

National Conservation Council

Minutes of the General Meeting held at the Main (ground floor) Conference Room,
Government Administration Building, Elgin Avenue, George Town, Grand Cayman
24 February 2015, 2pm.

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**
 - a. Notice having duly been given, the meeting was called to order at 2:04pm. The Secretary took the minutes.
 - b. A quorum was present and no interests were declared.
 - c. Attendance: See Appendix 1, below.
 - d. As the Chair was unable to attend, in keeping with Council Manual 5.6.1 Council Member Christina Pineda was nominated to chair the meeting by Timothy Austin, seconded by Patricia Bradley.
 - i. The nomination was approved with seven affirmative votes, one abstention (Christina Pineda).

2. **Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting of 3 December 2014**
 - a. Typographical corrections were made to paragraphs 1.c.iv and 5a
 - b. The approval of the minutes as corrected was moved by Davy Ebanks, seconded by Wallace Platts and passed unanimously.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
 - a. The Director, Department of Environment, reported that the Guidance Notes for Consultations with the Council (National Conservation Law section 41.2) have been posted on the Department of Environment website and will be published in the upcoming Gazette. Discussions are to be arranged between the Department and the principle entities affected to engender smooth implementation once the relevant section of the Law comes in to force.
 - b. The Director, Department of Environment, reported that the proposed Environmental Impact Assessment process has been provided to the Minister as a draft Cabinet Paper and is expected to be presented to Cabinet in the near future.

4. New Business

4.1 WP-01 Change of Meeting Dates

- a. The acting Chair presented the motion.
- b. MOTION
 - i. That the draft dates included in WP-01 be adopted as the meeting dates for the council for 2015.
 - ii. Proposed: Patricia Bradley. Seconded: Gina Ebanks-Petrie.
 - iii. Discussion: None.
- c. VOTE
 - i. The motion was passed unanimously.

4.2 WP-02 Implementation of Part 3: Conservation of Land

- a. The Director, Department of Environment, presented the motion.
- b. MOTION
 - i. That the form of nominations for protected areas shall be received in the manner and at the time laid out in WP-02.
- c. DISCUSSION
 - i. It was noted in discussion that the public can contact the Department, via the Department or Council's general emails (DoE@gov.ky, ConservationCouncil@gov.ky) for questions or assistance.
 - ii. Applications out of time will be accepted and held until the next application period.
 - iii. The motion was amended to clarify that the nominations will be received between 1 August and 31st October.
- d. MOTION
 - i. That the form of nominations for protected areas shall be received in the manner and at the time laid out in WP-02, with the clarification that the nominations will be received between 1 August and 31st October
 - ii. Proposed: Fred Burton. Seconded: Davy Ebanks.
- e. VOTE
 - i. The motion passed unanimously.

4.3 WP-03 Delegation of Conservation Plan Creation

- a. The Director, Department of Environment, presented the Motion.
- b. MOTION
 - i. That the drafting of Conservation Plans be delegated to the Director, Department of Environment, as outlined in WO-03.
 - ii. Proposed: Gina Ebanks-Petrie. Seconded: Christina Pineda.
 - iii. Discussion: None

- c. VOTE
 - i. The motion passed unanimously.

- d. It was noted separately that the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) may be willing to provide training on implementation of parts of the Law as needed, where those parts, e.g., management plans, reflect work that the RSPB does which could be used as templates for activities in the Cayman Islands.

4.4 WP-04 Section 16(2) Petition, Part 4: Conservation of Wildlife

- a. The Director, Department of Environment, presented the Motion.

- b. MOTION
 - i. That proposals to amend the species lists of the National Conservation Law be in the form proposed in WP-04.

- c. DISCUSSION
 - i. That the Department of Environment should be allowed to make cosmetic changes to the form over time, where such changes do not substantially alter the substance of the form, without having to come back for Council approval.

- d. AMENDMENT MOTION
 - i. The motion be amended to include a second clause.
 - ii. "That the Director be authorised to make non-substantive changes to the form providing it does not change the scope, content or purpose of the form."

 - iii. Moved: Fred Burton. Seconded: Lisa Hurlston-McKenzie.

 - iv. VOTE
 - a) The amendment motion passed unanimously.

- e. AMENDED MOTION
 - i. That proposals to amend the species lists of the National Conservation Law be in the form proposed in WP-04. That the Director, Department of Environment, be authorised to make non-substantive changes to the form providing it does not change the scope, content or purpose of the form.
 - ii. Moved: Wallace Platts. Seconded: Patricia Bradley.

