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Coming up at 9:30, it's this month's GRCA membership meeting. Here is what's the agenda:



MEETING PREVIEW: Grand River Conservation Membership Meeting f...

After a July break, the membership of the Grand River Conservation Authority will take part in a late August meeting in what looks like a pretty straightforward agenda with the usual financial and ...

<https://guelphpolitico.ca/2023/08/18/meeting-preview-grand-river-conservation-membe...>

Chair White calls the meeting to order.

He begins with the a few announcements about attending AMO, and bringing a note to the Minister about the status of Hamilton's rep on the board.

Agenda approved.

No Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

Minutes from last meeting approved.

Correspondances this month: one from Halton Region about this year's budget, and on from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation about Greenbelt Removals.

Ad-hoc Conservation Authorities Act Regulations Committee: August 16, 2023 – The most recent meeting of the committee reviewed the progress of discussions with municipalities about signing the new memorandum of understanding (MOU).

Feedback from staff at many of the member municipalities is that they're apparently ready to recommend approval of the new MOU, there are still a few points of concern, and it may require an appeal to the Ontario government to extend the deadline till the end of the year.

The committee approved a motion to direct staff to seek just such an extension. Report received as information.

Motion that Report Number GM-08-23-60 Cash and Investment Status – July 2023 be received as information approved.

Next, Financial Summary. A question about the next item technically, the Tree Nursery Plan and Tree Planting Fees. No one was charged the incorrect fees, it's just that the board published the wrong rates in the approved report.

Motion that the Financial Summary for the period ending July 31, 2023 be approved passes.

Motion that the 2023 GRCA Fee Policy: Fee Schedule 4 – Tree Nursery be approved retroactive to January 1, 2023 as amended; and approve the new Fee Policy: Fee Schedule 4 passes.

Motion that Report Number GM-08-23-55 – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation be received as information

Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines Regulation – Once a quarter, the GRCA staff release the stats for the all permits approved and issued under the Administration of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation Ontario Regulation 150/06. There were 238 permits issued in April, May and June, including seven for Guelph.

Motion that Report Number GM-08-23-59 – Review of proposed policies adapted from A Place to Grow and Provincial Policy Statement to form a new provincial planning policy instrument – Natural Heritage Policies Update be received as information.

Review of Proposed Policies Adapted from A Place to Grow and Provincial Policy Statement – The Province is developing a plan that will integrate both the Provincial Policy Statement and A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The Government of Ontario has been collecting feedback the last few months, and the GRCA noted the need to have prescriptive policies to protect natural heritage systems, and the need to protect flood plains even as growth pressures continue.

Both motions approved.

Next, Canadian Heritage River - 30th Anniversary Report. The GRCA's got to prepare this full report every decade, and this time they're highlighting the working the relationship with area First Nations peoples. Report received as information.

Current Watershed Conditions. Board member asks a question about capacity to hold water in reservoirs in large rainfall events. Staff say most reservoirs are at the upper levels now, and they balance that accord to seasons. Right now, there's flood control capacity.

Reservoirs are at their highest levels in June when it's driest, so right now there is capacity in the reservoir in case of a large rain event.

Another members asks if the CA is doing flood planning differently from 7-8 years ago. Staff say not really, there's been steady rain this year, and low intensity, and any high intensity were pretty localised.

Motion that Report Number GM-06-23-61 – Current Watershed Conditions as of August 15, 2023 be received as information approved.

Membership moves to go in-camera under section 239(2) of the Municipal Act in order to talk about a “Personal matter about one or more identifiable individuals.” Back in a bit!



Back from closed session. Seems like there's nothing to report, it was cut off in the live feed.



Member Shirton asks about treetop trekking, might make a good addition to park services. White says staff will take that away.

Meeting adjourned!



@threadreaderapp unroll please!

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