



DRAFT

**Mono Mulmur Citizens' Coalition (MC²)
AGM Minutes
November 1, 2020**

We had 20+ members registered for our Zoom AGM meeting today. Our president, Elaine Capes organized the meeting with a good outcome given the limits of the digital world we need to occupy for now. Please review the attachments for more detailed information.

After people had some time to chat with each other we started the meeting.

1. First there was an acknowledgement of the ancestral peoples and their land on which we now live. Elaine welcomed everyone. She expressed gratitude to Headwaters Communities in Action which provided access to the technology. She encouraged us to sign up for the HCIA newsletter which is very informative about our local community.
2. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Rita Reitsma, seconded by Don MacFarlane. It was carried.
3. The minutes of the 2019 MC² AGM were moved for approval by Cheryl Russel, seconded by Bob Mitchell and carried.
4. Bob presented the Treasurer's Report which is attached to these minutes. He highlighted various points. We are in a good financial position due to membership renewals, donations, and reduced expenses. We are very grateful for the gifts that were given to the coalition. He also emphasized the wonderful work that Frances and Don MacFarlane have done over the years to keep our finances in good order. There was a motion from Michael Penny, seconded by Del Bernardi and carried.
5. The Environment Committee report was given by Rita Reitsma who is the current chair of the committee. Arnold De Graaff our former chairperson is still on the committee and contributing through research and writing. We are in a dangerous and critical time with the environment and will need every effort available to move in a healthy direction. Please read the report which is attached and contains some references. It was approved as read with a motion from Joanne Rovet, seconded by Don MacFarlane and carried.
6. Elaine Capes gave the President's Report. Her report is attached to these minutes. She focused on our connection to municipal councils in Mono, Mulmur and at the Dufferin County level (Please check out their websites for current information which is detailed in various ways including in their agendas and minutes of meetings.) and on the contributions of the environment

committee over the years. A motion to approve the report was made by Del Bernardi, seconded by Don MacFarlane and then carried.

7. There was a bylaw amendment, section 2.3 which relates to the length of term a Board member can serve on the table. The motion reads:

“To AMEND bylaw section 2.3 to read as follows: TERM: Each Director shall be eligible for re-election to the Board at the end of each term.”

The reason for the change was to allow for more flexibility as we were being successful year by year with new Board members joining regularly providing us with fresh perspectives. The motion was moved by Del Bernardi, seconded by Michael Penny and carried.

8. Cheryl Russel then moved to adjourn the business side of the meeting, seconded by Bob Mitchell and carried.

9. The next focus was on MC²'s direction for the coming year and time to hear input from members. What follows is a compilation of various points of discussion.

- we are all hoping to get back to more connection post COVID
- we need to be mindful of working with limited resources, including time; could we add more volunteers to monitor provincial and federal levels of government?
- how can we keep members more informed about issues like Highway 413 (see: www.environmentaldefence.ca and www.gravelwatch.org – both have excellent websites that are worth exploring.) Environmental Defence has a piece under: Issues – What’s At Risk – GTA West Highway.
- aggregate and highway expansion are integrally connected; the provincial government is highly invested in and supported by the aggregate industry. Building more highways does not reduce congestion. It reduces the critical need for farmland and biodiversity.
- one area of concern is how the provincial and federal governments hide a lot in Omnibus Bills
- maybe we can create a larger list of links on our website www.monomulmur.com for members to check out
- we can do more with e-blasts to members have been well read each time
- maybe we could consider sort of a webinar/zoom, half hour summary on a topic led by a member
- possibly we could create a committee to keep track of current, relevant information and sources for the membership
- we need to continue to emphasize local issues as, for example, in Mulmur, two new gas stations at the corner at the lights in Mansfield, the expansion of the Mansfield Ski Club to accommodate more winter guests and the cutting of mature trees.
- as a Board of MC² we continue to cover council meetings and happenings with Cheryl doing so in Mulmur and Del, Bob, Knut and Michael doing so in Mono
- as it stands each municipality is bound to the Official Plan for that community; for both the gas stations and the Mansfield Ski Club each went through a process of planning. For the latter it was some five years with very clear restrictions on what could be built and for what purpose. Mono and Mulmur have tree cutting bylaws which can be found on their websites. Dufferin

County allows for cutting for firewood needs; otherwise people need a permit; many of the trees being cut down are green ashes which have been vulnerable to the emerald ash borer.

-there are still individuals and entities who are not following the by-laws or the Official Plan so each of needs to remain vigilant and check with our respective local level of government and ask whether what you are witnessing is okay - the Board continues to be following several issues in Mono – these are typically reported in our Newsletters and newly created Bulletins. Again the municipal websites are a good starting point for local information. On a County level their website is probably most informative in the agendas for meetings in which they usually have all the relevant attachments.

-there was a request to consider a virtual social event for the membership, for example at New Year's

-there was an expression of interest in water; the existence of MC² was almost brought down around the fight to make a water bottling facility in Mono – the organization learned a lot through those trials and is better situated to manage those sorts of processes now; the environment committee had Maude Barlow from the Council of Canadians give a presentation here; our focus on plastics has related to water bottles; again a more extensive list of organizations on our website as well as more info will be helpful; blogs?

-we need to recognize that COVID has provided many openings to view our system(s) differently including our economic structure and beliefs

-the Board was planning for another visioning session and then COVID hit; still something to do as soon as possible

10. In closing, Elaine summarized and highlighted some of our meeting together and thanked all the people who make MC² possible including the membership and many volunteers. She expressed gratitude that we have this voice. She asked us all to say one word that captures MC²'s work at this point. The responses included: glad, grateful, encouraged, enthusiastic, humbled, hopeful, fine, steady...fortunate.

Rita Reitsma, Secretary for the Board