



ROUGE PARK ALLIANCE MINUTES - MEETING #2/07 - FEBRUARY 16, 2007

The Rouge Park Alliance met in the Main Boardroom of the Toronto Zoo. Gord Weeden, Chair, welcomed everyone and thanked Sue Gunton, Toronto Zoo, for hosting the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

PRESENT

Members:

Gord Weeden, Chair
Councillor David Cohen, Town of Richmond Hill
Brad Duguid, MPP, Province of Ontario
Regional Councillor Jack Heath, Region of York
Derek Lee, MP, Government of Canada
Regional Councillor Bonnie Littley, Region of Durham
Councillor Ron Moeser, City of Toronto
Councillor Jennifer O'Connell, City of Pickering
Councillor Clyde Smith, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

Alternates:

Ian Buchanan, Region of York
Councillor Raymond Cho, City of Toronto
Nestor Chornobay, Region of Durham
Brian Denney, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority
Sue Gunton, Toronto Zoo
Councillor Logan Kanapathi, Town of Markham
Councillor Chin Lee, City of Toronto
Tracy Smith, Province of Ontario

Staff:

Bob Clay, Manager, Natural Heritage
Doreen McCarty, Administrative Coordinator

Maryam Nassar, Manager, Interpretation & Culture
Lewis Yeager, General Manager

Observers:

Ben Amanyangole, African Power
Tom Boudreault, City of Toronto Parks
Debra Lapp, Cedar Grove Community Centre
Bernadette Manning, Cedar Grove Community Club

Observers: (Continued...)

Andy McKinnon, Toronto Resident
John O'Gorman, Markham Environmental Alliance
Jim Robb, Friends of the Rouge Watershed

ABSENT

Members:

Councillor Paul Ainslie, City of Toronto
Hon. Pauline Browes, Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corp.
Glenn De Baeremaeker, Save the Rouge Valley System
Dick O'Brien, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority
Councillor Erin Shapero, Town of Markham
Calvin White, Toronto Zoo

Alternates:

Ron Dewell, TRCA
Tom Farrell, Province of Ontario
Adele Freeman, TRCA
Mark Graham, Save the Rouge Valley System Inc.
Audrey Hollasch, Town of Richmond Hill
Keith Laushway, Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corp.
Hon. Dan McTeague, Government of Canada
Tom Melymuk, City of Pickering
Mayor Wayne Emerson, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
Carolyn Woodland, TRCA

AND THAT the Rouge Park Alliance direct its staff, partners and friends to continue their efforts to add additional public lands to Rouge Park;

AND FURTHER THAT the Rouge Park Alliance direct its staff and partners to seek additional funds for the planning, implementation and promotion of our 11,500-acre Park.

..... **CARRIED**

ACTION - Staff to take appropriate action.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

1. Rouge Park Heritage Appreciation Visitor Experience Plan Update

KEY ISSUE

Update on the Park's comprehensive visitor services and interpretation planning process.

MOTION: Moved by: **Clyde Smith**
Res. #11/07: Seconded by: **Logan Kanapathi**

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the progress report on the Heritage Appreciation Visitor Experience Plan.

..... **CARRIED**

2. Rouge Watershed Plan

KEY ISSUE

Time table for the release and comments on the final draft Rouge Watershed Plan.

MOTION: Moved by: **Derek Lee**
Res. #12/07 Seconded by: **Brian Denney**

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the report from the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority;

AND FURTHER THAT the Rouge Park Alliance request a presentation on the final plan for its approval.

..... **CARRIED**

ACTION

- Staff to take appropriate action.
- Councillor Moeser requested a presentation from the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal re: Places to Grow at a Rouge Park Alliance meeting subsequent to TRCA's presentation.

3. Visioning Workshop - Working Committee

KEY ISSUE

In 2005, the Rouge Park Alliance hosted a Visioning Workshop. The report from that workshop recommended that an evaluation be completed of the need to create a foundation to support the ongoing needs of Rouge Park and recommended an organizational structure for Rouge Park itself with legal status to more effectively deliver Rouge Park’s Vision and Objectives.

MOTION: Moved by: Logan Kanapathi
Res. #13/07: Seconded by: Jennifer O’Connell

THAT a working committee be established to carry out this evaluation in a consultative manner;

AND THAT this committee report back to the Alliance on recommendations for a legal entity for Rouge Park at the June 15, 2007 Rouge Park Alliance meeting;

AND FURTHER THAT this committee will be comprised of the Chair of the Rouge Park Alliance, the General Manager of Rouge Park, and representatives of the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and others as needed.

MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED

ACTION - Staff to take appropriate action.

Agenda item #6 was brought forward at the request of the Chair, and in agreement by members of the Alliance present.

6. Rouge Park Alliance Terms of Reference

KEY ISSUE

Present the Rouge Park Alliance Terms of Reference for formal adoption.

MOTION: Moved by: Ron Moeser
Res. #14/07: Seconded by: Derek Lee

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance formally adopt the Terms of Reference.

