

RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
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APPROVED MINUTES

**Joint Rideau Valley
Conservation Authority
Advisory Board Meeting**

June 19, 2008

#2/08

Present:	Alan Arbuckle	Dwight Bennett
	John Campbell	David Crowley
	Rob Dunfield	Ken Graham
	Ed Hand	Andy Jozefowicz
	John H. Miller	Adrian Wynands
Regrets:	Chris Babcock	Glenn Brooks
	Steve Desroches	Clive Doucet
	Michael McEwen	Maria McRae
	Larry O'Grady	John Purdon
	Estella Rose	Cathy Willoughby
	Bradley Wing	Larry York
Guests:	Robert Dick	Speaker
	Jonathan Dick	Son of Robert Dick
	David Biggs	Former Board Member
	Daphne Biggs	Guest
	Magda Kubasiewicz	Former Board Member
	Sarah Andre	Friends of Foley
	Denise Doucet	Friends of Foley
	Mike Fay	Friends of Foley
	Brin Jones	Friends of Foley
	Jocelyn Jones	Friends of Foley
	Barry Shostak	Friends of Foley
Staff:	Charles Billington	Jim Ellis
	Dell Hallett	Joan Sherwood
	Rebecca Whitman	

Prior to the meeting, there was a guided walk on the newly-constructed "Mobility Trail" and a tour of the Children's Nature Discovery Centre with the Foley Mountain Manager, Rebecca Whitman. Both of these features are the result of the hard work on the part of the "Friends of Foley".

1. Declaration of Interest

None

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

Motion 1 **Moved by:** Andy Jozefowicz
 Seconded by: Ken Graham

That the RVCA Joint Advisory Board Meeting Agenda, dated June 19, 2008, be approved.

Motion Carried

3. **Consent Agenda**

Motion 2 **Moved by:** Andy Jozefowicz
 Seconded by: Ken Graham

That Agenda item #4, Approval of Minutes, February 28, 2008, be approved by mutual consent of the Board.

Motion Carried

4. **Approval of Minutes, Meeting , February 28, 2008**

Approved on Consent

5. **Introductions**

Alan Arbuckle, Chair, asked the members, staff and guests to introduce themselves.

6. **Chair's Remarks**

Alan Arbuckle, Chair welcomed RVCA Board members, RVCA staff, and guests to the Joint Advisory Board Meeting held at the Foley Mountain Conservation Area.

Alan stated that, RVCA staff, are now settled into the Rideau Valley Conservation Centre new office headquarters. Some finishing touches are still required but will be phased in over time.

Mississippi-Rideau Source Water Protection Committee is now in place and the Draft Terms of Reference are available. A series of Open Houses have taken place in the Mississippi and Rideau watersheds to introduce the Draft Terms of Reference, provide information about local municipal drinking water and the Clean Water Act.

On May 31st, RVCA hosted a Municipal Drain Information Day in cooperation with Mississippi Valley Conservation, South Nation Conservation, City of Ottawa and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Information was provided from municipal, provincial and federal agencies

on what a drain is, who looks after them, what are their benefits, how they are classified and how they are regulated. The event was well attended and considered a successful exercise. Alan congratulated Dell Hallett for coordinating this event.

7. **Recognition – David Biggs and Magda Kubasiewicz**

Alan Arbuckle introduced David Biggs and Magda Kubasiewicz, former members of the RVCA Board of Directors appointed by the City of Ottawa. He thanked both for their time and effort and contribution to the Board and wished them well in what their future brings. David and Magda were presented with a gift in appreciation of their efforts.

Magda took a few minutes to share some thoughts. She stated that she appreciated the opportunity to be a part of the Board of Directors. Magda quoted two excerpts from a letter she sent to the City of Ottawa regarding her appointment, which characterized her involvement.

"What do I take home from the table? Lots. I am grateful to my fellow Board members for the many things I have learned over the past two years. Negotiation strategies, proactive communication and awareness of stories in the media, realities of operating a dairy farm, recognition of partner agencies, persistent return to fiscal bottom lines, attention to details in minutes of meetings; these are but a few examples. Along with a reminder to take the ups and downs in stride. So it is a multi-way exchange."

"I offer[ed] a citizen's role on the Board because I care... This starts from genuine concern about water management and protection of the environment ... It grows with a sense of affiliation and community pride -- the people whom I have met who work towards taking care of the Rideau watershed are truly dedicated and genuinely nice!"

David Biggs commented that his very first meeting with RVCA took place at Foley Mountain and that he enjoyed working with the members, Board of Directors and RVCA staff over the years. He stated that the RVCA does exceptional work and it was his pleasure to be a part of the Board.

8. **Speaker – Robert Dick, “Can Outdoor Lighting Harm the Environment”**

The Chair, Alan Arbuckle introduced the evening’s speaker, Robert Dick , a Professional Engineer, who provided us with information on “Can Outdoor Lighting Harm the Environment”. Mr. Dick presented a slide show entitled “The Problems and Solutions” and directed us to his website, www.starlight-theatre.ca for more information.

Mr. Dick stated he has been interested in Astronomy for over 45 years and currently teaches at Carleton University. He has his own observatory at

Rideau Ferry. Lights have an impact on the environment of wildlife, bugs, birds, fish, plants and humans and dark is just as important as light.

Important to human health is a day/night cycle called the circadian rhythm and the timely release of the hormone melatonin. Animal behaviour can be affected by artificial lighting which changes the night time behaviour of species. Shoreline lighting that illuminates the waterway impacts the river and lakes.

Robert Dick, stated that it is important to note “you can see better with less light” and by reducing the glare. As stewards of the land, we are responsible and by keeping the lights off, the environment will appreciate it.

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada has created a document “Guidelines for Outdoor Lighting in Dark Sky Preserves”. Under development are Urban Star Parks, which are areas with little or no light, inviting the public to see the stars and promoting the reduction of light pollution. Mr. Dick provided a demonstration of passive markers called pucks which can be used to mark the edges of paths, etc.

The City of Ottawa has created a document called “Right of Way Lighting Policy” (October 10, 2007), an 82 page document available on Mr. Dick’s website. The City is leading the way by using less energy in night time lighting.

Robert Dick presented us with some guidelines for outdoor lighting using simple light shields, motion detectors, full cut off lighting, etc.

Alan Arbuckle thanked Mr. Robert Dick for his very interesting topic on light pollution.

9. Member Inquiries

John H. Miller asked if we had solved the problem at the new office headquarters of turning off the lights at night and the answer is yes. It has been taken care of.

10. New Business none

11. Upcoming Meetings

a) RVCA Board of Directors, June 26, 2008

Alan Arbuckle, Chair, thanked the Board Members, RVCA Staff and Guests for attending the Joint Advisory Board Meeting.

12. **Adjournment**

8:10 pm moved by Ken Graham and seconded by Ed Hand.

Alan Arbuckle
Chair

Joan Sherwood
Recording Secretary

Saved as: Joint Advisory Board Meeting Minutes June 19 2008 Approved