

ENVIRONMENT HALIBURTON! Annual General Meeting

July 20, 2018, 7pm

HHOA Fish Hatchery
6712 Gelert Road, Haliburton, ON

Minutes

Board Members Present:Carolynn Coburn, Susan Hay, Eric Lilius, Terry Moore, Shirley Morden, Heather Ross, Ryan Sisson

Regrets: David Blackie, Kaarina Blackie, Margaret Dobrzensky

1. *We wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is traditional territory that has been used for generations by First Nations for fishing, hunting and gathering and we honour their care of it.*

2. Welcome

Carolynn Coburn welcomed members and guests and suggested they look at the display materials.

3. Approval of agenda

Moved by Terry Moore, seconded by Jean Tyler that the agenda be adopted.

Carried

4. Adoption of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of April 1, 2017

Moved by Terry Moore, seconded by Jean Tyler that the minutes be adopted.

Carried

5. Consideration of the Financial Statements of 2017

The Treasurer, Eric Lilius, tabled the Treasurer's Report, attached

Moved by Jean Tyler, seconded by Shirley Morden that the Treasurer's Report be adopted.

Carried

6. Annual Report

President Carolynn Coburn tabled the Annual Report, attached.

Guest Presentation, Gould's Creek Project, 2018-2019, Karl Weise

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association in co-operation with several other groups is working to restore brook trout in Gould's Creek, Barnum Creek and Barnham Lake. As the original presenter was unavailable, Karl Weise, the project manager, at the last moment, ably made the presentation. His presentation was followed by a Q&A session.

7. Election of Directors

Shirley Morden Assumed the position of chair during the election of the Board of Directors.

Environment Haliburton! By-laws require two-year alternating terms for Board members. Directors Susan Hay, Terry Moore, Heather Ross and Ryan Sisson are continuing their two year terms. The following nominations are supported by the current Board.

Moved by Jean Tyler and seconded by John Smith that the nomination of Carolynn Coburn, Margaret Dobrzensky, Eric Lilius and Oliver Zielke for a two-year term as director be adopted.

Carried

Moved by Susan Hay, seconded by Eric Lilius that the nomination of Juliane VanLieshout for a one-year term as director be adopted.

Carried

Environment Haliburton! offers is sincere thanks and gratitude to Kaarina Blackie, Dave Blackie and Shirley Morden who are stepping off the Board of Directors.

8. Feed-back – Members and Guests

Three issues emerged from the lively discussion on possible directions for Environment Haliburton!:

- Septic re-inspection
- Short-term cottage rentals
- Corporate accountability for climate change

9. Adjournment

Moved by Juliane VanLieshout that the Annual General Meeting be adjourned at 8:10pm.

ENVIRONMENT HALIBURTON!
ANNUAL REPORT for the year 2017 - 2018

The preparation of our Annual Report is an opportunity to recognize just how much work this organization does in a year. It is a credit to the board of directors, each of whom is active in the community in other ways, in addition to working on EH! projects. This is our current board of directors. Please stand and be known. David Blackie, Kaarina Blackie, Margaret Dobrzensky, Susan Hay, Eric Lilius, Terry Moore, Shirley Morden, Heather Ross and Ryan Sisson.

We wish to acknowledge three members of the board who have completed their board terms: Kaarina Blackie, David Blackie and Shirley Morden. All three of them are lifelong advocates for a healthy planet. We will miss them and we hope each of them will consider re-joining the board in the future.

One of our founding members, Mieke Foster, has resigned from the board this year. Mieke's contribution to EH! has been invaluable and long-lasting. Thanks to her profound knowledge of waste management, we are all more educated. As notetaker, Mieke gave us meeting summaries that were both extensive and most interesting. As membership co-ordinator she left us with wonderful and complete files. We will always be grateful for her masterful organizing checklist. To honour Mieke and her contribution, we have gifted her with an acre of the Dahl Forest. We miss Mieke and will welcome her back, hopefully in the not too distant future. Thank you, Mieke.

Environment Haliburton! has joined with the Minden Hills Cultural Centre to continue our work informing people of the reality and consequences of climate change. The Working Group and Laurie Carmount, Minden Hills Cultural Centre Curator, created the Climate Change Corner in Nature's Place. One wall of the corner is a permanent display focussing on the science and local consequences of climate change. The second wall focuses on climate change issues of immediate importance; this summer the focus is on "Pricing carbon". As this is a first for Environment Haliburton! we would appreciate any feed back you can provide.

