

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
June 8, 2019**

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1. Liz Calvin welcomed the members of Green Durham Association (GDA) and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Liz provided a brief history of the Pine Grove Church dating back to 1868 and that prior to its existence, the lands were the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and others.
2. A Lori Wilder was appointed as secretary for the meeting as proposed by A. Conyers, seconded by J. Miller.
3. The minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting (AGM) as previously distributed by email and made available on the website were tabled. S. Fleming proposed accepting the minutes as written, seconded by G. Vernon.
4. A review of the 2018/19 year was presented:
  - **Stewardship**
    - A significant change as it affects GDA has been made at TRCA, ie, Mike Bender is no longer with them. Mike provided an important link between the two organizations relating to the East Duffins Headwaters (EDH) properties etc. We will miss him.
    - TRCA shared position – Ranald McKay continues in this role and is the local go-to person relating to trail maintenance, fallen trees, etc.
    - Restructuring is also occurring at the provincial level. GDA has sent submissions relating to Bill 66. We are responding to proposed changes in legislation and providing comment when asked.
    - Volunteer agreement – An agreement was reached in 2018 with TRCA which allowed for GDA to take the lead relating to trail maintenance, mowing, and other issues on the trail network.
      - 25 individuals have signed up as volunteers resulting in the removal of 21 trees, snipping and clipping of branches, and nearly 1000 kg of garbage being cleared.
      - With the increase in usage of the Wilder Forest, damage to the shared driveway required attention. Lafarge donated the gravel

and M. Chen, one of our volunteers repaired the potholes. Thank you Michael.

- Over the past years GDA has funded the mowing of the trails in EDH. 37 kms require mowing. With the assistance of the volunteers, the amount of time required to mow these trails has been reduced from 7.5 days to 4 days. A great team effort.
- EDH Committee – Members of the various trail user groups are represented on this committee.
- **Policy**
  - While the conversations have been on-going for many, many years, there does appear to be some positive movement on the Tannenbaum lands. Changes at the municipal and provincial governments have opened the discussion for potential opportunities; an encouraging sign.
  - GDA continues to advocate for the connection to Rouge National Urban Park, particularly as it relates to the communities of Seaton and Claremont. The connecting gateway would require approximately 900 acres.
- **Public Access**
  - In partnership with the cycling community, the cost of the Johnson lease is being shared 50/50. GDA provided our charitable status to DMBA this past year as they raised funds to purchase a stolen piece of snow maintenance equipment.
  - Signage project – Plaques for 46 posts have been requested and paid. Revenue to date is \$11,800 with expenses of \$5,700.
  - Map project – the final strip map of the eastern section is ready for print and should be released by the end of June. While not a money maker, we are starting to see more revenue being generated. Maps are for sale at several local businesses.
  - Author event – GDA and Liz Calvin were invited to participate in a book event at Second Wedge, promoting adventure and maps.
  - GDA is represented on several committees:
    - EDH Stewardship committee – TRCA
    - Stewardship committee – LSRCA
    - Field Office
    - Goodwood Tract Project
    - Uxbridge Trails Committee
    - Uxbridge Naturally
    - Regional Watershed Alliance
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5. A. Conyers presented the 2018/19 financial statements. As of the year ending May 31, 2019 the revenue was \$55,143 with expenses of \$111,242. The significant difference in revenue related to the Trillium Grant received in 2018 which was paid out in 2019. GDA continues to match the donations made to LCCW to a maximum of \$4,000. A motion to accept the financial statements as presented was made by G. Vernon, seconded by M. Garland. Carried.

6. D. Taylor proposed the following members for Directors and called for nominations to close and accept them for 2019/20 Directors. M. Willoughby called for the close of nominations as presented, seconded by L. Laflamme. Carried.

- Brian Buckles
- Liz Calvin
- Adam Conyers
- Wendy Dobson
- Rob Ferguson
- Susan Fleming
- Michie Garland
- Bob Henderson
- John McCutcheon
- Michael Tucker (honorary)
- Geoffrey Vernon

7. Priorities for 2019/20 were presented:

- **Stewardship**
  - On-going TRCA relationship as it relates to the community liaison and various projects.
  - The volunteer program for trail maintenance will continue. Lee Fisher has accepted the position of Trail Outreach Coordinator.
  - TRCA will continue with the mowing – a generous donation from New Roots to the Future has made this possible. We will continue to look at ways of further reducing the mowing costs.
- **Public Access**
  - Dagmar/Johnson lease
  - Promote our maps
  - Financial support (contribution of \$14,000) and volunteer support for TransCanada Trail signage etc.
  - Explore the possibility of electronic maps
  - Work with the various user groups on promotion and maintenance
  - As boardwalks, benches, sign posts etc. are required, through the generosity of I. Gillespie, much of the wood will be provided
- **Policy**
  - Transfer of provincial lands – on-going
  - Funding of conservation lands.

- Maintain support for LCCW with a matching program.
  - Possible partnering with various groups to host an all candidates meeting on the environment
  - On-going rehabilitation progress on aggregate sites – great progress is being made on the Regan Pit. What further role should GDA take?
  - **Administrative and Other**
    - Website hosting
    - Engagement strategy
    - Fundraising – explore methods to engage more of the trail users, including the ability to text donation dollars.
    - Sign post project
8. The 2019/20 budget was presented indicating anticipated revenue of \$30,500 and disbursements of \$34,000. S. Fleming proposed a motion to accept the budget as presented, seconded by M. Willoughby. Unanimously carried.
9. Jim Miller of Land Over Landings provided an update on the Ag study they commissioned and the federal lands. The discussion centered around the remaining 9600 acres. Recently the Region of Durham passed a motion in favour of an aerotropolis in North Pickering. A renewed effort is underway to counter this notion.
10. Heather Reid of Ontario Farmland Trust presented an overview of the Farmland Trust. Their area of focus is outreach and education, policy development, and farmland easement agreements. Since 2009 they have listed 13 farm properties representing 1200 acres under easement agreements. A brief Q&A followed.
11. A motion by L. Calvin, seconded by J. Miller was made for the adjournment of the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.