



Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
 Joint Advisory Board Meeting

June 15, 2006
 #2/06

∞

The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, Joint Advisory Board Meeting took place at the RVCA Chairman's 40th Anniversary Barbecue which included boardwalk tours, slide show of 40 years of pictures, commemorative tree planting, official opening of "Healthy Wetlands...Healthy Communities", RVC Foundation silent auction and presentation of the 2005 RVC Foundation Conservation Award, with old friends, good times, food and refreshments. The event was held between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2006, at the RVCA's Baxter Conservation Area. The event was attended by the following RVCA Advisory Board Members, RVC Foundation Members, RVCA Staff, Guests including Children and Student Volunteers. The barbecue was provided courtesy of our partners at the Monterey Inn Resort and Conference Centre, Ottawa.



RVCA celebrates the planting of its 3 millionth tree. Dan Cooper, RVCA; Olissia Stechishen, Wetland Habitat Fund; Rudy Dyck, RVCA; Charles Billington, RVCA; Patrick McMaunus, former RVCA Chairman; Jason Kelly, Monterey Inn Resort; John H. Miller, RVCA Chair; Mary Bryden, Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation; Brian Billings, Scouts Canada.



Jaime Downey and Julia Stratton explore at Baxter Pond

RVCA Opens New Boardwalk at Baxter Conservation Area

The RVCA opened its newest boardwalk at Baxter as part of the “Healthy Wetlands. . . Healthy Communities” Project. Funded by Ducks Unlimited and the Ministry of Natural Resources, “Healthy Wetlands. . . Healthy Communities” is working to restore wetlands and improve educational opportunities at several of Ontario’s wetland facilities. Baxter’s project includes a new boardwalk, viewing tower and series of interpretive signs. These improvements will allow more people to use, learn and experience the wonder of our wetlands. Since 1976, Baxter has been a leader in providing quality outdoor education programs. It has hosted over 100,000 students and more than 25,000 adults for outdoor education and recreation. For more information, contact PETER at 613-489-3592 or peter.goddard@rideauvalley.on.ca.



Jamie Fortune, Ducks Unlimited; Joffre Coté, OMNR;
John H. Miller, RVCA Chair.

Advisory Board Members Present:

Alan Arbuckle
Dwight Bennett
John Campbell
John Fischl
David Hahn
Allan McCallum
John H. Miller
Janet Stavinga
Cathy Willoughby

Chris Babcock
David Biggs
David Crowley
Ken Graham
Magda Kubasiewicz
Michael McEwen
Estella Rose
Wendy Stewart

Regrets:

Alison Conley
Maria McRae
Bradley Wing

Bill Guigue
Larry O’Grady

RVC Foundation Members Present:

Mary Bryden
Donrey Anne Hamilton
Dorothy Hearty
Lynn Kaplansky
Angela Maisonneuve
Pat MacGregor
Ralph Raina
Stephen Simmering

Chair
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director

Regrets:

Mark Andrews
Bryan Baker
Mary Surtees

Director
Director
Director

Student Volunteers:

Alex Bradburn

Cody Baird Perry

Staff:

Kellie Adams
Martha Bradburn
Dan Cooper
Terry Davidson
Karen Dolan
Diane Downey
Jim Ellis
Jan Gobey
Rajiv Gosine
Peter Hebert
Heather Hughes
Roz Kee
Patrick Larson

Ferdous Ahmed
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson
Cliff Craig
Jean Pierre Des Rosiers
Laurie Dool
Emily Duthie
Julie Forget
Peter Goddard
Tim Gray
Nazrul Howlader
Jason Hutton
Andrea Klymko
Matt Legassick

Charles Billington
Jocelyn Chandler
Matt Craig
Adam Dillon
Dale Downey
Rudy Dyck
John Garrah
Andrew Goodwin
Dell Hallett
Brent Hughes
Tracy Jolliffe
Jennifer Lamoureux
Don Maciver

Rosie MacLean
Adam McCreath
Erin Middleton
Brianna Peters
Bruce Reid
Mark Scott
Nancy Smith
Bond Strand
Colleen Vermeersch

Shelley Macpherson
Glen McDonald
Anne Clarisse Ndjou'ou
Joelle Pinsonnault
Asher Rivzi
Cathy Sentner
Amanda Soutar
Brian Stratton
Andrea Wood

Angela Maisonneuve
Nathan McGregor
Shane Olive
Lynn Preston
Jamie Saunders
Joan Sherwood
Hal Stimson
Greg Tupper
Randy Wright

Guests:

