



MEETING NOTES
Agricultural Advisory Committee
Meeting AAC-02-16
March 9, 2016
10:00 am to 12:00 noon
John Hix Building – Boardroom

Attendance:

Chair, Jim Partridge Simcoe County FA
Vice Chair, Ted Van den Hurk, Christian Farmers Association
Heather Foster Dufferin County FA
Bernard Pope, Ontario Farmland Preservation
Hugh Simpson, Grey County FA

Regrets:

Councillor Donna Jebb, NVCA Member
Danny deBoer, Simcoe County FA
Colin Elliott, Simcoe County FA
Ed Pridham, North Simcoe Soil and Crop Association
Deputy Mayor Gail Ardiel, NVCA Board Member
Councillor Ron Orr, NVCA Member

Staff Attendance:

D. Gayle Wood, Chief Administrative Officer,
Byron Wesson, Director, Land, Education and Stewardship Services
Shannon Stephens, Healthy Waters Program Coordinator

Chair Partridge welcomed the members to the meeting. He advised that there was no quorum; however, the meeting would proceed as the Agricultural Award nominee projects need consideration for the NVCA`s Evening of Thanks on April 28, 2016.

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the Agricultural Advisory Committee AAC-02-16 dated March 9, 2016 was accepted.

2. Declarations of conflict and pecuniary interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary or conflict of interest.

3. Receipt of Meeting Notes

The Agricultural Advisory Committee met on February 12, 2016. As there was no quorum, the Minutes from this meeting were received but could not be approved.

4. Agricultural Award – List of Projects

The Committee reviewed the criteria for the selection of the Agricultural Award and had further discussion on two criteria:

- Is the landowner a valid farmer; and
- Does the farmer have a valid registration number?

It was agreed that the Committee approved these criteria at the February meeting and will evaluate the projects with these criteria in mind. The Committee also agreed that for the 2017 award the following should be considered:

- Should projects with a tenant be considered?
- A criteria for involving the community or the education value of the project should be considered; and
- The financial cost of the project should not `tip the scales` in favour of a project winning the award.

Given that Project #4 was a "tenant based project", it was eliminated from consideration in 2016.

The Chair asked Shannon Stephens, NVCA`s Healthy Waters Program Coordinator to review the three remaining short listed projects and the Committee members carefully considered each project. Although there was no quorum, the members offered the following recommendation for the NVCA`s Board of Directors to consider:

RESOLVED THAT: Project 2 A and B as well as Project 5 jointly receive the 2016 Agricultural Award.

5. Naming of the Award

Bernard Pope recommended that the Award be named the ***Agricultural Stewardship Award***. The Committee agreed that the word stewardship would resonate better in the agricultural community than the word Conservation Award.

The Committee offered the following recommendation to the NVCA's Board of Director's consideration:

RESOLVED THAT: the name for the 2016 award be the ***Agricultural Stewardship Award***.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in June 2016. Staff will contact the Chair and Committee members to determine the best meeting date in June as well as agenda topics.

7. Adjourn

On a recommendation by Ted Van den Hurk the meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.

Jim Partridge, AAC Chair

D. Gayle Wood, NVCA, CAO