteer recruitment plans for a Family Fun Day in September, 2014 and the partnership with Science North; outreach activities at various events, etc. Support and appreciation of our community jewel continues to grow through these activities.

f) Fast Flowing Water (FFW) Program

Chairperson Gibson, Member Landry-Altmann and Mr. Ray Croteau, grandfather of Adam Dickie, made a presentation at the March 31st Conservation Ontario Council meeting in relation to the Fast Flowing Water Program. The presentation was extremely well received. A resolution was approved by the C.O. Council recommending that the program be endorsed and that the program be shared with all member Authorities for their information and/or participation.

The next day, April 1st, Chairperson Gibson, Member Landry-Altmann and Mr. Ray Croteau met with officials at the Ontario Ministry of Education. The purpose of the presentation was to share the program content and discuss possible mechanisms to have this very unique program incorporated into school curriculum across Ontario. Some very good direction and suggestions were received which are to be followed up on.

(Note: Subsequent to this, Chairperson Gibson and Member Landry-Altmann met with Education Minister Liz Sandel in Sudbury to continue the dialogue and explore ways to get the program content into all schools in Ontario.

g) 2014 Spring Runoff Overview

P. Sajatovic reported on conditions up to the meeting date. Some problems occurred in mid-April but for the most part, no serious flooding had been experienced. There was a great concern that with the very severe winter we experienced, that flooding could be a major issue. However up to early May the snowmelt was proceeding very slowly. It was noted that there was snowpack still in the northern reaches of our watersheds at the time of this meeting. Heavy rainfall and warmer temperatures would definitely accelerate the melt. This was to be closely monitored until all snow and ice had melted in the northern parts of our watersheds.

h) Section 28 Permits Report (March & April, 2014)

Resolution 2014-42

Davidson - Signorette

That the N.D.C.A. Permits 2014-03 to 2014-05 issued in March & April, 2014, be approved as outlined in the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines/Watercourses report.

Carried

i) Appointment to Nickel District Conservation Foundation

An application was received from Mrs. Vicky Kotab to become a member of Nickel District Conservation Foundation for an initial three-year term. Chairperson Gibson recommended that the application be approved. It was noted that Vicky and her family

are also Friends of Lake Laurentian members. General Board members were encouraged by this application and passed the following resolution.

Resolution 2014-43

Davidson - Barbeau

That Vicky Kotab be appointed as a member of the Nickel District Conservation Foundation for a three-year term, effective May 8, 2014.

Carried.

6. In-Camera (Personnel/Legal/Property)

Resolution 2014-44

Davidson - Signoretti

That we go in-camera at 5:06 p.m.

Carried.

At 5:44 p.m. the chair of the in-camera session reported that legal and personnel matters had been discussed and that no resolutions would be forthcoming at this time.

7. New Business

a) June, 2014 General Board Meeting Date

The N.D.C.A. June General Board meeting was scheduled for June 12th. However, that is now Provincial election day in Ontario. Members agreed that the meeting date would have to be changed. General Board members agreed to meet on Thursday, June 19, 2014, starting at 4:00 p.m. Confirmation of the meeting details are to be sent to all members electronically as soon as possible.

No other business was transacted.

8. Adjournment

Resolution 2014-45

Signoretti - Davidson

That we do now adjourn.

Carried.