

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Minutes

Meeting: Authority Meeting
Date: Thursday, December 15, 2022, 1:00 p.m.
Location: Remote
Chair: Barbara Dobreen
Members present: Paul Allen, Larry Allison, Kevin Eccles, Bud Halpin, Tom Hutchinson, Gregory McLean, Steve McCabe, Dave Myette, Mike Niesen, Sue Paterson, Moiken Penner, Jennifer Prenger, Bill Stewart, Peter Whitten
Staff present: Jennifer Stephens, Erik Downing, Donna Lacey, Elise MacLeod, Laura Molson, Ashley Richards, Janice Hagan

In the absence of an elected Chair, Jennifer Stephens, GM/S-T called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

1. Appointment of Chair Pro Tem

MOTION #G22-91

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT Barbara Dobreen be appointed Chair Pro Tem for the SVCA Authority meeting, December 15, 2022.

Carried

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Land Acknowledgement was read by Chair Barbara Dobreen:

We begin our meeting today by respectfully acknowledging the Anishinaabeg Nation, the Haudensaunee, the Neutral, and the Petun peoples as the traditional keepers of this land. We are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The following reports were amended to the meeting agenda after circulation:

- General Manager's Report
- Bill 23 – *More Homes Built Faster Act*, 2022
- Transition Plan – 3rd Progress Report

MOTION #G22-92

Moved by Bill Stewart

Seconded by Paul Allen

THAT the SVCA Board of Directors adopt the agenda for the Authority meeting on December 15, 2022, as amended.

Carried

4. Introduction of Directors and Staff

Due to municipal appointments for the new term of council, the Board of Directors has various new Authority members. Each of the Directors introduced themselves, and Jennifer Stephens introduced staff members in attendance.

5. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

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

6. Approval of Authority meeting Minutes – October 20, 2022

Motion #G22-93

Moved by Bill Stewart

Seconded by Sue Paterson

THAT the SVCA Board of Directors adopt the minutes of the Authority meeting held on October 20, 2022, as presented.

Carried

7. Presentation – Orientation

Jennifer Stephens gave an overview of the Conservation Authority, and member roles and responsibilities. She noted that a special webpage had been created for the Directors which contains information related to organizational governance, corporate documents, and items related specifically to the board.

8. General Manager's Report

Jennifer Stephens highlighted external communications, staff accomplishments and various updates across the watershed. She discussed the status of the 2022 Workplan and the projects that will be deferred to 2023.

Motion #G22-94

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the General Manager's report be received.

Carried

9. Consent Agenda

Motion #G22-95

Moved by Larry Allison

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the reports, and information contained in the Consent Agenda, [Item 9-a-d], along with their respective recommended motions be accepted as presented.

Carried

10. New Business

a. SVCA Fee Policy

The SVCA Fee policy is to be approved by December 31, 2022 and posted to the SVCA website along with all fee schedules, according to requirements of the *Conservation Authorities Act* - Section 21.2. It was noted that Schedule B – Campground Fees had been approved at the July 2022 Authority meeting. After discussion, the following motion was passed:

Motion #G22-96

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Dave Myette

THAT the Board of Directors of Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority approve the attached Fee Policy;

AND THAT the Board approve the following fee schedules to take effect on January 1, 2023:

- Schedule A – Environmental Planning and Permitting Services
- Schedule C – Forestry Services
- Schedule D – Corporate Services

Carried

b. 2023 Meeting Schedule

Motion #G22-97

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the 2023 SVCA Authority meeting schedule be adopted as presented; and further

THAT the Authority return to in person meetings to be conducted at the Formosa Administration office, except at the discretion of the Chair.

Carried

c. Bill 23 – *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*

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Jennifer Stephens provided an update to Bill 23 and focused on several major challenges for conservation authorities. The bill will assign new responsibilities to municipalities, leading to inefficiencies and delays, will weaken conservation authorities' powers, and will reduce natural and valuable infrastructure such as wetlands. It was noted that municipalities will be required to obtain their own expertise for natural heritage commenting as CAs will not be permitted to do so. The Directors requested that updates be provided as they occur. After discussion the following motion carried:

Motion #G22-98

Moved by Paul Allen

Seconded by Bud Halpin

THAT the update on Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*, be received.

Carried

d. Transition Plan – 3rd Progress report

Jennifer Stephens reviewed Ontario Regulation 687/21: Transition Plans and Agreements for the Programs and Services Under Section 21.1.2 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, as well as the Inventory of Programs and Services prepared for Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority. The 3rd progress report will be submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in advance of the January 1, 2023, deadline.

Motion #G22-99

Moved by Bill Stewart

Seconded by Peter Whitten

THAT the Third Progress Report related to Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority's Transition Plan (Inventory of Programs and Services) be authorized for submission to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry;

AND FURTHER THAT the letter documenting compliance with the governance and administration amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* due by January 1, 2023, be endorsed for submission to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

Carried

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m. on motion of Moiken Penner and Greg McLean.

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Barbara Dobreen
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary