



**ROUGE PARK ALLIANCE MINUTES FROM
MEETING #1/07, JANUARY 12, 2007 (NO QUORUM)
RESOLUTION #1/07-RESOLUTION #6/07
COMPLETED BY E-MAIL, JANUARY 24, 2007**

At 9:30 a.m., January 12, 2007, Rouge Park Alliance Meeting #1/07, Gord Weeden, Chair, welcomed everyone and acknowledged that we were one representative short of quorum. The Chair suggested, as has been done in the past, that the agenda items could be discussed, and then formally approved after receiving the responses of members absent from the meeting. A poll was taken and all members present were in support of the procedure. Staff was directed to communicate by electronic mail to members absent and request a response by Wednesday, January 24, 2007.

On behalf of the Rouge Park Alliance Chair, Gord Weeden, staff communicated, via e-mail on January 18, 2007, with Rouge Park Alliance members who were not present at the meeting. Members were asked to respond by January 24, 2007, indicating whether they approved of the recommendations of Agenda Items 1, 2, 4, and 5. Agenda Item #3 was referred back to staff for more detailed analysis, and to be brought back to the Alliance.

The Alliance members who were present at the meeting were in unanimous agreement to these recommendations.

RESPONSES RECEIVED BY E-MAIL IN AGREEMENT TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS

Members:

Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, City of Toronto
Derek Lee, Government of Canada
Councillor Clyde Smith, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

Alternates:

Ian Buchanan, Region of York

PRESENT AT THE MEETING ON JANUARY 12, 2007

Members:

Gord Weeden, Chair
Councillor Raymond Cho, City of Toronto
Regional Councillor Jack Heath, Town of Markham
Calvin White, Toronto Zoo

Alternates:

Nestor Chornobay, Region of Durham
Brian Denney, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority
Ron Dewell, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority
Tom Melymuk, City of Pickering
Tracy Smith, Province of Ontario

ABSENT

Members:

Hon. Pauline Browes, Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corp.
Councillor David Cohen, Town of Richmond Hill
Andre Flys, Save the Rouge Valley System, Inc. (SRVS)
Regional Councillor Bonnie Littley, Region of Durham
Dick O'Brien, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority
Councillor Jennifer O'Connell, City of Pickering

Alternates:

Tom Farrell, MNR, Province of Ontario
Mark Graham, SRVS
Sue Gunton, Toronto Zoo
Keith Laushway, Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corp.
Hon. Dan McTeague, Government of Canada
Councillor Erin Shapero, Town of Markham

Staff:

Bob Clay, Manager, Natural Heritage
Vicki MacDonald, Biologist

Staff - Continued ...

Doreen McCarty, Administrative Coordinator
Maryam Nassar, Manager, Interpretation & Culture
Lewis Yeager, General Manager

Observers:

Mike Adler, Scarborough Mirror
C. Beattie, Local Resident
Dr. Sheila Birse, Local Resident
Ann Forest, Local Resident
Colin Lathe, Local Resident
Andy McKinnon, Toronto Resident

Observers - Continued...

Donald McKinnon, Toronto Resident
John O’Gorman, MEA
Colin O’Neill, Friends of the Rouge Watershed
Stan Poulton, Local Resident
Jim Robb, Friends of the Rouge Watershed
Patricia Short Gallé, Transport Canada
Gerald Williams, Toronto Parks-Glen Rouge Campground

MINUTES OF MEETING #6/06, September 22, 2006

MOTION:
Res. #1/07

Moved by: Nestor Chornobay
Seconded by: Tom Melymuk

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance approve the Minutes of Meeting #6/06, held on September 22, 2006.
..... **CARRIED**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Andy McKinnon

Andy McKinnon is a freelance photographer and a Toronto resident. He presented his observations from his walks in the Park of several tree stands, illegal poachers, and the regular widespread dumping of garbage. He is concerned about the safety of hikers, the destruction of the habitat of plants and animals, and the ongoing illegal activities in the Park. He expressed some of the difficulties encountered in reporting these violations to the various authorities, and his frustration in their inability to resolve the problems. He would like to see more enforcement by the proper authorities, and suggested also a “Rouge Watch”, foot patrol or a Rouge Park warden.

Vicki MacDonald, Biologist

Vicki MacDonald gave a brief update on Rouge Park’s annual Winter Bird Count, which started in January 2004. The fourth annual Rouge Park Winter Bird Count event was held on January 7, 2007, and consisted of 45 volunteers recording bird species seen throughout the Park and in their own backyards. This year 52 species were recorded and over 3,000 individual birds; highlights included Horned Grebe, Trumpeter Swan, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Eastern Bluebird, and Hermit Thrush. This initiative provides for an ongoing record of biodiversity and restoration success in Rouge Park.