- f. VOTE
 - i. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Any Other Business

a. Invasive Species Committee Report

- i. A meeting was held on the 4th of February, 2015. A formal report to the Council will be forthcoming. An intended second meeting was postponed to a date to be decided shortly.
- ii. The National Trust is invited to sit on the Committee to aid the coordination and implementation of invasive species responses.
- iii. It was confirmed that the Invasive Species Committee will be keeping minutes.

b. Resignation of Brian Tomlinson



- i. It was noted that Mr. Tomlinson had tendered his resignation on 14 January 2015, for personal reasons.
- ii. The Ministry and Council have thanked Mr. Tomlinson for his service.
- iii. Recognising that the appointment of a member is the purview of the Cabinet it was proposed to formally approach the Minister for a replacement member.
- iv. Moved: Christina Pineda. Seconded: Gina Ebanks-Petrie.
- v. Vote: passed unanimously.

6. Next Meeting

- a. 26 May 2015, GAB 1038, 2pm

7. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35pm.

Chair: Christina Pineda	Secretary: John Bothwell
	
Date: 26 May 2015	Date: 26 May 2015

Appendix 1 - Attendance

Council Member	24 Feb 2015	Representation
Christine Rose-Smyth	Apology - Illness	Chairperson; Bodden Town, Plants, Terrestrial & Marine Biodiversity
Davy Ebanks	Present	West Bay and Marine Conservation
Lisa Hurlston-McKenzie	Present	George Town and Sustainable Development & Climate Change
McFarlane Conolly	Apology	East End and Sustainable Development
		North Side
Wallace Platts	Present	Sister Islands and Terrestrial Biodiversity
Christina Pineda	Present	National Trust for the Cayman Islands
Patricia Bradley	Present	Avifauna & Biodiversity
Fred Burton	Present	Terrestrial Biodiversity
Adrian Estwick	Absent	Director of Agriculture
Haroon Pandohie	Apology	Director of Planning
Gina Ebanks-Petrie	Present	Director of Environment
Timothy Austin	Present	DoE Deputy, Research
John Bothwell	Present	Secretary

N.B. The apology of the Director of Planning, for his unexpected absence, was sent after the Secretary had left his desk to travel to the meeting and so was not available at the meeting.

National Conservation Council

Executive Preparatory Workgroup

24 February 2015, 2pm, GAB 1038

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
 - a. Attendees, Apologies, Quorum
 - b. Declaration of Interests
2. Confirmation of Minutes of 3 December 2014
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
4. New Business
 - a. WP-01 Change of Meeting Dates
 - b. WP-02 Decisions Supporting Implementation
 - c. WP-03 Delegation of Conservation Plan Creation
 - d. WP-04 Section 16(2) Petition
5. Any Other Business
 - a. Invasive Species Committee Report
6. Next Meeting
 - a. 26 May 2015, GAB 1038, 2pm
7. Adjournment

National Conservation Council Working Paper 01 – Change of Meeting Dates

PRELIMINARY

- (i) At its December 2014 meeting the Council decided the dates of its quarterly General Meetings. Wednesday Feb. 25th, Wednesday May 27th, Wednesday Aug. 26th, Wednesday Nov. 25th.
- (ii) It has transpired that GAB 1038 is unavailable on the relevant dates.

MOTION

- (i) That the Council appoint the following as its General Meeting dates for 2015:
 - a. Tuesday February 24th;
 - b. Tuesday May 26th;
 - c. Tuesday August 25th;
 - d. Tuesday November 24th;

at 2pm each day in room 1038 of the Government Administration Building, George Town, Grand Cayman.

Proposer:

Second:

WP-02 Decisions Supporting Implementation

National Conservation Council Working Paper 02 - Decisions Supporting Implementation

PRELIMINARY

- (i) The National Conservation Law (2013) is being implemented in stages, Parts 1 and 2 (Sections 1-6) having been commenced in September 2014.
- (ii) Part 3 of the Law will come in to force on such date as may be appointed by Cabinet.
- (iii) In order for Part 3, Conservation of Land, to function efficiently the National Conservation Council should have certain processes in place.

MOTION

That, to enable the efficient functioning of Part 3 of the Law, the following is resolved:

1. That nominations for areas for protected status will only be received by the Council between August and October each calendar year.
2. That nominations shall be in the form of a letter to the Council and shall contain at a minimum the information set out in section 9(1).
 - (a) a description of the area in sufficient detail to plot its boundaries on a map or chart;
 - (b) a statement of the reasons why the area should be selected for protection having regard to the purposes and objectives in section 8(1) and the criteria in section 8(2);
 - (c) a description of any protected species or other species of special concern known to reside in or migrate through the area; and
 - (d) any conservation problems known to be associated with the area and any special protective measures which may be required.

