

**Annual General Meeting
Thursday, March 22, 2018
MINUTES**

1. Introduction

President, David Taylor, welcomed a full house of over 75 members and guests to the AGM for 2017. He introduced the 2017 Board and Advisory Panel as well as welcoming local council members and staff. Jim Graff, Judy Brown, Forbes Symon and Grant Machan attended for the Town of Perth; Jennifer Dickson and Noelle Reeves attended on behalf of Tay Valley Township.

2. Approval of the Agenda for 2017 AGM

Moved by Karen Hunt, seconded by Richard Schooley, that the Agenda for the 2017 AGM be approved. Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes of 2016 AGM

Moved by Colin Stephenson and seconded by Larry Bowen that the 2016 AGM Minutes be approved. Carried.

4. Review of 2017 Activities

David reviewed some of the Friends activities for 2017 including the Stewart Park Music Festival; Watershed Discovery Day; the Watershed Guardian Bursary awarded to Nick Nadeau of Smiths Falls; presentation of the Annual Environmental Awards for 2016 to the organizers of Kidfish, the Lanark County Stewardship Council; as well as a tie between the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust Wild Child Initiative and the Lanark, Leeds and Grenville Heath Unit/Dr. Paul Stewart Nature for Life Program; a very successful 'Canada 150 Paddle the Tay' which saw 37 paddlers in 24 canoes and kayaks; partnering with the Town of Perth and RVCA in replacing the Haggart Dam with a more fish friendly rocky ramp; and partnering with the Lanark Lodge Council of Family and Friends, Lanark County Municipal Trails Corporation and RVCA to provide an interpretive sign for the Tay River Pathway.

5. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Marion Letts, reviewed the Financial Report for 2017, which was projected on the overhead screen (details also available in the Annual Report). Moved by David Kroetsch and seconded by Richard Schooley that the 2017 Financial Report be accepted. Carried.

Proposed Budget for 2018

Richard Schooley explained where the Friends money comes from and where it goes. He reviewed the list of grants that the Friends have received over the years. Between 2004 and

2017, the Friends had flow-through money totalling \$391,363, used for watershed protection and promotion. Marion explained the proposed budget for 2018. In light of our proposed budget and the annual need to access our savings, Richard proposed that we increase our membership fees, starting in January 2019, to \$20 single and \$40 for family. Moved by Larry Bowen and seconded by Jim Graff that the membership fee be increased and the 2018 budget be accepted. Carried.

6. Proposed Program for 2018

David gave a summary of the Friends proposed program for 2018 which includes the community outreach and education activities of Stewart Park Music Festival, Watershed Discovery Day, Water Guardian Bursary, Perth and District Heritage Fair, Kid Fish, Source Water Protection Panels, and Environmental Awards. The Friends also plan to participate in Lake Links 2018, monitor the Bobs Lake/Bolingbroke Dam reconstruction, continue formation of Tay Net waterway monitoring network, update the association's branding and display materials as well as refreshing our website and possibly adding a Facebook page.

7. 2017 Environmental Awards

Awards were presented to Dianne Czerwinski & Nicola Oddy (Tay River Pathway) for 'Contribution to the Tay Watershed; to Kat Kavanagh (Water Rangers) for 'Contribution to Water Resources at the provincial, national or international level; to Bob Argue (Developing Climate Change Plans) for Contribution to the General Environment.

8. Election of 2018 Board of Directors and Appointment of Advisory Panel

Richard proposed the slate of Directors for the 2018 Board. There were no nominees from the floor. He also proposed that David Taylor be appointed President for 2018, seconded by Jim Graff. Carried. Richard then read the appointment of the Advisory Panel. He also mentioned the Board is seeking new members for the panel. David commended Richard for his involvement with the Friends since 1995. David welcomed the new Board, thanked the 2017 Board for all their work and thanked the Advisory Panel for their expertise over the years. He also thanked Colin Stephenson for all his ongoing work on the Friends website.

9. Motion to adjourn

Moved by Forbes Symon, seconded by Richard Schooley that the business portion of the 2017 AGM be adjourned.

Presentations:

- Martin Czarski, Watershed Ecologist, RVCA 'Tay Watershed Report Update – Status'.
- Darryl Whitehead, External Relations Manager, Parks Canada, Ontario Waterways Unit, Peterborough 'Bobs Lake Dam – Plans for 2018 Dam Rebuild' plus 'Review of Water Management Related to the Dam.'
- Grant Machan, Director Environmental Services 'Town of Perth Update on Environmental Programs – a Review of programs for Perth's water treatment plant, lagoon operation and Haggard Island Rocky Ramps.'