

Ontario Invasive Plant Council

January 15th, 2015

Conference call

10:00am-11:15am

Summary Notes

Board Members present:

Iola Price, President & Member at Large
Dawn Sucee, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
John Benham, Ontario Soil and Crop
Suzanne Hanna, Ontario Horticultural Association
Paula Berketo, Ministry of Transportation Improvement Association/ Wellington County
Ken Towle, Vice-President & Conservation Ontario
David Coplestone, OMNRF – Biodiversity Branch
Karen Hartley, OMNRF – Parks
Jennifer Gibb, City of Toronto
Sandy Smith, University of Toronto
Kellie Sherman, OIPC staff
Rachel Gagnon, OIPC staff

Board Members not present

Michael Irvine, OMNRF – Forest Health and Silviculture (*pre-arranged*)
Jeanine West, Landscape Ontario (*pre-arranged*)
Mhairi McFarlane, Nature Conservancy of Canada (*pre-arranged*)
Mary Gordon, Hydro One
Larry McDermott, Plenty Canada
Hugh Berges, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Diana Mooij, Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Dave d'Entremont, Royal Botanical Garden
Owen Williams, Past President & Member at Large
Andrew Pitek, Forests Ontario

Agenda items

1. Approve minutes from last meeting
2. Review Action Items
3. Business arising from previous minutes
4. MOU with OFAH (attached)
5. Status of Director at Large
6. Policy on Board meeting attendance
7. website update
8. Draft list of Board meeting dates for 2015
9. Invasive Plant Management Strategy - Framework for Ontario Municipalities
10. Upcoming events
11. Organizational memberships: Should we offer organizations this option? Many groups have more than 1 employee that would like to be an OIPC member.
12. Staff Updates

1. Approve minutes from last meeting:

Motion: lola moved to approve the minutes from the December 2014 Board meeting. Moved by lola Price and seconded by Ken Towle. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

2. Review Action Items:

▪ Website update

ACTION: Rachel to plan a meeting with David and Owen to discuss website. Carry over to next meeting

▪ Carolinian Canada event

ACTION: Owen will work on a list of action items for the event. Carry over to next meeting

ACTION: Owen will look into the cost of putting something in AMO's newsletter. Carry over to next meeting

ACTION: Owen to find out who is on the AMO Board executive and forward that information to Rachel. Carry over to next meeting

ACTION: Rachel to contact them to work out a deal for advertising in their newsletter.

Landscape Ontario is also interested in the event. Carry over to next meeting

ACTION: Owen and Jeanine to discuss how we can work together with Landscape Ontario. Carry over to next meeting

▪ OFAH-OIPC MOU

ACTION: Rachel to send the MOU with the schedules for the Board members to look over and provide comments. Done

▪ Future plans for the website

ACTION: Owen to add this to the future plans for the website. Ongoing action item.

▪ Envirothon

ACTION: Andrew will keep us up to date on this item. Ongoing action item.

▪ FOCA invasive species monitoring program.

ACTION: Rachel to look into the FOCA program that is encouraging invasive species monitoring for cottagers. done

▪ New OIPC logo contest

ACTION: Rachel will work on the contest rules and will work towards holding another logo contest. Winning logo will receive a year's membership. To be sent to Board for review.

▪ Secretary/Treasurer position: ACTION: Rachel to send out a nomination for the Member at Large (1) Done.

▪ Board attendance policy: ACTION: David to send it out to the Board for comment. Done

▪ Federal regulations reminder: ACTION: Anyone with comments they would like to submit to Rachel, please send them by early January. No comments.

▪ Face to Face board meeting April: ACTION: Rachel to see if we still have a meeting room for free in Guelph. Delta will not honour free meeting room arrangement as their policy is that such offers expire within a year if not taken up.

3. Business arising from previous minutes

FOCA invasive species monitoring program.

- ACTION: David to set up a meeting with FOCA, David and Rachel.

Board attendance policy: no comments directly on the policy, but people did comment on the number of meetings per year.

- **ACTION: David** to send it out again with newest changes and comments to the Board.

Federal regulations: Did not mention plants in the regulation. It might be useful for the Council to send a letter asking if they plan to add plants to the regulations.

- **ACTION: Rachel** to draft up a letter and send to Iola for review.
- **ACTION: Iola** to contact the Agri-Canada woman who removed the prohibited plants from the list.

4. **MOU with OFAH (attached) :**

Rachel sent most recent MOU to the Board.

ACTION: Rachel to add the insurance info and then send it off for review by the Board on Monday

ACTION: ALL review and comment by **January 26th**.

5. **Status of Director at Large:**

We have 2 nominees and Rachel will get bios/CVs from them and send out to the OIPC membership for a final vote with a closing date of Monday **January 26th**.

6. **Policy on Board meeting attendance:**

Discussion deferred to the next meeting.

7. **Website update:**

Discussion deferred to the next meeting

8. **Draft list of Board meeting dates for 2015** – discuss face to face meeting.

Usually Board meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10am.

When and where will this year's AGM be held.

Do we still want to have monthly meetings?

ACTION: Rachel to send out a poll to the Board determine how we will proceed with meetings in the future.

9. **Invasive Plant Management Strategy** - Framework for Ontario Municipalities

The framework project (ISC funded) has 3 parts: development of a strategy for York Region, based on the strategy development of a framework which other municipalities can use in order to create their own strategy, and hosting a workshop for municipalities workers to walk them through the framework.

The York region strategy is in its final draft.

The framework has been sent out to the RCC and comments are coming in.

The workshop will be held on Thursday February 12th in Newmarket. The flyer is being finalized and will be sent out soon.

ACTION: Kellie to send the framework to the Board for comment with a deadline of Jan 26th.

10. **Upcoming events**

- The winter webinars are winding down, only 4 left.
- Rachel will be presenting at the Ontario Vegetative Management Association's (OVMA) AGM on March 25th on the Japanese knotweed BMP.
- Presenting at the Bobcaygeon Horticultural Society meeting on March 16th.
- Suzanne: OHA will host a province wide garden week. The OIPC would be able to promote the GMI or other projects.

ACTION: Suzanne to be added to the HOC Rachel to give her more information.

- Iola will give a talk in Pierce's Corners, on January 31 to the Lower Ottawa Valley Woodlot Owners Association and at the Kemptville annual woodlot meeting in February. At both events Iola will be discussing invasive species removal.
- David, OMNRF and OFAH, will be hosting an EDDMapS workshop in Toronto on Jan 28th.
- Sandy will be speaking at an invasive insect's event. She will likely mention plants. She will mention some plants.

11. Organizational memberships

Should we offer organizational memberships as an option? Some groups have more than 1 employee that would like to be an OIPC member.

Rachel to draft up how an organizational membership with OIPC would look.

ACTION: Rachel to come up with a draft. Dawn and Suzanne will provide comments on the draft.

12. Staff updates

Rachel:

- Working on the aquatic invasive plant watch list project. This includes the development of an aquatic invasive plant watch list, along with a presentation, the webinar will be held next Wednesday. There will also be 2 workshops for field staff to learn about new invasive plants to Ontario and how to report them.
- We received questions from OTF on the two projects we are partnering on. Worked with both groups to provide answers to OTF.

Kellie:

- Finalizing the Aquatic BMP document
- The *Phragmites* BMP has been updated and was sent out for review by the technical review committee.
- Held the *phragmites* working group meeting, the group worked on their terms of reference.
- Finishing up the minutes for the *phragmites* group. Will send to the Board members who would like to see them.

13. Comments on how these meetings are run.

***If anyone has suggestions or comments please send them to Iola.

Next meeting: February 19th 10am

Via conference call.