We have continued to hold monthly Enviro-Cafés. The Working Group has brought many interesting speakers. A number of the topics were related to climate change. Since the beginning of 2017, we have had speakers on the tar sands, biochar, hydro rates, septic systems, zero waste legislation, ecological stewardship using social media, sustainable communities, alternatives to capitalism, passive buildings, extreme weather forecasting, emergency preparedness, taxing carbon, reducing food waste, local climate change action plans, and the effect of the changing climate on aquatic ecosystems.

The Food Waste and Composting Working Group continues to study the food waste problem. They have developed a community presentation about the merits and mechanics of composting. The group delivered the first presentation to the community this past Spring, and will continue to work with service clubs and other interested groups to raise awareness and encourage action.

Another Working Group planned the Summer Keynote Speaker and Fundraising Event in July 2017. The Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, Dianne Saxe, spoke about climate change, which she calls the *Climate Crisis*. Prior to her public talk, the Commissioner invited the reeves and mayors of the four municipalities to a luncheon at Heather Lodge, where they were able to talk together with her. For the evening event, and as in 2016, we invited other community organizations to set up tables at the community centre to promote their activities to those attending.

We have already held our Summer Speaker event for 2018. Brian Kelly, Sustainability Manager for the Region of Durham, described the process followed there to develop a community climate adaptation and mitigation plan. We were pleased that a number of local politicians and municipal employees attended his talk, and that the talk was described in detail in yesterday's *Minden Times*.

Environment Haliburton!, together with the Glebe Park and Museum Committee and the Halls and Hawk Lakes Property Owners Association hosted a U-Links project last year. Students from Trent University produced a booklet for property owners about beech bark disease, called *Dead Tree Standing*. We shared the costs of producing the booklet, and have distributed it at public events.

As part of the Blue Dot campaign, we met with our local Member of Parliament, Jamie Schmale, last fall, to ask him to support incorporation of the right to a healthy environment into the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA)*. Just this month, Mr. Schmale invited us to meet him again, to discuss the recommendations made by the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development.

In December, we learned that the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) was holding a hearing about the application from Canadian Nuclear Laboratories for a ten-year licence to run Chalk River Laboratories. After studying the issues, we submitted a letter of objection and a request to appear at the hearing. This we did, in January. At the recent meeting with Mr. Schmale, we learned that he is the Conservative Party's Shadow Minister of Natural Resources, and that the nuclear file is part of that ministry, so he was quite interested to hear that we had intervened at the hearing.

We also sent a letter to CNSC concerning the handling of the nuclear material at Rolphton, Ontario, and we sent a letter to the Prime Minister and several federal ministers objecting to the expansion of the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain pipeline.

We continue to connect with our community in various ways. Since our last General Meeting, EH! has launched the new website. We put up posters; we have a Yahoo group, and a Facebook account. We collect email addresses at enviro-cafés, and notify people of upcoming events by email and in the local media. We gave two talks at the Haliburton County Fair in 2017. We set up our display at the Land Trust's Bioblitz at Dahl Forest, at the Farmers Markets, and at Canada Day in Minden. We have been interviewed on Canoe-FM. One of our members, Judy Paul, started a book club. We are working on digitizing our archives, so that they will be accessible over the internet.

In the past year EH! has begun to work more closely with the municipalities through their environment committees. We do this in various ways. Algonquin Highlands has invited EH! as an organization to join its environment committee. One of our members sits on the Minden Hills committee and we attend the Dysart environment committee meetings. Through these closer links we hope to persuade our local governments to begin the absolutely necessary work to counter climate change.

Thank you to Juliane vanLieshout for maintaining our financial records. Finally, thank you to the membership for supporting Environment Haliburton! – by paying a membership fee, by joining a Working Group, and by coming to our events.

Environment Haliburton! and its predecessor, the County Advisory Committee for the Environment (CACE), has been active in the Haliburton community for 20 years. We advocate, we educate, we support others. With the continuing support of our membership we will continue to work for the protection and rehabilitation of the wonderful Haliburton environment.

Treasurer's Report for 2017

We started 2017 with a bank balance of \$3,190.83 and ended the year with \$3,937.95.

In 2017, income from memberships was \$1,218.45. This is a marked increase from 2016 when membership income was \$749.55.

Membership fees and the Environmental Commissioner's summer talk were the biggest sources of revenue.

Our major expenditures were associated with insurance, hall rentals and advertising.

We have to give special thanks and appreciation to Juliane vanLieshout, who is our bookkeeper.