..... CARRIED

ACTION - Councillor Heath requested that a package be developed and given to Alliance members indicating Alliance procedures and what is expected of member organizations. Staff to take appropriate action.

4. Memorandum of Agreement Among the Rouge Park Alliance, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and the Ministry of Natural Resources

KEY ISSUE

The Rouge Park Alliance Policy and Administration Committee recommends approval of the Memorandum of Agreement among the Rouge Park Alliance, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and Ministry of Natural Resources.

MOTION: Moved by: Brian Denney
Res. #15/07: Seconded by: Sue Gunton

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the report on the Memorandum of Agreement among the Rouge Park Alliance, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and the Ministry of Natural Resources;

AND FURTHER THAT the Rouge Park Alliance authorize the Chair to sign the Memorandum of Agreement on behalf of the Alliance.

..... **CARRIED**

ACTION - Chair to sign agreement.

5. Minutes of January 30, 2007 Meeting of Rouge Park Policy & Administration Committee

KEY ISSUE

Minutes of a meeting to review Rouge Park policy and administration issues.

MOTION Moved by: Ron Moeser
Res. #16/07 Seconded by: Sue Gunton

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the January 30, 2007 minutes of the Policy and Administration Committee;

AND FURTHER THAT tape recording of the Rouge Park Alliance meetings cease and that Alliance members be prepared to provide motions and amendments in clear written forms so that minutes can be effectively recorded.

..... **CARRIED**

7. Park Improvement and Heritage Committee Meeting Minutes - December 6, 2006

KEY ISSUE

Present the actions, recommendation and outcomes of the December 6, 2006 Park Improvement and Heritage Committee meeting.

MOTION: Moved by: Clyde Smith
Res. #17/07: Seconded by: Derek Lee

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the minutes of the December 6, 2006 Park Improvement and Heritage Committee meeting.

..... **CARRIED**

8. Natural Heritage Action Plan Progress Report

KEY ISSUE

Park Improvement and Heritage Committee progress on the Natural Heritage Action Plan Update.

MOTION: Moved by: Bonnie Littley
Res. #18/07: Seconded by: Derek Lee

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive this Natural Heritage Action Plan Progress Report as information.

..... CARRIED

9. Correspondence

MOTION: Moved by: Derek Lee
Res. #19/07: Seconded by: Logan Kanapathi

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the following correspondence:

1. Letter dated January 9, 2007 to Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, from Calvin J. White, Toronto Zoo, re: Appointment of Representatives to the Rouge Park Alliance.
2. Letter dated January 10, 2007 to Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, from Dave Barrow, Town of Richmond Hill, re: Appointment of Representative to the Rouge Park Alliance.
3. Letter dated January 12, 2007 to Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, from Michele Kennedy, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, re: Appointment of Representative to the Rouge Park Alliance.
4. Copy of the Town of Markham report to Development Services Committee on January 16, 2007 on the Environmental Policy Review and Consolidation Terms of Reference.
5. Copy of Letter dated January 12, 2007 to Lilli Duoba, Town of Markham, from A. Milliken Heisey, Papazian Heisey Myers, re: Markham Draft Terms of Reference - Environmental Policy Review and Consolidation Strategy (Revised).
6. E-mail dated January 26, 2007 from Judy Kee, Town of Markham, re: Appointment of Representatives to the Rouge Park Alliance.
7. Copy of Letter dated January 11, 2007 to Valerie Shuttleworth, Town of Markham, from A. Milliken Heisey, Papazian Heisey Myers, re: Proposed Designation of Property at 8359 Reesor Road in the Draft Cornell Secondary Plan. (Previous Correspondence also Attached.)
8. Copy of Letter dated February 5, 2007 to A. Milliken Heisey, Papazian, Heisey, Myers Barristers & Solicitors, from Valerie Shuttleworth, Town of Markham, re: Proposed Designation of Property at 8359 Reesor Road in the Draft Cornell Secondary Plan.
9. Letter dated February 15, 2007 to Rouge Park Alliance, from City Clerk, City of Toronto, re: Appointment of Representatives to the Rouge Park Alliance.

..... CARRIED

11. New Business

ACTION - Brian Denney requested that staff prepare a report for the Rouge Park Alliance regarding the Toronto Wildlife Centre.

TERMINATION

ON MOTION, the meeting terminated at 11:00 a.m. on February 16, 2007.