Proposer:

Seconder:

WP-03 Delegation of Conservation Plan Creation

National Conservation Council

Working Paper 03 - Delegation of Conservation Plan Creation

PRELIMINARY

- (i) The National Conservation Law (2013) is being implemented in stages, Parts 1 and 2 (Sections 1-6) having been commenced in September 2014.
- (ii) The Law sets out that 17(1) "The Council shall formulate and adopt a conservation plan for each protected species whose range includes the Islands".
- (iii) The Law sets out that 6(2) "In carrying out his functions the Director may ... (j) develop conservation plans for each protected species".
- (iv) The Council has previously appointed the Director to prepare working papers to be laid before the Council containing information, advice and recommendations regarding the implementation of the Law.

MOTION

That, to achieve efficient implementation of Section 17 of the Law, the Director be appointed to prepare conservation plans for presentation to the Council for their consideration. The Council may then formulate and adopt conservation plans as they see fit, in accordance with Section 17 of the Law.

Proposer:

Seconder:

National Conservation Council
Working Paper 04 – Section 16(2) Petition

PRELIMINARY

- (i) The National Conservation Law (2013) is being implemented in stages, Parts 1 and 2 (Sections 1-6) having been commenced in September 2014.
- (ii) Part 4 of the Law, Conservation of Wildlife, will come in to force on such date as may be appointed by Cabinet.
- (iii) Under Section 16 of the Law
 - (2) Any person or organisation, at any time, may petition the Council to add a species to or delete a species from Schedule 1 or to list a species in a different Part of Schedule 1.
 - (3) A petition under subsection (2) shall be in such form and contain such information as the Council may specify.
- (iv) In order for Part 4, Conservation of Wildlife, to function efficiently the National Conservation Council should have should have a form to assist the public in making any petitions.

MOTION

That the Council specifies, as per section 16(3) that a petition under 16(2) “to add a species to or delete a species from Schedule 1 or to list a species in a different Part of Schedule 1” shall be in the following form and contain the following information.

Proposer:

Seconder:

Section 16(2) Petition to add a species to or delete a species from Schedule 1
or to list a species in a different Part of Schedule 1

It is not necessary to fill in all sections for all applications. Parts marked * should be completed.
Please contact the Department of Environment for assistance. Information may be attached.

Species Scientific Name _____ * Species Common Name _____

Date _____

Proposer _____

* Email _____

Telephone _____

PO Box _____

* Current

Species Listing

Part 1

Part 2

Not Listed

* Species Petition Type		
List Part 1	List Part 2	Change Listing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* What are the factors jeopardising the species?

Habitat Loss	<input type="checkbox"/>	Take: Hunting, Collecting, Fishing, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Invasive Species Competition	<input type="checkbox"/>
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* Reason for proposing listing or change of listing, including description of above or other threats jeopardising the species.

Species

Population &
Survey Date

Species is:

Declining

Stable

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Increasing

Unknown

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Species Red List Category using IUCN guidelines

Least Concern	<input type="checkbox"/>	Near Threatened	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable	<input type="checkbox"/>	Endangered	<input type="checkbox"/>
Critically Endangered	<input type="checkbox"/>	Extinct in the Wild	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extinct	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Assessed	<input type="checkbox"/>

Range of Species – tick as appropriate		Tick
Grand Cayman Endemic	Unique to Grand Cayman	<input type="checkbox"/>
Little Cayman Endemic	Unique to Little Cayman	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cayman Brac Endemic	Unique to Cayman Brac	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sister Islands Endemic	Unique to Cayman Brac and Little Cayman	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cayman Islands Endemic	Unique to the three Cayman Islands	<input type="checkbox"/>
Near-Endemic	Native to Cayman Islands and one other island	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Regional	Native to the North West Caribbean region	<input type="checkbox"/>
Greater Antillean	Native to the Greater Antilles	<input type="checkbox"/>
West Indian	Native to the West Indies (Caribbean) region	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neotropical	Native to the American tropics (South, Central or North America)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hemispherical	Widespread in the western hemisphere	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pantropical	In the tropics worldwide	<input type="checkbox"/>
Global	Found in other parts of the world, including outside the tropics	<input type="checkbox"/>

Range of Species (map)

Does the species appear to be in danger of extinction throughout part or all of its range?

Does the species appear to be likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future?

Does the species appear to be rare and either potentially or actually subject to decline and possible endangerment and extinction?

Justify whether the species is of:

- a) ecological significance _____
- b) biogeographic significance _____
- c) scientific significance _____
- d) national or regional significance _____
- e) potential for nature tourism _____
- f) endemic to the Islands _____
- g) recreational significance _____
- h) cultural significance _____

- i) educational significance _____
- j) aesthetic value _____
- k) economic value _____

Enumerate if the species has been identified as requiring protection or other conservation measures by any competent intergovernmental or international agency or organisation or by any other country in the Wider Caribbean Region?

Any other relevant or useful information or explanation for proposed listing or change of listing

Petitioner
Name _____

Petitioner
Signature _____

Date _____