Bob Clay, Manager, Natural Heritage

Bob Clay introduced himself to the Alliance and briefly outlined his professional background, experiences and qualifications as they relate to his new position as Manager, Natural Heritage, Rouge Park, while Barb Davies is on maternity leave.

KEY ISSUE

Present the actions, recommendations and outcomes from the Park Improvement & Heritage Committee meeting on November 23, 2006

MOTION: Moved by: **Brian Denney**
Res. #2/07 Seconded by: **Raymond Cho**

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the minutes from the November 23, 2006 Park Improvement & Heritage Committee meeting.

..... **CARRIED**

2. Rouge Park Funding Programme - 2007 Recommended Allocations

KEY ISSUE

The Park Improvement & Heritage Committee has reviewed the proposals for Year 2007 and provides recommendations for the allocation of funds.

MOTION: Moved by: **Raymond Cho**
Res. #3/07 Seconded by: **Tom Melymuk**

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance approve the allocation of project funding as recommended by the Park Improvement & Heritage Committee in Table 1;

AND THAT Rouge Park staff be directed to release the letters of confirmation of funding to the organizations whose projects have been approved for the 2007 Natural & Cultural Heritage Funds;

AND THAT projects approved for funding at the January 12, 2007 Rouge Park Alliance meeting be eligible for release of the initial funding;

AND THAT Rouge Park staff be directed to maintain contact with organizations which are not recommended for funding to assist with improving their proposals so that they may resubmit for funding;

AND FURTHER THAT Rouge Park Alliance funding for each project be subject to the Natural and Cultural Heritage Funding Policies and Reporting Requirements; the submission of proof of liability insurance; and, any conditions as required by the Park Improvement and Heritage Committee.

..... **CARRIED**

ACTION

- Rouge Park staff to take appropriate action.

BACKGROUND

A Subcommittee of the Park Improvement & Heritage Committee met on November 29, 2006 to review fourteen proposals for the Rouge River watershed. Review Subcommittee members which either forwarded their comments or were in attendance represented technical staff from: MNR, City of Toronto, Rouge Park, Toronto Zoo, Town of Markham, Rouge Park Alliance, Hydro One, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority, Transport Canada Green Space Outreach, Friends of the Rouge Watershed and York Region. During the day, each applicant is invited to attend for a brief questioning period regarding their proposal. Following each question and answer period, Review Subcommittee members rate the proposal on technical merit. After all proposals have been individually rated, they are ranked in descending order and funding recommendations are determined starting with the highest ranked proposal. All projects are reviewed and rated using the Natural and Cultural Heritage Project

Criteria and were screened using the Cost/Quality Control report (approved by the Alliance in 1998 and updated annually by Rouge Park staff).

The Subcommittee found that nine of the fourteen projects fit our criteria, were located on appropriate sites, worked toward the Rouge Park Management Plan (1994) goal and objectives, and the Rouge Park Action Plan targets, as approved by the Alliance in 1999.

The list of prioritized projects was discussed and verified by the Park Improvement & Heritage Committee on December 6, 2006. Recommendation for allocation of these funds is now before the Rouge Park Alliance for approval.

TABLE 1: 2007 RECOMMENDED PROJECTS

Rank	Total score	Project name	Group	Recommended 2007 allocations	2007 \$ requested	2006 \$ approved	2005 \$ approved
1	283.3	Critical Habitat Use by Turtles in Rouge Park	Zoo	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$7,000
2 (tied)	258.3	Restoration of Priority Sites	FRW	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$20,000	\$52,000
2 (tied)	258.3	Stream and Habitat Monitoring Project	CSP	\$5,904	\$5,904	\$6,100	\$4,200
3	250	Invasive Plant Inventory and Control - Phase III	RVF	\$12,800	\$12,800	\$4,450	na
4	238.5	Richmond Hill Headwaters Rehabilitation Program	OS	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500
5 (tied)	233.3	Walden Pond Austin Drive Park Project	CRC	\$6,125	\$6,125	\$5,000	NA
5 (tied)	233.3	Native Seed Collection, Treatment and Dispersal	FRW	\$10,000	\$10,000	na	na
6	207.6	North Berm Afforestation	10K	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$20,000
7	200	Rouge watershed Wetland Creation Project	OS	\$6,000	\$30,000	\$12,000	\$10,000
TOTAL				\$143,329			

3. Deer Poaching in Rouge Park

KEY ISSUE

To provide information regarding deer poaching in Rouge Park. There is no legal hunting in Rouge Park.

