



**TOWN OF
GEORGINA**

**THE TOWN OF GEORGINA
WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

Monday, February 13, 2017
6:30 PM
The LINK

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

The following Committee members were in attendance:

Councillor Frank Sebo, Chair
Mayor Margaret Quirk (Ex-Officio)
Scott Davidson
Jerry Kucharchuk
Michele Potter

The following Committee members were absent with regrets:

Councillor Dan Fellini
David Goldstein, Vice Chair
Natasha Charles

The following presenter was in attendance

Janet O'Connell, Boating Ontario

The following staff members were present:

Karyn Stone, Manager of Economic Development and Tourism
Sean Columbus, Economic Development Officer
Sarah Brislin, Committee Services Coordinator

3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Scott Davidson, Seconded by Jerry Kucharchuk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0001

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee approve the February 13, 2017, agenda as presented.

Carried.

5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF - *None*
6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

(1) Minutes of the GWAC meeting held on November 15, 2016.

Moved by Jerry Kucharchuk, Seconded by Michele Potter

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0002

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee adopt the meeting minutes of November 15, 2016.

Carried.

7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS - *None*
8. PRESENTATIONS

(1) Janet O'Connell from Boating Ontario

Janet O'Connell, CEO of Boating Ontario, provided a presentation to the Committee, explaining the purpose and activities of Boating Ontario. The primary focus of the organization is to seek to increase boating participation in Ontario.

One of Boating Ontario's initiatives was establishing a 'best practices' for marinas. The aim of the best practices is to preserve and restore the health of the navigable waterways. Marinas who participate in the program are re-assessed every for 4 years to ensure they comply. Boating Ontario encourages boaters to use marinas that participate in the program. Boating Ontario is currently working on a 'best practices' for boaters.

Janet O'Connell provided statistics which illustrate the popularity of boating in Ontario, and the impact boaters have on the economy. She also pointed out that 80% of Canadians live less than an hour from a navigable waterway. The Committee was advised the boaters in Georgina are:

- Cottagers,

- Day Boaters,
- Larger Boats – long haul boaters, cruising (overnight stops).
- Cruisers (2-3 day trippers) – opportunity for the Town to attract tourists.

It is forecasted that there will be increased boating traffic this summer because the Trent Severn lockage is supplying free passes in honor of Canada's 150 anniversary.

The Friday Harbour Development will provide another opportunity for Georgina to attract tourists with the installation of 1000 slips. Innisfil Boaters will be looking for nearby destinations.

The Committee was asked if they have any plans for Canada 150 and hosting events on the water. Janet O'Connell advised the splash festival (held in Georgina a couple years ago) was very popular, and she is often asked if another one will be held.

Moved by Michele Potter, Seconded by Scott Davidson

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0003

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the presentation given by Janet O'Connell from Boating Ontario.

Carried.

(2) Sean Columbus, Economic Development Officer,

A. The Boat Show and the promotion of Georgina.

Sean Columbus, Economic Development Officer, advised that this year's Toronto Boat Show was the best attended since 2008. Mr. Columbus attended the Boat Show to promote Georgina as a tourist destination for boaters visitors were provided with Georgina Swag, information leaflets and flyers and Georgina tote bags. Georgina shared a booth with the Trent Severn Waterways group.

B. NMMA (National Marine Manufacturers Association) Canadian Recreational Boating Industry Breakfast.

Sean Columbus advised the breakfast started with a global economic outlook. The attendees were advised that 2016 has been the bleakest year for the global economy since 2009. The health of the economy relates to whether or not Canadians have disposable income to buy boats. Sean Columbus advised there are 59 000 people employed by boating type organizations. The Committee was

also informed that dining was ranked as the top activity followed by retail shopping for boaters, going to the beach is also a popular activity for boating tourists. Sean Columbus advised there was useful information on the website discoverboating.ca.

