

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NIAGARA PARKS COMMISSION, LEGENDS ON THE NIAGARA, 9561 NIAGARA PARKWAY, NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO – FRIDAY JUNE 23, 2017 AT 10:00 A.M.

25. MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Janice Thomson, Vice Chair Joan Andrew, Commissioner Ian Nielsen-Jones, Commissioner Lois Giles, Commissioner Vince Kerrio, Commissioner James Detenbeck, Commissioner Jim Diodati, Commissioner Pat Darte, Commissioner Wayne Redekop, Commissioner Eldon Bennett.

Regrets from Commissioner Kerry Pond.

Ms. Thomson was in the Chair and Mr. Reegan McCullough acted as Secretary to the meeting. The following staff members were present to report and answer questions on the agenda items: D. Adames, M. Neubauer, S. Barnhart, M. Gruosso, M. McMullen, T. Baldinelli.

26. CHAIR THOMSON'S OPENING REMARKS

Chair Thomson welcomed members of the public and thanked them for attending. Chair Thomson welcomed Niagara Parks' new Commissioner, Eldon Bennett. Chair Thomson shared Commissioner Bennett's biography:

Eldon Bennett holds a PhD from Duke University and received his JD from the University of Toronto. He has taught at both York University and Osgoode Hall Law School. Eldon was admitted to the Ontario Bar in 1978. Eldon has been a partner at Aird & Berlis LLP for over 30 years, and served as its Managing Partner for 9 years. Eldon practices in the litigation area, representing a broad range of clients in industries as diverse as broadcasting, professional sports and manufacturing. He has extensive experience in labour, employment and human rights litigation, and has been an advisor to provincial and municipal governments on matters of conflict of interest. Eldon has served on the boards of public and private corporations in the mining and manufacturing areas, as well as on charitable boards. He is currently a director of companies in the energy and pharmaceutical industries. He is a former director of Visual Arts Ontario, the Canadian Liver Foundation, the Toronto Hospital Foundation and the Toronto Hospital Research Institute. Eldon is married with two adult sons. His wife, Harriet Lewis, is the former General Counsel of York University and is currently the President of the Psychology Foundation of Canada and Vice President of the International Festival of Authors.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

28. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was presented for approval.

Moved by: Commissioner Giles

Seconded by: Commissioner Nielsen-Jones

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried.

29. **MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2017** *The minutes were presented for approval.*
- Moved by: Commissioner Kerrio*
Seconded by: Vice Chair Andrew
That the minutes of April 21, 2017 be approved as presented.
Carried.
30. **ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND OATH OF OFFICE** Chair Thomson administered the Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Office to Niagara Parks Chief of Police, Mark McMullen, and presented him with his Niagara Parks Police Service badge. Chair Thomson shared a brief biography of Chief McMullen.
- Chair Thomson administered the Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Office to Niagara Parks Commissioner, Eldon Bennett.
31. **PRESENTATION RE: UPDATE ON NIAGARA PARKS INITIATIVES** Mr. Adames provided a presentation on Niagara Parks initiatives and recent highlights including Niagara Parks' first pop-up dinner held on May 24, 2017 at Mather Arch, the Harriet Tubman plaque unveiling, the opening of Wildplay Whirlpool Adventure Course, Canada 150 events, the Live with Kelly & Ryan television broadcast at Oakes Garden Theatre, and archaeological digs at Old Fort Erie. Mr. Barnhart presented highlights on the Chippawa Grasslands Project, shoreline rehabilitation, and tree planting initiatives.
32. **BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS** Mr. McCullough highlighted points from the pre-circulated report.
33. **SUMMARY OF DECISIONS** Chair Thomson asked if there were any questions regarding the pre-circulated Summary of Decisions report. There were no questions.
34. **OTHER BUSINESS** There was no other business.
35. **RESOLUTION TO MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION** *Moved by: Commissioner Detenbeck*
Seconded by: Commissioner Giles
That the meeting move to closed session at 10:50 a.m.
Carried.