MOTION
Res. #4/07

Moved by: Calvin White
Seconded by: Raymond Cho

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance refer the report back to staff for more comprehensive analysis, and then bring it back to the Alliance.

..... **CARRIED**

ACTION

- Rouge Park staff to do more comprehensive analysis, and report back to the Alliance.

4. Schedule of Rouge Park Alliance Meetings for 2007/2008

KEY ISSUE

Schedule of Rouge Park Alliance meetings for 2007/08. All Rouge Park Alliance meetings will commence at 9:00 a.m., at the locations indicated beside each date.

MOTION
Res. #5/07

Moved by: Nestor Chornobay
Seconded by: Calvin White

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance approve the following dates for meetings for 2007/2008:

- Friday, February 16, 2007 Main Boardroom, Toronto Zoo, 361A Old Finch Ave., Scarborough
- Friday, March 23, 2007 Main Boardroom, Toronto Zoo, 361A Old Finch Ave., Scarborough
- Friday, May 11, 2007 Main Boardroom, Toronto Zoo, 361A Old Finch Ave., Scarborough
- Friday, June 15, 2007 Main Boardroom, Toronto Zoo, 361A Old Finch Ave., Scarborough
- Friday, August 24, 2007 Canada Room, Town of Markham, 101 Town Centre Blvd., Markham
- Friday, October 5, 2007 Canada Room, Town of Markham, 101 Town Centre Blvd., Markham
- Friday, November 23, 2007 Main Boardroom, Toronto Zoo, 361A Old Finch Ave., Scarborough
- Friday, February 15, 2008 Main Boardroom, Toronto Zoo, 361A Old Finch Ave., Scarborough

..... **CARRIED**

5. Correspondence

MOTION:
Res. #6/06:

Moved by: Tom Melymuk
Seconded by: Tracy Smith

THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the following correspondence:

1. Copy of Letter dated September 26, 2006 to Adam Ciulini, Ministry of the Environment, from Lois Griffin, Humber Watershed Alliance, re: EBR #RA06E0003.
2. Letter dated September 27, 2006 to Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, from Sheila Birrell, Town Clerk, Town of Markham, re: Rouge Park Alliance Advocacy Issues.
3. Letter dated September 27, 2006 to Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, from Sheila Birrell, Town Clerk, Town of Markham, re: Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing - Request for Support for OPA 140.
4. Letter dated October 12, 2006 from Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, to the Hon. John Gerretsen, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, re: OMB Hearing re OPA 140, Town of Markham.
5. Copy of letter dated October 5, 2006 to Tom Boudreault, City of Toronto, from David "Grey Eagle" Sanford, Wapiti Alliance of the Rouge Watershed and the Oak Ridges Moraine, re: First Nations Educational Program for the Community.

- 6. Letter dated October 23, 2006 to Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, from Mrs. Michele Kennedy, Town Clerk, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, re: OPA 140, Town of Markham.
- 7. Letter dated October 20, 2006 to Lewis Yeager, Rouge Park, from Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk, Region of York, re: Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan Study, Municipal Partnership Program.
- 8. Copy of Letter dated October 20, 2006 to the Hon. John Gerretsen, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, from Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk, Region of York, re: OPA 140.
- 9. Letter dated October 25, 2006, to Mayor Don Cousens & Members of Council, from Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, re: OPA 140 - Rouge Park North.
- 10. Copy of Letter dated November 14, 2006 to Sonya Meek, TRCA, from Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services, Town of Markham, re: Rouge Watershed Plan.
- 11. Letter dated November 24, 2006 to Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, from the Hon. David Ramsay, Minister of Natural Resources, re: Markham East Lands (in response to attached letter from Rouge Park dated October 23, 2006).
- 12. E-mail dated December 7, 2006 to Maryam Nassar, Rouge Park, from Bill and June Hill, re: Deer Crossing.
- 13. Letter dated December 19, 2006 to Lewis Yeager, Rouge Park, from Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk, Region of York, re: Appointment of Representatives to Rouge Park Alliance.
- 14. Letter dated December 28, 2006 to Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, from Deborah Bowen, Deputy Clerk, Region of Durham, re: Appointment of Representatives to Rouge Park Alliance.

..... **CARRIED**

6. NEW BUSINESS

None

TERMINATION

ON MOTION, the meeting terminated at 11:15 a.m. on January 12, 2007.

Gord Weeden

Chair

Lewis Yeager

General Manager