Moved by Jerry Kucharchuk, Seconded by Mayor Margaret Quirk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0004

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the presentations given by Sean Columbus on The Boat Show and National Marine Manufacturers Association Canadian Recreational Boating Industry Breakfast.

Carried.

9. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS ON THE AGENDA - *None*

10. COMMUNICATIONS

(1) Budget Request Resolution GWAC

Moved by Scott Davidson, Seconded by Michele Potter

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0005

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the Budget Request Resolution.

Carried.

(2) Custom Cedar-Planked Vintage Canadian Passenger Vessel Ad on Kijiji

Councillor Sebo presented an idea he is working on for future consideration of a recommendation to Council by the Committee. The idea would be to acquire (possibly with partnerships) the boat in the advertisement or another similar sized boat. He suggested the function of the boat would be to take people out for tours. He advised more information is needed before the idea will come back to Committee.

Moved by Michele Potter, Seconded by Scott Davidson

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0006

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive Custom Cedar-Planked Vintage Canadian Passenger Vessel advertisement.

Carried.

(3) Comments from the Aquatic Plant & Weed Information Session

The Committee noted that the comments indicate weeds are a primary concern for residents. It was highlighted during the Aquatic Plant and Weed Information Session that weed growth is an indicator of a healthy lake.

The Committee advised they plan to have more information sessions in the future.

Moved by Mayor Margaret Quirk, Seconded by Scott Davidson

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0007

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the public comments from the Aquatic Plant & Weed Information Session.

Carried.

(4) Road salt makes 12 acres of Experimental Farm unusable to scientists (<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/road-salt-experimental-farm-1.3875766>)

The Committee discussed the concerns about road salt running off into the waterways. It was also noted that some municipalities are retrofitting parking lots to prevent salt from draining into the lake. Low-impact parking lots are expensive but help keep salt from watercourses.

Moved by Jerry Kucharchuk, Seconded by Scott Davidson

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0008

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the article, *Road Salt Makes 12 acres of Experimental Farm Unusable to Scientists*.

Carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Recognition of Regional Councillor Danny Wheeler request.

Committee members were given the late Regional Councillor Wheeler's background and asked to consider ways in which the Councillor could be honored. Examples of the types of projects that have been suggested were provided. The Committee was advised that Mossington is an important area to Danny's family.

Committee members and members of the public asked to forward their ideas if they have any by March 7th.

Moved by Scott Davidson, Seconded by Michele Potter

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0009

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the request Recognition of Regional Councillor Danny Wheeler.

Carried.

(2) Ports and Cruising Guide

The Committee was provided with blurbs for the different areas (Keswick, Willow Beach, Jackson's Point, Sibbald Point, and Virginia Beach) and were asked to review and make suggestions for updates, which will be discussed at the next meeting. It was noted there is a set printing cycle, but improvements could be made online instantly.

Moved by Scott Davidson, Seconded by Jerry Kucharchuk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0010

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee waive rules of procedure to let Steve Jacobson, a member of the audience, address the Committee regarding the Ports and Cruising Guide. He advised that the guide could attract people to the docks and could and promote businesses that will deliver to the docks.

Carried.

Committee members were asked to take home and consider material amendments for the next meeting.

Moved by Jerry Kucharchuk, Seconded by Michele Potter

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0011

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the information regarding the Ports and Cruising Guide.

Carried.

(3) Snowbirds coming to Barrie June 28, 2017

The Committee was advised that the 'Snowbirds' will be flying over Barrie on June 28, 2017, a good place to view the 'Snowbirds' from will be out on the lake.

(4) Waterfront Strategy

The town is actively working on a waterfront strategy which will be coming back to Council in the near future.

12. CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED - *None*

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

(1) Motion to Adjourn

Next meeting: March 13, 2017, 6:30 PM, the LINK

Moved by Scott Davidson, Seconded by Jerry Kucharchuk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0012

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee February 13, 2017, meeting be adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Carried.



Councillor Frank Sebo, Chair


C. Sarah A. Brislin, Committee
Services Coordinator