

# Meeting Minutes



City of Guelph

## River Systems Advisory Committee

May 16, 2018

City Hall, Meeting Room B

From 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Chair: Mariette Pushkar

Present: Eric Wilson, Alex Grosse, Jordan Vanderklok, Dustin Lyttle, Mariette Pushkar, Patrick Padovan, Leah Lefler, April Nix, Madeleine Myhill, Mallory Lemon, Arnie Fausto (Matrix), Dave Beaton

Absent: Barry Smith, Nicola Lower, Ryan VanEngen

## Agenda Items

Welcome to all

### Item 1, 2 and 3

Item 1, Roll call and certification of quorum

Item 2, Declaration of Conflict of Interest - None

Item 3, Approval of Minutes of February 21 and March 14, 2018

- Deferred to next meeting

Introduction of newest members – Jordan Vanderklok, Dustin Lyttle, and Patrick Padovan

### Item 4

#### Crane Park EIS

- Information from City staff and project team - April Nix reviewed the staff report from Environmental Planning Perspective
- Looking at alternatives for formalizing a City maintained trail through Crane Park while also considering locations for a future trail crossing of an unnamed tributary to provide access to the South
- Reviewed this area on a map
- Area is part of the City's NHS, wildlife sensitivities, ecological linkages, waterfowl overwintering habitat, habitat for locally significant species

General Discussion/Questions:

- Informal trail will be left as is

- Distance between trail and watercourse 2-4 m range to top of stable bank
- Clarification around Figure 3 provided
- Waiting on information from GRCA to identify a future bridge/trail connections to the south
- Discussion around flow capacity of cross section and impacts
- Concerns around washout of gravel and more frequent storm events
- Discussion around proposed management options from creek
- Discussion around soil types – may need to bring in additional topsoil to help with plantings and restoration given rockiness along the valley slopes and terraces
- Discussion around buckthorn removal and herbicide application – preference to not use chemical controls

Hearing of Delegations:

### **Laura Murr**

- Spoke to concerns – more work needs to be done
- Reviewed history of Niska Land Holdings and storm drain, as well as wetlands
- Questioned why this was not assessed as part of Speed River Wetland Complex
- Believes there should be watershed planning
- Prime deer wintering area
- Not inclusive of social, cultural and economic components
- Should consider removing this as an off-leash area as it poses risks for wildlife
- EA should be conducted
- Consider wildlife in this area and disabling ad hoc trail

### **Bill Mungall**

- Here on behalf of Guelph Hiking Club
- Passed around map of stormwater outlet
- Woodchip trail limits use to aging community in this area
- Would recommend stone dust trail
- 2005 TMP connection of trails should be considered -
- Number of ad hoc trails – pick one and disable the rest – look into east sewer
- SWM problem - large delta at end of stormwater channel which has deflected river causing significant erosion

**Moved by Alex Grosse and seconded by Eric Wilson,**

AMENDMENT

**Moved by Dustin Lyttle and seconded by Jordan Vanderklok ,**

THAT the River System Advisory Committee support the following in relation to the mitigation plan design options to formalize a trail system in Crane Park:

- That the City minimizes the disturbance to the NHS through the construction of the formalized trail by using appropriate ESC measures and demarcating work zones and stock piles.
- Implement an effectiveness monitoring program to assess the success of implemented mitigation measures as outlined in the EIS addendum.
- That herbaceous species be incorporated into the restoration plan to increase species diversity within open communities to promote a range of edge habitat (rather than trees and shrubs focused on reforestation only)
- That appropriate oversight be provided during implementation of the restoration plan regarding placement of shade trees adjacent to the watercourse, proper siting (soil conditions) for all proposed species within the proposed restoration areas. Additional plantings should be considered along the channel banks, to reduce erosion and sediment loading into the channel.
- That consideration be given to protection of wildlife from off-leash dog activity.
- That further assessment is required to finalize the crossing location (i.e., to minimize interference with future channel processes, to accommodate storm flows).
- That the City consider additional review of the stormwater impacts (sediment loading, water quality, and water quantity) on the unnamed tributary and the Speed river, and potential mitigation measures.

**CARRIED**

**Item 5**

Other business

- August 8 joint meeting with EAC and RSAC to look at Guelph Trail Master Plan update 7 pm. (email new RSAC members)
- Circulating Niska Bridge design for June meeting

Adjournment

**Moved by Patrick Padovan and seconded by Alex Grosse,**

**CARRIED**

**Next Meeting:**

June 20, 2018 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. City Hall, Meeting Room B