



## ROUGE PARK ALLIANCE MINUTES - MEETING #5/07 - OCTOBER 5, 2007

The Rouge Park Alliance met in the Canada Room, Town of Markham. Gord Weeden, Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

### **PRESENT**

#### **Members:**

Gord Weeden, Chair  
Hon. Pauline Browes, Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corp.  
Councillor David Cohen, Town of Richmond Hill  
Regional Councillor Jack Heath, Region of York  
Regional Councillor Bonnie Littley, Region of Durham  
Councillor Ron Moeser, City of Toronto  
Councillor Jennifer O'Connell, City of Pickering  
Gerri Lynn O'Connor, TRCA  
Councillor Erin Shapero, Town of Markham  
Councillor Clyde Smith, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

#### **Alternates:**

Sue Gunton, Toronto Zoo  
Audrey Hollasch, Town of Richmond Hill  
Councillor Chin Lee, City of Toronto  
Tom Melymuk, City of Pickering  
Jim Robb, Save the Rouge Valley System  
Tracy Smith, Province of Ontario  
Carolyn Woodland, TRCA

### **ABSENT**

#### **Members:**

Councillor Paul Ainslie, City of Toronto  
Glenn De Baeremaeker, Save the Rouge Valley System  
Brad Duguid, MPP, Province of Ontario  
Derek Lee, MP, Government of Canada  
Calvin White, Toronto Zoo

#### **Alternates:**

Ian Buchanan, Region of York  
Councillor Raymond Cho, City of Toronto  
Nestor Chornobay, Region of Durham  
Brian Denney, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority  
Ron Dewell, TRCA  
Mayor Wayne Emmerson, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville  
Tom Farrell, Province of Ontario  
Adele Freeman, TRCA  
Mark Graham, Save the Rouge Valley System Inc.  
Councillor Logan Kanapathi, Town of Markham  
Keith Laushway, Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corp.  
Hon. Dan McTeague, Government of Canada

#### **Staff:**

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

#### **Observers:**

Chris Barber, TRCA  
John Connolly, Transport Canada  
Steve Dale, Friends of the Rouge Watershed  
Lilli Duoba, Town of Markham

#### **Observers: (Continued...)**

Greg Ferris, Gartner Lee Ltd.  
Don Ford, TRCA  
Dennis Gregor, Gartner Lee Ltd.  
Tom Hrkac, York Region

**Observers: (Continued...)**

Lois James, Rouge Valley Foundation  
Colin Lathe, Public  
Sheila H. Lathe, Kirkhams Road Homeowner  
Laura McDowell, York Region  
Andy McKinnon, Toronto Resident  
Brent Mersey, Markham Conservation Committee

**Observers: (Continued...)**

Terry O'Connor, York Foodgrain Project  
John O'Gorman, Markham Environmental Alliance  
Colin O'Neill, Friends of the Rouge Watershed  
Renato Pasqualoni, Public  
Donald Smith, Scarborough  
Ray Stukas, City of Toronto Parks



**ACTION**

- Rouge Park/TRCA staff to take appropriate action and report back to the Alliance.

**MOTION:**  
**Res. #55/07**

**Moved by: Erin Shapero**  
**Seconded by: Bonnie Littley**

**THAT the Rouge Park Alliance direct Rouge Park and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority staff to bring forward a detailed report, including information from Hunter & Associates, Jim Robb, and York Region, with regards to the direct and indirect impacts of the York-Durham Sanitary Sewer 9<sup>th</sup> Line and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue dewatering, outlining the areas of agreement/disagreement at the next Rouge Park Alliance meeting.**

..... **CARRIED**

**ACTION**

- Rouge Park/TRCA staff to take appropriate action, and report back to the Alliance.

**MOTION:**  
**Res. #56/07**

**Moved by: Clyde Smith**  
**Seconded by: Jack Heath**

**THAT the Rouge Park Alliance request the Region of York, as part of their upcoming capital budget process, to look at a 3-year or 4-year plan to increase the lake-based water supply to the Town of Stouffville with an objective to take the urban area of Stouffville off municipal wells.**

..... **CARRIED**

**ACTION**

- Staff to take appropriate action.

**MOTION:**  
**Res. #57/07**

**Moved by: Clyde Smith**  
**Seconded by: Erin Shapero**

**WHEREAS there may be potential long-term negative surface water and/or groundwater impacts occurring within the Rouge River watershed;**

**LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Rouge Park Alliance write a letter to all involved agencies (i.e., Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources, City of Toronto and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, CTC Watershed Region Source Protection Committee) requesting that the water budget analysis within the Rouge River watershed be given the highest priority and accelerated wherever possible.**

..... **CARRIED**

**ACTION**

- Staff to take appropriate action, and report back to the Alliance.

2. Presentation - Town of Richmond Hill Initiatives in the Rouge River Watershed - Audrey Hollasch

Presentation postponed to the next Alliance meeting.

3. Natural Heritage Projects & Action Plan Progress Report

**KEY ISSUE**

Progress made on the 2007 and 2008 natural heritage projects and Action Plan.

