

Ontario Invasive Plant Council

October 21, 2013

Annual General Meeting

5:15 – 6:15pm

Summary Notes

Board Members Attending:

Ken Towle, Vice-Chair & Conservation Ontario

Owen Williams, Chair & Member at Large

Iola Price, Member at Large

Lindsay Barr, Royal Botanical Gardens

Diana Mooij, Canadian Food Inspection Agency

Karen Hartley, OMNR – Parks

John Urquhart, Ontario Nature

Jeanine West, Landscape Ontario

Michael Irvine, OMNR – Forest Health and Silviculture

Gilford McIlraith (member of the public)

Hayley Anderson, OIPC staff

Danielle Tassie, OIPC staff

Board Member Regrets

Dawn Sucee, Secretary/Treasurer & Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters

Dr. Robert Simmons, Ontario Horticultural Association

Larry McDermott, Plenty Canada

Jennifer Gibb, City of Toronto

Hugh Berges, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Andrew Pitek, Ontario Forestry Association

Dan Kraus, Nature Conservancy of Canada

John Benham, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association/ Wellington County

Elizabeth Wright, Ministry of Natural Resources

Paula Berketo, Ministry of Transportation

Sandy Smith, University of Toronto

Agenda items

- Review items from last meeting
- Staff updates
- New secretary/treasurer
- Constitution and Bylaws
- Other items

1. Review Items From Previous Meeting

ACTION: All board members to send our comments on the MNR Discussion Paper (final draft) around to their organizations.

ACTION: Hayley to attach final discussion paper comments to the minutes from this meeting

Board members submitted comments on the MNR Discussion Paper, and OIPC submitted a response to the MNR through the Environmental Registry.

ACTION: Hayley to ensure that the sound bites are discussed at the Communications Committee meeting

The sound bites, or Q&As were discussed at the Communications meeting. These will be a resource for staff, board and volunteers to refer to for media interviews, presentations etc.... Danielle drafted the content and the Communications committee members provided feedback.

ACTION: Danielle to send the updated Q&As to the Board (attached).

ACTION: ALL BOARD MEMBERS! We need ideas for ISC project proposals for 2014/15 by OCTOBER 4th!!

Board members provided suggestions and OIPC submitted 8 preliminary proposals for funding to the ISC (totally over \$200,000).

2. **Introduction to new board member Jeanine West.** Jeanine is our new board member representing Landscape Ontario.

3. Staff Updates

Hayley's Staff Update:

Hayley has been very busy with the Invasive Species Centre funding proposals, planning the AGM, and submitting the final report to the Ontario Community Environment Fund (OCEF) for the Water Chestnut Control Project taking place in Voyageur Provincial Park.

Danielle's Staff Update:

Danielle attended the Ontario Vegetation Management Association's AGM along with Joe Halloran to present on the Clean Equipment Protocol.

She met with the Ontario Phragmites Working Group, in their first meeting as an official OIPC committee, and set them up with members' access to the OIPC website and Forum.

Ongoing projects include: Look Before You Leave expansion, Best Management Practices, training modules, website and social media (note: there is now an online donation button accessible from each page of the OIPC website).

4. New Secretary/Treasurer

Dawn is no longer able to serve as the Secretary/Treasurer. The board needs to elect a new one as soon as possible. Government staff are unable to sit on the Executive, and OFAH staff are no longer to act as Treasurer. According to the by-laws this does not *have* to be a dual position.

The other 2 Executive positions are also open for nominations. Both Owen and Ken have served their terms as President and Vice-President. Their terms end December 2013.

Action: Hayley to send out a call for nominations for Treasurer/Secretary, President and Vice-President to Board members.

Action: Hayley to check on the dates that other Board members' terms are up.

Action: Hayley to add to November's agenda a discussion of election and terms of service.

Action: Hayley to include a paragraph in the By-laws that clarifies how the Executive is put into place.

5. Constitution and By-laws

The OIPC Constitution was sent to lawyer Ian Attridge, and he has provided comments on the document (attached).

Action: All Board members are to review and provide feedback by **Friday November 15th, 2013**. The next meeting will be dedicated to discussing the constitution.

6. Other Items

There was a discussion on how to engage new Board members and encourage involvement by Board members who have not been active or attending meetings to ensure that their sector is represented.

Action: Ken will contact members who have not been active for a long period to determine if they wish to occasionally designate the task to another person, or step down and recommend a replacement, or have OIPC find one.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday November 21st, 2013 10am-11am – Conference Call

Call in: 1-800-669-6180

Access: 302035