Gord Weeden
Chair, Rouge Park Alliance

Lewis Yeager
General Manager, Rouge Park

ROUGE PARK ALLIANCE
2007 ENGAGEMENT REPORT
BY GORD WEEDEN, CHAIR

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

REGIONAL COUNCILLOR BONNIE LITTLE, DURHAM REGION,
COUNCILLOR JENNIFER O'CONNELL, PICKERING,
COUNCILLOR DAVID COHEN, RICHMOND HILL,
COUNCILLOR LOGAN KANAPATHI, MARKHAM,
COUNCILLOR RON MOESER, COUNCILLOR PAUL AINSLIE, CITY OF TORONTO,
IAN BUCHANAN, YORK REGION.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO ARE NO LONGER ON OUR BOARD:

MAYOR FRANK SCARPITTI, MARKHAM
ELIO DI IORIO, RICHMOND HILL
REGIONAL COUNCILLOR RICK JOHNSON, DURHAM
SUE SHERBAN, WHITCHURCH STOUFFVILLE
REGIONAL CHAIR ROGER ANDERSON, DURHAM
HRATCH AYNEDJIAN, TORONTO

2007 WILL BE A BANNER YEAR FOR ROUGE PARK AND A CHALLENGING AND REWARDING YEAR FOR THE ROUGE PARK ALLIANCE. WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS TO THE ALLIANCE AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO GET EXCITED ABOUT ROUGE PARK.

ROUGE PARK IS AN ASSET TO ALL OF OUR PARTNERS, THEIR CONSTITUENTS AND THEIR FUTURE CONSTITUENTS. ROUGE PARK SHOULD NOT BE SEEN AS AN ALBATROSS, OUT THERE, OVER THERE, THAT IS SOMEONE ELSE'S RESPONSIBILITY. IT IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY AND IT IS THE CHALLENGE OF THIS ALLIANCE TO BRING TOGETHER ALL OUR PARTNERS AND OUR COMMUNITIES, TO CONTINUE TO BUILD THIS MAGNIFICENT WORLD RENOWNED PARK. IT WILL TAKE INGENUITY, CREATIVITY, COMMITMENT AND ENTHUSIASM TO REALIZE THE POTENTIALS OF THIS ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY.

IN 2007, WE WILL, WITH YOUR SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE, BUILD AND STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS WITH ALLIANCE MEMBERS THAT WILL PROVIDE FINANCIAL STABILITY AND THE INCENTIVES TO BUILD THIS PARK AS OUTLINED IN OUR MANAGEMENT PLANS.

TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS, WE WILL:

APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE ACTION PLAN WHICH WILL PROVIDE THE DIRECTION FOR LEASE MANAGEMENT ON OUR LANDS AND PRESCRIPTIONS ON HOW THESE LANDS SHOULD BE UTILIZED TO IMPLEMENT OUR PLANS.

APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE ROUGE PARK HERITAGE APPRECIATION VISITOR EXPERIENCE PLAN THAT WILL OUTLINE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MEANS TO GET OUR MESSAGE TO THE PUBLIC, SET GUIDELINES FOR INTERPRETATION TO ALL USERS, SCHOOL GROUPS AND PUBLIC FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT THE BOB HUNTER ENVIRONMENTAL AREA PLAN AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF ROUGE PARK.

DEVELOP, APPROVE AND IMPLEMENT A MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE NEW PROVINCIAL LANDS EAST OF THE LITTLE ROUGE CORRIDOR THAT IS COMPLEMENTARY TO THE BOB HUNTER MEMORIAL PARK, AND THE LITTLE ROUGE CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLANS.

DEVELOP A LONG TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY THAT WILL PROVIDE STABILITY FOR OUR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS AND ALSO DEVELOP MECHANISMS THAT CAN INCREASE OUR BUDGETS TO MEET EVER INCREASING DEMANDS. WE THANK THE WRT FOR PROVIDING SIGNIFICANT FUNDING BUT WE NEED MORE TO MATCH THIS FUNDING.

DEVELOP A PLAN TO ENGAGE PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE PARK THROUGH MOU'S, AS THE ALLIANCE HAS DONE WITH THE CITY OF TORONTO AND AS OUTLINED IN OUR TERMS OF REFERENCE. PARTNER MUNICIPALITIES COULD PROVIDE SERVICES WITHIN THE PARK AS THEY DO IN THEIR MUNICIPALITIES.

SUPPORT THE PROVINCE IN THE GREENBELT PLAN, THE PLACES TO GROW PLAN AND THE GTA AGRICULTURE STRATEGY. THE PROVINCE HAS SO GRACIOUSLY DEDICATED SOME 46 SQ. KM FOR ROUGE PARK AND PROTECTED THIS JEWEL IN THE GREENBELT ACT. OUR MANAGEMENT PLANS AS WE DEVELOP THEM AND IMPLEMENT THEM WILL SUPPORT THE PROVINCIAL GREENBELT AND WILL INTRODUCE STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT LOCAL AGRICULTURE IN THE GTA.

DEVELOP A PLAN FOR ROAD, INFRASTRUCTURE INTERACTION WITHIN ROUGE PARK IN CONSULTATION WITH PARTNERS AND WITH THE GUIDANCE OF THE ALLIANCE AND OUR ROUGE PARK PLANS.

HUMAN ACTIVITIES WILL EXIST IN HARMONY WITH ROUGE PARK VALUES.

WORK WITH OUR PARTNERS TO EXPAND ROUGE PARK TO THE OAK RIDGES MORAINES, AND PROVIDE SOLID CONNECTIONS TO OTHER WATERSHEDS BY SECURING ADDITIONAL SIGNIFICANT LANDS.