

NICKEL DISTRICT CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Minutes of General Board Meeting

Thursday, April 15, 2010

Room C-12
Tom Davies Square

Commenced: 4:05 p.m.
Adjourned: 5:57 p.m.

PRESENT: Bob Rogers, Chair
Evelyn Dutrisac
Joscelyne Landry-Altmann
Anne Watelet

ALSO PRESENT: P. Sajatovic, N.D.C.A.
D. Lenzi, N.D.C.A.

COMMUNICATIONS: Jacques Barbeau
Joe Cimino
John Dennis

1. Chair Rogers opened the meeting, welcoming all present.
2. No declarations of conflict were declared.
3. Adoption of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Resolution 2010-38

Watelet - Landry-Altmann

That the April 15, 2010 agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

a) March 18, 2010

Resolution 2010-39

Watelet - Landry-Altmann

That the minutes of the March 18, 2010 General Board meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

b) Business Arising from Minutes

Chair Rogers and P. Sajatovic updated members on the open houses held on April 6th and 8th related to the Drinking Water Source Protection draft proposed Assessment Report. Attendance at the sessions was average and no serious issues were identified. Member Watelet reported on the session she attended and was highly complimentary of the comprehensive French language information materials presented. D.W.S.P. staff were thanked for the hard work put into preparing for the open houses and the excellent quality of all the information materials. It was noted that the final proposed Assessment Report will be presented to the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority before being submitted to the Minister of the Environment in June, 2010.

5. General Business

a) General Manager's Report (January to March, 2010)

As part of the renewal of N.D.C.A. operations as initiated by the General Board in late 2009, the General Manager will now provide quarterly reports to the General Board related to important developments, activities and special events. The first quarter report for 2010 was distributed to members with the agenda package. Members had many questions related to the report and also found the report to be something which should be shared with our outside partners. Following the discussion, a resolution was presented.

Resolution 2010-40

Landry-Altmann - Dutrisac

That the General Manager's Quarterly Report (January to March, 2010), dated April 7, 2010, be received for information.

Carried.

b) Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alteration to Shorelines/Watercourses and Fisheries Files Report

The permits issued in March, 2010 were summarized in the report and were all recommended for final endorsement by the General Board. Chair Rogers called upon D. Lenzi to comment on the permits issued and also to provide information on a Stop Work Order which had been issued. Members discussed the seriousness of this issue and the need to receive public assistance in identifying such occurrences. The N.D.C.A. has limited resources and must prioritize how funds are spent on site visits, travel, etc. At the completion of the discussion, a resolution was presented.

Resolution 2010-41

Landry-Altmann - Watelet

That the N.D.C.A. Permits 2010-10 to and including 2010-12, issued in March, 2010, be approved as outlined in the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines/Watercourses and Fisheries Files report.

Carried

c) Job Posting - Source Protection Assistant

Information pertaining to this short-term, non-renewable employment opportunity related to the Source Water Protection Planning project was sent to members. Additional background information was provided at the meeting and it was noted that based on certain job tasks associated with this specific position, French language skills will be considered highly desirable when considering candidates. Member Watelet noted she had also distributed the notice to the Department of Geography at Laurentian University.

Resolution 2010-42

Dutrisac - Landry-Altmann

That the N.D.C.A. General Board hereby approves the short-term, non-renewable job posting - Source Protection Assistant for the Drinking Water Source Protection Project,

AND FURTHER that a recommendation on the hiring of a candidate for this position will be submitted to the General Board no later than the May, 2010 General Board meeting.

Carried.

d) M.N.R. Policies and Procedures for C.A. Plan Review and Permitting

At the March 1, 2010 meeting of Conservation Ontario Council, members expressed their concerns that the final M.N.R. Policies and Procedures for CA Plan Review and Permitting Activities be released as soon as possible. Conservation Ontario Resolution C.W. #05/10 was passed asking the Minister of Natural Resources to expedite this matter and further, individual Conservation Authorities were encouraged to send similar letters of encouragement. Detailed background information was provided to N.D.C.A. General Board members. The importance of finalizing this matter is that the policies and procedures will provide greater clarity and transparency regarding the role of all Authorities in planning and permitting activities. N.D.C.A. staff will be in contact with municipal staff to seek support and endorsement from our member municipality. Member Dutrisac who is also a member of the City's Planning Committee, requested that they be updated as this consultation proceeds and that will

occur. Following a very thorough discussion, a resolution was presented.

Resolution 2010-43

Dutrisac - Landry-Altman

That the Nickel District Conservation Authority hereby supports Resolution C.W. #05/10 passed at the March 1, 2010 Conservation Ontario Council meeting pertaining to M.N.R. Policies and Procedures for CA Plan Review and Permitting Activities,

AND FURTHER that the N.D.C.A. hereby requests support from our member municipality to send a similar letter of encouragement,

AND FURTHER that this Resolution and request be forwarded by N.D.C.A. Chair Bob Rogers to the Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Natural Resources.

Carried.

e) Nickel District Conservation Foundation Renewal

P. Sajatovic provided members with an overview of the history of the Nickel District Conservation Foundation and how it has supported activities at Lake Laurentian for many years. It was also noted that it is very important to maintain the Incorporation and Registered Charity status of the Foundation as trying to obtain this now is very complex and time consuming. As part of the N.D.C.A.'s 2010 operational Action Plan, renewal of the N.D.C.F. was a listed priority. As well, Chair Rogers reported in detail on an exciting vision for the future growth and enhancement of Lake Laurentian which will have to involve support from the N.D.C.F. Chair Rogers also reported on discussions being held with the Laurentian University Biology Society related to the "Friends of Lake Laurentian". Renewing the N.D.C.F. and creating the "Friends" to work with the N.D.C.F. will be a strategic way to support and grow Lake Laurentian which is a green space jewel in our community. Following a very thorough discussion with many questions asked, a resolution was presented.

Resolution 2010-44

Landry-Altman - Dutrisac

That the N.D.C.A. proceed to seek six new members to serve on the Nickel District Conservation Foundation for an initial period of three (3) years, subject to re-approval for further three (3) year terms as deemed required,

AND FURTHER that two (2) of the positions be offered to members of the Laurentian University Biology Society,

AND FURTHER that three (3) members of the N.D.C.A. General Board will continue to be appointed to the N.D.C.F. on an annual basis,

AND FURTHER that the 2010 Annual Meeting of the N.D.C.F. be held no later than September 30, 2010 following the appointment of all new members to the N.D.C.F. by the N.D.C.A. General Board.

Carried.

Subsequent to the discussion on this topic, member Landry-Altmann requested that all future General Board agenda packages contain copies of resolutions to be tabled dealing with significant issues. Staff agreed that this will be done effective the May, 2010 General Board meeting.

f) Community Flood Response Planning (N.D.C.A. & C.G.S.)

On March 24, 2010, the N.D.C.A. and City of Greater Sudbury (Emergency Services Department) jointly hosted the annual spring runoff meeting. A key outcome from the meeting was the introduction of the comprehensive work that is progressing jointly between the two organizations to improve and expand community wide flood response capabilities. The joint working group has next steps identified and a priority is to complete a high level Community Flood Response Plan which will be integrated into the City's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. P. Sajatovic provided background information related to the N.D.C.A.'s responsibilities and tasks as part of such a plan. Based on the information presented, a very extensive discussion occurred. It was noted that General Board members will be updated continuously and that approvals will be sought from the General Board at key stages of this work. Members expressed strong support and encouraged that watershed residents be kept informed when appropriate and necessary.

Resolution 2010-45

Dutrisac - Landry-Altmann

That the N.D.C.A.'s commitment to the preparation of the City of Greater Sudbury's Community Flood Response Plan include:

- 1) assist with the development of the Flood Response Plan working on conjunction with Emergency Management staff,
- 2) Review the effectiveness of the existing N.D.C.A. flood forecasting network and identify in a multi-year workplan changes to the network that will be required, including costs and funding sources, and
- 3) initiate an R.F.P. process no later than June, 2010, to engage a consultant to work with the N.D.C.A. to develop a robust and manageable Flood Forecasting Model to significantly improve the N.D.C.A.'s capabilities to provide flood preparedness and warning advice throughout our watersheds,

AND FURTHER that subject to General Board approval, the engagement of a consultant to undertake the modelling work be funded through the existing flood forecast and preventative water management reserves as required.

Carried.

6. In-Camera Matters

Resolution 2010-46

Watelet - Landry-Altmann

That we go in-camera at 5:33 p.m.

Carried.

At 5:49 p.m., the Chair of the in-camera session rose to report that two legal matters had been dealt with in-camera and that no resolutions would be forthcoming at this time.

7. New Business

a) Corporate Strategic Planning Process

Chair Rogers and P. Sajatovic reminded members that the Strategic Planning Workshop involving members and staff was scheduled for Saturday, April 17th. This is the beginning of a very important process to confirm and reinforce the new Integrated Watershed Management direction for the N.D.C.A. as established by the General Board in late 2009. The goal is to have the N.D.C.A.'s first ever comprehensive Strategic Plan completed by September 30, 2010 at the latest.

b) Lake Laurentian Conservation Area

Members were updated on the work of the NOHFC Intern and the recent release of the new French and English language program brochures. This program information will soon be posted on the N.D.C.A.'s website and has been sent electronically to all schools. P. Sajatovic advised members that Camp Bitobig, the summer day camp run at Lake Laurentian is full. It took less than four weeks to fill 315 spots in the camp which starts July 5th. Operations will soon start at Lake Laurentian for the spring, summer and fall seasons, using the same staffing and funding models again this year.

Chair Rogers reported on the provincial Environmental Education policy initiative. Conservation Authorities had recently been advised that the Province, through the Ministry of Education, will not be extending funding for this initiative in the next school year. Conservation Ontario's Environmental Education Working Group, of which Chair Rogers is a member and also the northern Authorities lead, indicated letters must be sent to the Minister, the Honourable Leona Dombrowsky, strongly requesting that this decision be reconsidered. Chair Rogers will be sending a letter very soon to the Minister with copies to many others. Chair Rogers will keep General Board members updated.

c) Junction Creek Flow Issues

Member Landry-Altmann brought forward a number of issues related to a section of Junction Creek. Issues such as sediment accumulation, debris accumulation, removal

of downed trees, etc., were noted. N.D.C.A. staff were dealing with some of the issues based on a request from the municipality to consider doing some in-water remedial work. D. Lenzi reported on his site visit earlier in the day and suggested that the member come along the following day to visit some of the sites identified. The site visit was to be actioned and include City staff with a report back at a future General Board meeting.

d) Landry Creek Erosion Study

Member Dutrisac requested an update on the status of this project, noting that funding had been approved in the N.D.C.A.'s 2010 budget to do this project. P. Sajatovic mentioned that this issue was addressed in the General Manager's quarterly report, noting that the intent is to issue an R.F.P. by the end of May, 2010 with the goal being to complete the study by late summer. It was stressed to members that this project is a one-time initiative and that the N.D.C.A. has no capacity to undertake erosion control restoration work on private property if identified as being required in the final study. Members will be updated on the progress of the study.

e) Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled General Board meeting will be held on **Thursday, May 20 at 4:00 p.m., in Room C-13B** at Tom Davies Square.

No other business was transacted.

8. Adjournment

Resolution 2010-47

Watelet - Dutrisac

That we do now adjourn.

Carried.