



## ROUGE PARK ALLIANCE MINUTES - MEETING #4/08 - September 12, 2008

The Rouge Park Alliance met in the Main Boardroom of the Toronto Zoo. Alan Wells, Chair, welcomed everyone and thanked Sue Gunton, Toronto Zoo, for hosting the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

### **PRESENT**

#### **Members:**

Alan Wells, Chair  
Councillor Paul Ainslie, City of Toronto  
Councillor David Cohen, Town of Richmond Hill  
Markham Deputy Mayor Jack Heath, Region of York  
Dr. Helena Jaczek, MPP, Province of Ontario  
Councillor Ron Moeser, City of Toronto  
Councillor Jennifer O'Connell, City of Pickering  
Gerri Lynn O'Connor, TRCA  
Councillor Clyde Smith, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

#### **Alternates:**

Nestor Chornobay, Region of Durham  
Brian Denney, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority  
Ron Dewell, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority  
Sue Gunton, Toronto Zoo  
Jim Robb, Save the Rouge Valley System Inc.  
Tracy Smith, Province of Ontario  
Carolyn Woodland, TRCA

### **ABSENT**

#### **Members:**

Hon. Pauline Browes, Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corp.  
Hon. Michael Chong, MP, Government of Canada  
Glenn De Baeremaeker, Save the Rouge Valley System Inc.  
Regional Councillor Bonnie Littley, Region of Durham  
Councillor Erin Shapero, Town of Markham  
Calvin White, Toronto Zoo

#### **Alternates:**

Ian Buchanan, Region of York  
Councillor Raymond Cho, City of Toronto  
Mayor Wayne Emmerson, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville  
Tom Farrell, Province of Ontario  
Adele Freeman, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority  
Mark Graham, Save the Rouge Valley System Inc.  
Audrey Hollasch, Town of Richmond Hill  
Councillor Logan Kanapathi, Town of Markham  
Keith Laushway, Waterfront Regeneration Trust Corp.  
Councillor Chin Lee, City of Toronto  
Tom Melymuk, City of Pickering

#### **Staff:**

Bob Clay, Manager, Ecological Restoration  
Barb Davies, Manager, Natural Heritage  
Michelle Holmes, Communications Specialist

Doreen McCarty, Administrative Coordinator  
Vicki MacDonald, Biologist  
Sheryl Santos, Natural Heritage Field Assistant  
Lewis Yeager, General Manager

#### **Observers:**

Tom Boudreault, City of Toronto Parks  
Jim Dillane, TRCA  
Don Ford, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority  
Lois James, Rouge Valley Foundation  
Sheila Lathe, Public Participant

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

Marvin Macaraig, U. of T. Geography  
Andy McKinnon, Public Participant  
Deborah Martin-Downs, TRCA  
Colin O'Neill, Friends of the Rouge Watershed  
Rocco Sgambelluri, TRCA





**Jim Robb requested a recorded vote for Amendment #2.**

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Dr. Helena Jaczek, Province of Ontario	X	
Nestor Chornobay, Durham Region	X	
Markham Deputy Mayor Jack Heath, Region of York	X	
Councillor Jennifer O'Connell, City of Pickering		X
Jim Robb, Save the Rouge Valley System Inc.		X
Councillor Paul Ainslie, City of Toronto		X
Councillor Ron Moeser, City of Toronto		X
Sue Gunton, Toronto Zoo	X	
Brian Denney, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority	X	
Councillor Clyde Smith, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	X	
	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>

6 YEAs and 4 NAYs - **Amendment #2 was Carried.**

**MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED ..... CARRIED**

**THE MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED READS AS FOLLOWS:**

**WHEREAS the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and the Rouge Park Alliance received ground water and surface water level data and analysis from Hunter and Associates suggesting impacts from the York-Durham Sanitary Sewer construction project;**

**AND WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority technical staff reviewed available ground water data in the area around the York-Durham Sanitary Sewer project with hydrologists and hydrogeologists from the Ministry of the Environment and Region of York, as well as external experts;**

**AND WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority technical staff has found no evidence to date that the York-Durham Sanitary Sewer 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue or 9<sup>th</sup> Line projects are currently affecting surface water flows and that ground water levels are recovering in the area;**

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT Rouge Park Alliance accept the findings on this matter of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and request Toronto and Region Conservation Authority staff report on the findings of the water budget analysis, once approved by the CTC Watershed Region Source Protection Committee.**

**ACTION**

- TRCA staff to report to the Alliance on the findings of the water budget analysis, once approved by the CTC Watershed Region Source Protection Committee.

**BACKGROUND**

Staff from Hunter and Associates presented ground water data analysis in the Lemonville/ Stouffville area to the Rouge Park Alliance at a meeting on July 12, 2007. In their analysis, Hunter and Associates concluded that the extent of ground water level impacts from the YDSS construction dewatering at 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 9<sup>th</sup> Line extended as far north as Stouffville and Lemonville, and that these water level declines were affecting both surface water flows and private water wells in these areas. Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) was asked by the Rouge Park Alliance to meet with Hunter and Associates, and to review their data and analysis.