Chris Andrews
Julie Babcock
Julie Baumgarten
Ray Boyd
Mark Burnham
John & Ingrid Conley
Manon Des Rosiers
Jamie Duckett
Miv Fournier
Dennis Gobey
Mary Hegan
Vera Hrebaeka
Leanne Kane
Delmer Kelford
Doris Knox
Eric Lamoureux
Tanya Laviolette
Charles & Liz Long
Bob MacGregor
Derek Maheral
Uldine & Cam McNeil
Bruce McLennan
Christopher & Cherith Miller
Marjorie & Russ Mosher
Finian Paibomesai
Gib Patterson
Joanna Reed
Ed Rose
Michael Shindleheim
Olissia Stechishen
Ollie Stirajs
Rob Swanson
Ron and Joan Watson
Greg & Brenda Westwell
Mike Wolff
Sherri Wright

Renée Aspirot
Sonya Baird
Daphne Biggs
Helmut Brodmann
Karen Campbell
Joffre Cote
Frank Deguire
Brian Finch
Katherine Garrah
Bonnie Gray
Bruce Hood
Pauline Hughes
Mike Kavanagh
Anne Grace Kelly
Theresa Koch
Jane Larson
Martha Loewen
Denis Longpre
Jeanine Maciver
Catherine Major
Patrick McManus
Reg Melanson
Melissa & Gonzalo Miller-Gutierrez
Emily Myers
Rob & Stacey Passmore
Lindsay Penney
Carol Reid
Ted Ross
Andy Smith
Ron Stewart
Melanie Stratton
Paul Vermeersch
Reg & Shirley Weedmark
Jennifer Willoughby
Bob Woolham
Dan Youngs

Peter Au
Dave Ballinger
Brian Billings
Graham Brown
M. Antoinette Chéné
Kevin Cover
Charlie & Lee Doddridge
Jamie Fortune
J. Howard Gibbs
Rachel Grondin
Gwendolyn Hood
Henry (Hank) Jones
Kent Kee
Jason Kelly
Heather Kritsch
Julie Laviolette
Paul Lehman
Jennika Loughead
Dave & Lynette Mader
Kate McDonald
Tracy McLean
Bev Millar
Karen Miller
Dennis & Anda O'Grady
Katherine Parker
Anne Pequegnat
Shumaila Rizvi
Anda Rungis
Bill Smith
Bill & Kate Stevenson
Doug Struthers
Marion Watkins
Steve & Alexandra Wendt
John Willoughby
Sandi Hall & Guest
Kent Yuyitung

Children of Guests:

Emma Babcock
Mathew Babcock
Brynn Downey
Katelyn Garrah
Christopher Kee
Iain McDonald
Ashley Stratton

Benjamin Babcock
Leah Craig
Keenan Downey
Jacob Garrah
Justin Longpre
Alda O'Grady
Julia Stratton

Joseph Babcock
Jaime Downey
Jesse Duckett
Celeste Kee
Andrew McDonald
Mason Passmore
Liam Vermeersch

MINUTES

The RVCA Joint Advisory Board Meeting took place at 7 pm, during the RVCA Chairman's 40th Anniversary Barbecue, with the RVCA Advisory Board Members, several RVC Foundation Members and several RVCA staff in attendance.

1. Declaration of Interest - None

2. Approval of Minutes, Meeting , February 23, 2006

Motion 1

Moved by:

David Biggs

Seconded by:

Alan Arbuckle

That the minutes of meeting #1/06, February 23, 2006 be approved.

Motion Carried

3. Remarks from RVCA Chair and RVC Foundation Chair

John H. Miller, Chair welcomed RVCA members, RVCA staff, RVC Foundation members and guests to the 2006 RVCA Joint Advisory Board Meeting held at the P. J. McManus Interpretive Centre at Baxter Conservation Area.

He introduced Mary Bryden, RVC Foundation Chair, who shared the floor with John Miller.

RVCA John Miller recognized four former Chairs of the RVCA the 40th Anniversary event: Mr. Pat McManus from the former township of Bastard and South Burgess (Authority Chair from 1974-84), David Crowley from Perth (RVCA Chair from 1985-89 and 1992-93), Wendy Stewart from Ottawa and Upper Rideau Lake (Chair from 1994-1998) and Charles Long (RVCA Chair from 1999-2001). Also in attendance was former General Manager Ollie Stirajs, who steered the RVCA staff through the seventies and eighties.

Mary Bryden acknowledged the many years of working with Patrick McManus and Ollie Sirajs. Mary has been with us many years, having also attended the RVCA's 15th Anniversary. She directed our attention to the RVC Foundation silent auction taking place during the celebrations of the RVCA 40th Anniversary in the Patrick J. McManus Interpretative Centre and welcomed any donation made to the Foundation. The Foundation provides funding for many RVCA projects including the trees planted each year by the RVCA staff. Mary thanked us all for our past contributions.