**MOTION:**

**Res. #58/07**

**Moved by: Ron Moeser**

**Seconded by: Sue Gunton**

**THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive this progress report on the 2007 and 2008 natural heritage projects and Action Plan.**

..... **CARRIED**

**PROGRESS REPORT**

**Projects:**

All 2007 habitat restoration projects funded by Rouge Park have been completed or are underway with expected completions as proposed. Groups are expected to provide final reports on time. Major restoration groups (Rouge Valley Foundation, 10,000 Trees, and Friends of the Rouge Watershed) have all been provided with planting sites for 2008 and are presently preparing plans for submission in the fall round of project approvals. Rouge Park staff have ensured archaeological clearances for Rouge Valley Foundation and 10,000 Trees 2008 areas, although some work remains to be completed once current crops are removed by tenants on areas assigned to Friends of the Rouge Watershed. Minor changes in the project application process have been made and the Park Improvement & Heritage Committee will be reviewing the entire process as part of the Action Plan development this fall. Staff continue to work with delivery partners to smooth the project development and proposal preparations.

In addition, Rouge Park staff consulted with the major delivery groups and now all groups have been assigned planting areas that will be available for them to plant from 2009-2011. Rouge Park staff have been negotiating access with tenants and have arranged archaeology clearances where appropriate. In some cases, archaeology remains to be completed after crops are harvested. Preliminary negotiations for a similar long term planting area have begun with the City of Toronto's Urban Forestry group that undertakes community involved plantings. A second section of that group has expressed interest in helping Rouge Park plant signature trees along Park roads.

**Action Plan:**

Rouge Park staff, with significant field support of TRCA Restoration Services, have prepared site specific habitat prescription plans for all remaining restoration lands south of Steeles Avenue, new restoration lands in the Little Rouge Corridor (LRC) and for sites in the Little Rouge Creek. The drainage, soil map, existing surrounding vegetation, flora/fauna, of each field has been analyzed and verified through field visits. From these, a site capability plan and information sheet for each field has been developed that shows the places in the field that are appropriate to forest, wetland, meadow and riparian habitats. Staff have developed preliminary restoration approaches (management prescriptions) for each of these habitat types through consultation with literature and experiences of habitat delivery groups. Staff have rolled all this information up into an overall Park perspective and from these, staff have proposed preliminary priority areas, very preliminary cost estimates and policy/administrative recommendations that the Park Improvement & Heritage Committee will be deliberating and approving in the next few months.



6. Update - Rouge Park Planning Initiatives

**KEY ISSUE**

An update on key Rouge Park planning initiatives.

**MOTION:**  
**Res. #61/07**

**Moved by: Gerri Lynn O'Connor**  
**Seconded by: Sue Gunton**

**THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the verbal report of the General Manager on the status of current Rouge Park planning initiatives.**

..... **CARRIED**

**ACTION**

- Staff to bring draft reports to the next Alliance meeting regarding the Little Rouge Corridor Management Plan and the Bob Hunter Memorial Park Area Master Plan.

7. Rouge Park Alliance Annual General Meeting

**KEY ISSUE**

Proposed first Annual General Meeting for the Rouge Park Alliance.

**MOTION:**  
**Res. #62/07**

**Moved by: Bonnie Littley**  
**Seconded by: Sue Gunton**

**THAT the Alliance approve hosting the Rouge Park Alliance Annual General Meeting;**

**AND FURTHER THAT the Rouge Park Alliance direct staff to work with the Chair on the details and report back to the Alliance.**

..... **CARRIED**

**ACTION**

- Staff to report back to the Alliance.

8. Kirkhams Road Bridge

**KEY ISSUE**

Support for Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Draft Environmental Study Report: recommendation to remove the derelict Kirkhams Road bridge and restore the site to a natural condition.

**MOTION:**  
**Res. #63/07**

**Moved by: Jennifer O'Connell**  
**Seconded by: Erin Shapero**

**THAT this issue be deferred.**

**MOTION TO DEFER ..... CARRIED**

9. Correspondence

**MOTION:** Moved by: Jennifer O’Connell  
**Res. #64/07:** Seconded by: Erin Shapero

**THAT the Rouge Park Alliance receive the following correspondence:**

1. Copy of Letter dated June 28, 2007 to Brad Duguid, MPP, Scarborough Centre, from Hon. David Ramsay, Minister of Natural Resources, re: Recent discharge of toxic chemical into the Rouge River system near Stouffville.
2. Letter dated July 4, 2007 to Gord Weeden, Rouge Park Alliance, from John O’Gorman, re: Agriculture in Rouge Park.
3. Copy of Letter dated August 17, 2007 to Valerie Shuttleworth, Town of Markham, from Carolyn Woodland, TRCA, re: Revised Draft Secondary Plan, Cornell Planning District, Town of Markham, York Region. (Copy of TRCA letter dated September 22, 2006 included).

..... CARRIED

10. New Business

**MOTION:** Moved by: Clyde Smith  
**Res. #65/07:** Seconded by: Jim Robb

**THAT the Rouge Park Alliance write to the Ministry of the Environment and express its concerns about the process of issuing Permits to Take Water and their cumulative effects.**

..... CARRIED

**ACTION** - Staff to write letter to MOE.

**TERMINATION**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting terminated at 12:30 p.m. on October 5, 2007.

Gord Weeden  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Rouge Park Alliance

Lewis Yeager  
\_\_\_\_\_  
General Manager, Rouge Park