

**Ontario Land Trust Alliance
2016 Annual General Meeting
October 20, 2016**

YMCA Geneva Park Conference Centre, Orillia, Ontario

1. Call to Order and Welcoming Remarks

Chair Hendren called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. He welcomed and thanked all for attending the 2016 AGM.

2. Adoption of Rules of Order

Resolution AGM 2016-01: That, the Annual General Meeting for the fiscal year 2015/2016 of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance be conducted in accordance with the modern edition of Robert's Rules of Order. (*Warren – Haliburton Highlands Land Trust; Elliott – The Kensington Conservancy*)

CARRIED

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Two motions were brought forward by Barnett, Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy. These will be added to the agenda after item #7.

Resolution AGM 2016-02: That, the agenda for the Annual General Meeting for the fiscal year 2015/2016 of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance be adopted as amended (*Shaw – Ontario Farmland Trust; Clifford – Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust*)

CARRIED

4. Adoption of the Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting

Resolution AGM 2016-03: That, the minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance be adopted as presented. (*Barnett– Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy; Walmer – Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust*)

CARRIED

5. Audited Financial Statements for the year 2015/2016

Treasurer Lougheed referred to the report provided in the agenda. He reviewed the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Operations and Statement of Cash Flows. The net cash decrease was less than prior year. OLTA is in good shape with grants for the coming year. It has a new executive director and is a sound financial position. Question regarding the increase in Accounts Receivable which is mostly outstanding grant funding. Another question regarding the membership dues in deferred revenue. This has been the practice for the last few years. The membership revenue is collected prior to the start of the fiscal year so that the funds are available for the start of the year. The auditor has no issues with this practice.

Resolution AGM 2016-04: That, the audited financial statements for the year 2015/2016 be received and approved as presented. (*Shaw – Ontario Farmland Trust; Gordon – Northumberland Land Trust*)

CARRIED

6. Auditor Appointment

The Board of Governors is seeking the support of the membership to use the firm Prentice Yates & Clark for the fiscal year 2016/2017.

Resolution AGM 2016-05: That, the Ontario Land Trust Alliance appoints the firm of Prentice Yates & Clark as auditor for the fiscal year 2016/2017. (*Sobek-Swant – rare Charitable Research Reserve; Elliott – The Kensington Conservancy*)

CARRIED

7. Annual Report for 2015/2016

Chair Hendren referred to the Annual Report provided at the meeting. He thanked Lougheed as Treasurer, Gordon as secretary and Shaw as acting secretary in Gordon's absence. This year required a significant investment by the Board for the challenging times. Chair Hendren thanked the staff – Howson, Lee, Callow, Thorne and Finstad for moving OLTA forward. Thanks to all for a productive year.

8. Two motions from Barnett, Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy

Resolution AGM 2016-06: Whereas OLTA is a coalition of land trusts; Therefore be it resolved that OLTA board members consult with and represent our members on a regular basis (according to land trust size and geographic location). (*Barnett– Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy; Geale – Northumberland Land Trust*)

Question regarding the land trust size and location. This is not essential. Sharing info by area is a way to communicate issues.

Noted that there is communication to members e.g. newsletter, member bulletins and emails. Board minutes are not circulated. The motion is for more communication.

Amended Resolution AGM 2016-06: Whereas OLTA is a coalition of land trusts; therefore be it resolved that OLTA board members consult with and represent our members on a regular basis. (*Barnett– Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy; Geale – Northumberland Land Trust*)

NOT CARRIED

Resolution AGM 2016-07: Whereas OLTA needs the support of government and our member land trusts can and should contribute to government relations; Therefore be it resolved that OLTA reinstitute its government relations committee and involve OLTA members to represent the members' concerns to elected politicians and staff. (*Barnett– Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy; Warren, Haliburton Highlands Land Trust*)

Government relations committee needs to be reinstated. Barnett has initiated meetings but without OLTA participation.

OLTA Board recently decided to transfer responsibility for government relations to the Executive Director (ED) as an operational activity. DeGraw, ED, will be the contact and can answer calls. Before the Board committee had other responsibilities and were unable to take

an active role. DeGraw has been asking members for their input. She will continue to look for ways to get input from the members.

Point was made that the members elect the Board. Members should respect the Board's decision.

NOT CARRIED

9. Elections

Chair Hendren asked all members to join him in thanking the retiring Governor, Angela Van Niekerk for completing two-three year terms.

Chair Hendren asked for a resolution appointing Christopher Baines as Election-Chair and then stepped down.

Resolution AGM 2016-8: That, Christopher Baines acts as Election-chair for 2015/2016 AGM. (*Bisset, The Couchiching Conservancy; Loughheed, Georgian Bay Land Trust*)

CARRIED

Resolution AGM 2016-9: That, Lori DeGraw and Phyllis Lee be appointed as election scrutineers for 2015/2016 AGM; and, That, following the collection, count and reporting of ballot results, all ballots be destroyed. (*Clifford, Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust; Bisset, The Couchiching Conservancy*)

CARRIED

Election-chair Baines explained that the membership would now consider the re-election of one Governor for one year; and the election of four (4) new Governors, as identified by the Board Development Committee, to fill vacancies on the Board.

Resolution AGM 2016-10: That, the following Governor be elected for a second term of three years: Bill Loughheed (*Shaw, Ontario Farmland Trust; Hendren, Kawartha Land Trust*)

CARRIED

OLTA has a maximum of 15 Governors on the Board. The Board is putting forward four (4) candidates for election to the OLTA Board. Short overviews of the candidates are in the Agenda package.

Resolution AGM 2016-11: That, Frank Shaw, Stephanie Sobek-Swant, Barbara Heidenreich and Gayle Wood be nominated as Governors for a three year term. (*Bisset, The Couchiching Conservancy; Barnett – Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy*)

CARRIED

Called three times for nominations from the floor and received none.

Resolution AGM 2016-12: That, nominations for the position of Governor be closed. (*Elliott – The Kensington Conservancy; Shaw – Ontario Farmland Trust*)

CARRIED

Hendren is retiring from the Board as his term is up.

Resolution AGM 2016-13: Resolved, That, Kristie Virgoe be nominated as Chair of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance for 2016/2017. (Shaw – Ontario Farmland Trust; Bisset – *The Couchiching Conservancy*)

CARRIED

Called three times for other nominations from the floor and received none.

Resolution AGM 2016-14: That, nominations for the position of Chair 2016/2017 be closed. (*Elliott – The Kensington Conservancy; Warren, Haliburton Highlands Land Trust*)

Election-chair Baines declared Kristie Virgoe as Chair of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance for 2015/2016. Chair Virgoe then assumed the chair and thanked the membership for their support. She then thanked Mike Hendren for his contribution to OLTA and presented him with a paddle as a token of OLTA's gratitude. Hendren thanked all for their support. He urges the members to get involved in OLTA. He is looking forward to continued engagement with OLTA as part of an advisory committee.

10. Member Q&A

No questions from members.

11. Other Business

No other Business.

12. Adjournment Motion to Adjourn at 6:00pm was made by *Elliott–The Kensington Conservancy; Warren – Haliburton Highlands Land Trust*