John Miller acknowledged the presence of the following RVCA partners; Mark Burnham, Chair, Mississippi Valley Conservation, Paul Lehman, General Manager, Mississippi Valley Conservation, John Conley, former Advisory Board Member for Athens and Chair of the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, and Dennis O'Grady, General Manager, South Nation Conservation.

4. Proclamation of RVCA Day by the City of Ottawa

John Miller introduced Janet Stavinga, Vice-Chair of the RVCA Board of Directors and Councillor for the City of Ottawa, who presented RVCA with a framed plaque with the following inscription from Bob Chiarelli, Mayor, City of Ottawa:

WHEREAS, in March 1966, the City of Ottawa supported the establishment of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority to protect over 4,000 square kilometres from Upper Rideau Lake to the City of Ottawa;
and

WHEREAS, the RVCA is celebrating 40 years of conserving water resources, protecting people and property from flooding and erosion, improving wildlife habitat and enhancing natural diversity; and

MINUTES

WHEREAS, clean water, abundant fish and wildlife, natural shorelines and healthy sustainable ecosystems make the Rideau Valley special and worth protecting, and a healthy watershed is the greatest legacy to our children and key to our continued economic growth and future prosperity;

THEREFORE, I, Bob Chiarelli, Mayor of the City of Ottawa, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2006 as Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Day in the City of Ottawa.

John Miller thanked Janet Stavinga on behalf of RVCA staff and members for the message from the City of Ottawa.

5. 2005 RVCA Annual Report

John Miller presented the 2005 RVCA Annual Report to members.

6. 40th Anniversary Brochure

John Miller presented the brochure "40 Years of Conservation in the Rideau Valley, 1966 – 2006", which hits the highlights of the past 40 years of conservation work that the RVCA, as an alliance of municipalities, has accomplished.

7. RVC Foundation Annual Conservation Award Presentation

John Miller proceeded with information on the presentation of the RVC Foundation Annual Conservation Award. Each year this distinction is offered to an individual, business, non-profit group or community association doing outstanding voluntary work in improving the health of the Rideau Valley watershed during the year. Candidates can be working in tree planting, water quality protection, shoreline stewardship or any other field that contributes to supporting the environmental health of the valley.

John introduced Lynn Kaplansky, Director on the Foundation and member of the Conservation Award selection committee, to come forward.

This year, for the first time, there were two winners: Eric and Cheryl Ruhs of North Grenville and Brian and Les Billings of Balderson.

Unfortunately Mr. and Mrs. Ruhs were not available to accept their award and this will be presented to them at a later date. The Ruhs have built a new home on the banks of the Rideau in the Municipality of North Grenville. They have gone out of their way to maintain and encourage the natural shoreline buffer on their land. Despite the peer pressure to clean out all the cattails and put a new lawn right down to the water, they have resisted the temptation and maintained a beautiful and functional piece of natural Rideau riverbank. Sincere thanks to the Ruhs family for taking such good care of the health of their part of the Rideau watershed.

Mr. Brian Billings was in attendance to accept his award. Brian and Les Billings have been organizing, fundraising for and coordinating Scouts Canada tree planting for the past 20 years on the Code Road in Drummond/North Elmsley Township. When Les passed away a few years ago, son Brian picked up the torch and continued the family tradition of instructing children and teaching youngsters in the values of reforestation and natural landscape. RVCA is pleased to have worked with Brian and Les on many planting sites and offers our sincere gratitude to the family for the tens of thousands of trees they have been responsible for over the years. Mr. Billings accepted the award on behalf of Scouts Canada and extended his appreciation to Rudy Dyck, RVCA staff, and Joffre Cote, Ottawa Stewardship Council for the group efforts in support of youth & community members in tree planting and tending sites year after year.

8. New Business - none

9. Member Inquiries – none

MINUTES

John Miller took a few minutes to offer sincere appreciation to Mr Jason Kelly and his outstanding staff at the Monterey Inn Resort and Conference Centre, for catering the 40th Anniversary event entirely free of charge to our municipal partners. Monterey is Canada's first carbon neutral private company meaning that Mr Kelly offsets the entire carbon dioxide production at the hotel through energy reduction, alternative technology and tree planting with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. He has been recognized nationally and internationally as the leader in conservation in the hospitality industry and RVCA is delighted to have the Monterey as one of our most loyal and generous "Partners in Conservation". John called upon Jason Kelly to say a few words. He and his staff sincerely hope all guests enjoyed the food provided and were happy to be a part of the RVCA 40th Anniversary celebrations.

10. Adjournment

7:29 pm moved by Cathy Willoughby

Chair,
John H. Miller

Recording Secretary,
Joan Sherwood