TRCA staff subsequently met with staff from Hunter and Associates on September 6 and 24, 2007 and requested electronic data files (ground water level and flow rate data for private wells in the Lemonville/Stouffville area) to facilitate review of the information. Several data submissions were received by TRCA from Hunter and Associates between June, 2007 and April, 2008. The initial data submission included Adobe Acrobat (PDF) files that could not be easily read, but later submissions included the actual data in spreadsheet format as well as additional monitoring events. The analysis included interpretation of water levels and York Region pumping data.

TRCA staff prepared a report for the October 5, 2007 Rouge Park Alliance meeting documenting the outcome of the technical review of the Hunter data. In addition, staff attended meetings with representatives of York Region, Hunter and Associates, the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and external experts to review the Hunter's data and interpretation together with available data and documentation on the surface water flows, ground water levels, and known ground water extractions in the area of interest.

At the October, 2007 Alliance meeting, the following resolution was passed:

*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 9th Line and 16th Avenue dewatering, outlining the areas of agreement/ disagreement at the next Rouge Park Alliance meeting. (Res. #55/07).*

At the February, 2008 Alliance meeting, the following resolution (Res. #9/08) was passed:

*THAT the Rouge Park Alliance request the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority to bring back to the Alliance an updated detailed report, as requested in Resolution #55/07.*

This report satisfies the requests made of TRCA staff with respect to this issue, and will be supplemented with a formal presentation by TRCA's Manager, Geoenvironmental on September 12, 2008.

## 2. Designation of the Rouge River as a Canadian Heritage River

Dr. Helena Jaczek gave a verbal report on this issue and requested staff to investigate further into the process for designation and possible nomination of the Rouge River as a Canadian Heritage River.

### **KEY ISSUE**

Dr. Helena Jaczek, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health Promotion and Ontario's representative on the Rouge Park Alliance, will address the Alliance on the Canadian Heritage Rivers System and its relevance to the Rouge River.

**MOTION:**  
**Res. #37/08**

**Moved by: Helena Jaczek**  
**Seconded by: Paul Ainslie**

**THAT the Rouge Park Alliance direct staff to investigate the current process for designation as a Canadian Heritage River and report back to the Alliance on the issues related to possible nomination of the Rouge River;**

**AND FURTHER THAT the Rouge Park Alliance request that Gary Wilkins, Humber River Watershed Specialist at the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority be invited to address the Alliance on his experiences with the designation of the Humber River, and to answer questions from Alliance representatives.**

..... CARRIED

**ACTION**

- Staff to take appropriate action.

3. Draft Audited 2007 Financial Statements

**KEY ISSUE**

Present the draft audited 2007 Financial Statements.

**MOTION:**  
**Res. #38/08**

**Moved by: Jennifer O'Connell**  
**Seconded by: Sue Gunton**

**THAT the Rouge Park Alliance adopt the audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2007.**

..... CARRIED

**ACTION**

- Some Alliance members requested updated quarterly, mid-year budget, and financial reports and staff indicated the issue would be taken to the Finance Committee, and will report back to Alliance.

4. Correspondence

**KEY ISSUE**

Rouge Park Alliance correspondence.

**MOTION:**  
**Res. #39/08**

**Moved by: Paul Ainslie**  
**Seconded by: Ron Moeser**

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

1. Copy of letter dated April 30, 2008 to Growing the Greenbelt, from Margaret Buchinger, Don Watershed Regeneration Council, re: Draft Expansion Criteria.
2. Letter dated June 5, 2008 to Rouge Park Alliance, from Lois James, re: Recommendation that Joyce Trimmer's Name be Added to the Memorial Plaque, Celebration Forest, at Twyn Rivers Drive.
3. Letter dated June 6, 2008 to Alan Wells and Rouge Park Alliance Members, from Gord Weeden, re: Thank You Letter.
4. E-mail dated June 9, 2008 to MOE, TRCA, and Rouge Park Alliance, from Jim Robb, Friends of the Rouge Watershed, re: Big Pipe - Bad Science Leads to Bad Decisions and Costly Consequences.
5. E-mail dated June 11, 2008 to MOE, TRCA, DFO, and Rouge Park Alliance, from Jim Robb, re: YDSS Monitoring.
6. Letter dated June 10, 2008 to Alan Wells, Rouge Park Alliance, from Mayor Frank Scarpitti, Town of Markham, re: 2007 Annual Report for the Town of Markham.
7. Letter dated June 16, 2008 to Alan Wells, Rouge Park Alliance and Brian Denney, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, from Don Given, Malone Given Parsons Ltd., re: Rouge River Watershed Plan Implementation Committee, Request for Membership.

