

**Middle Grand Chapter
AGM**

Saturday, January 31, 2026

**1-3pm Waterloo Regional Police Association and Rec Centre at
1128 Rife Road, Cambridge**

Time: 1:00pm-4:00pm

Chair: Hajnal Kovacs

Secretary: Stephanie Lantos

Present: Scott Puillandre, Archie McClarty, Larry Bell, Hajnal Kovacs, Stephanie Lantos, Mark Hartley, Larry Halyk, Warren Yerex, Jeff Leader

Regrets: Stephanie Bieniek, Larry Mellors, Larry Halyk, Barry Buchwald

Meeting Minutes shall be deemed accurate as the record of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Please report any error and/or omissions to minute taker in a timely manner.

1. Welcome by President Hajnal Kovacs

- Results of survey discussed

2. Treasury Update (Stephanie B)

2025 Year	
Cash Balance December 31, 2025	\$6,9545.53
Revenue	
Donations	\$8,915.87
Reimbursement	\$812.50
Trees	\$5,000
Total Revenue	\$14,728.37
Expenses	
Meetings/Events	\$110
Trees/Supplies	\$12,866.01
Administration Costs	\$511.45
Data Loggers	\$3,425.03
Total Expenses	\$16,912.49

3. Projects Report (Scott Pullandre)

- What we did in 2025
 - ☐ Horner Creek – more trees! - 3rd year planting
 - ☐ Landons Creek – more great work
 - ☐ Rest Acres Creek
- Why – Horner Creek?
 - ☐ Whitemans- Horner Creek system is unique as a cold-water stream. It's headwaters and mid reaches are called Horner Creek and drain a landscape that features intensive agriculture and little groundwater discharge.
 - ☐ Riparian reaches of upper Horner Creek are mainly abandoned pasture or narrow grass buffers adjacent to cropland. They are very exposed to solar radiation, making summer water temperatures too warm to support cold water species.
 - ☐ Between two concessions, 10th concession and Oxford 8, 1900 trees planted
 - ☐ Good partnership with landowners and partnership with GRCA
 - ☐ Last summer the planting was a DFP offset and Guelph office did the monitoring – good survival
 - ☐ We have permission to plant up to concession 5
- Highlights – Horner Creek
 - ☐ Three spring tree planting – April 26, May 4, May 29
 - ☐ Approximately 650 trees planted
 - ☐ Over 50 volunteers
 - ☐ Food Trucks
 - ☐ Partnership with Enbridge Gas
 - ☐ Partnership with DUC and Stewardship Oxford
 - ☐ More to come – a multi-year project 1900 trees planted so far
 - ☐ Our Chapter has been nominated for the Stewardship Oxford Award
- Why Landons Creek?
 - ☐ Whitemans Creek is a regionally important cold-water fishery for both resident rainbow and brown trout, and migratory rainbow trout (steelhead). During the summer and especially during heat waves and drought events, water temperatures in lower Whitemans Creek are marginal for trout survival. If it were not for abundant groundwater discharge and numerous small, but cold tributaries that contribute flow and moderate temperature, Whitemans Creek could not support trout at all. Unless something is done to mitigate thermal impacts and build resilience

- Highlights – Landons Creek
 - ☐ Three work nights – July 9, July 29 and August 26
 - ☐ 35 volunteers – 200 volunteer hours
 - ☐ Installation of sediment mats
 - ☐ Pollarding and debris removal
 - ☐ 60 Christmas trees installed
 - ☐ Approximately 200m of stream bank stabilized
 - ☐ More to come- another multi-year project!
- Highlights – Rest Acres Creek
 - ☐ One work night – September 10
 - ☐ 10 volunteers
 - ☐ Woody debris removal – 15 to 20 blockages
 - ☐ Intentional human interference
 - ☐ A very important nursery creek
- What does 2026 look like?
 - ☐ Ideas- have a survey circulating, type of projects? More information sessions?
 - ☐ Social to present our projects findings

4. Data Collection (Jeff Leader & Stephanie L)

- **Why do we collect data review**
 - ☐ Identify concerns
 - ☐ Good for funding proposals
 - ☐ Measure progress for rehab projects
 - ☐ Collecting data since 2013
 - ☐ Fish community surveys
 - ☐ Electrofishing
 - ☐ Water temp- loggers and spot checking
 - ☐ Spawning surveys
 - ☐ Temperature – most important variable determining fish community structure in Southern Ontario
 - ☐ 2025: Reduced coverage on temperature data to focus on summarizing trends through time
- **2025 Temperature Data Logger Survey**
 - ☐ 12 Stations on 3 streams
 - ☐ Whitemans/Horner: 5
 - ☐ Landons: 3
 - ☐ D'Aubigny: 4

- ☐ 1 Barologger on D'Aubigny - measures water level fluctuations
- ☐ Loggers installed in June and retrieved in September
- ☐ Temp taken every 30 minutes
- ☐ Temperature Summary : Whitemans Creek from Source to Mouth - Warm to Cool- Warm Thermal Class
- ☐ Temperature Summary: Landons Creek from Source to Mouth – Cold to Cold-cool Thermal Class
- Electrofishing in 2025
 - ☐ Electrofishing 2025 with Pauline Johnson
 - ☐ Data goes back into 1990 on D'Aubigny creek
 - ☐ Surveyed in the area facing development pressure
 - ☐ Collected in June
 - ☐ Brown Trout increased
 - ☐ Watershed study in D'Aubigny creek
- What's Next in 2026
 - ☐ Focus: Continue to analyse and report on the data series we have collected to date that will contribute to strategic planning and rehab priorities
 - ☐ Whitemans Creek temperature monitoring will be scaled back in 2026 down to key index station that contribute to long term data sets unless a new rehab opportunity is identified
 - ☐ Continue temperature monitoring on D'Aubigny Creek
 - ☐ 2026 E-fishing will focus on Landons and D'Aubigny Creek

5. Communications (Andy)

- Chapter mailing list and email – the most effective form of communication
- Email list approximately 35 people
- Would like to utilize Instagram more
- Website middlegrandchapter.com
 - ☐ Has all social media info
- Walk –through tabs on the website
- Interactive map with a summary of our projects
- Success from Social media updates
- Slight difference in website with logo change
- Continue to send e-blasts

6. Nominations

- Hajnal – Stands for 2026
- Archie – Stands for 2026

- Larry B – Stands for 2026
- Larry H – Stands for 2026
- Scott – Stands for 2026
- Stephanie L – Stands for 2026
- Warren – Stands for 2026
- Larry M – Stands for 2026
- Barry – Stands for 2026
- Jeff Leader – Stands for 2026
- Stephanie B–Stands for 2026
- Mark – Stands for 2026
- Allan Cole – Stands for 2026
- Andy – Stands for 2026
- Nominations open
 - Phil Holst – Hajnal seconds
 - Adam Wilson- Andy seconds

Break (5mins)

7. Presentations

Ducks Unlimited Canada Presentation by Phil Holst
Small Wetland Restoration in Southern Ontario and the Nith River Watershed

Non-invasive biomonitoring methods supporting fish conservations by Lenka Trivett and Morgan Humphrey part of University of Guelph

8. Conclusions

- Thank Yous

9. Adjourn & Next Meetings

- Next AGM – January/Feb 2027 – Date TBD