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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 14, 2020

A regular meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 in Boardroom 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:30 PM

Present: Z. Cohoon, Federation of Agriculture, Chair
T. Watpool, Brock, Vice-Chair
T. Barrie, Clarington
D. Bath-Hadden, Regional Councillor
N. Guthrie, Member at Large
B. Howsam, Member at Large
K. Kemp, Scugog
K. Kennedy, Member at Large
P. MacArthur, Oshawa
G. O'Connor, Member at Large
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
H. Schillings, Whitby
G. Taylor, Pickering

Absent: F. Puterbough, Member at Large, Vice-Chair
B. Smith, Uxbridge
B. Winter, Ajax

Also

Present: Councillor Highet

Staff

Present: K. Kilbourne, Senior Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
L. Mackenzie, Agriculture Program Coordinator, Department of Planning and Economic Development
S. Penak, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

1. Election of Officers for 2020

K. Kilbourne called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by G. O'Connor,
That Z. Cohoon be nominated for the position of Chair of the
Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by N. Guthrie, Seconded by G. O'Connor,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

K. Kilbourne asked if Z. Cohoon wished to stand. Z. Cohoon indicated he would stand.

Z. Cohoon was acclaimed as the Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Z. Cohoon, Chair, assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Z. Cohoon called for nominations for the two Vice-Chair positions of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by Councillor Bath-Hadden, Seconded by F. Taylor,
That F. Puterbough be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of
the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by Councillor Bath-Hadden, Seconded by H. Schillings,
That T. Watpool be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the
Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by T. Barrie,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

Z. Cohoon asked if T. Watpool wished to stand. T. Watpool indicated he would stand. F. Puterbough expressed his willingness to stand prior to the meeting.

F. Puterbough and T. Watpool were acclaimed as the first and second Vice-Chairs, respectively, of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by T. Barrie,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee
meeting held on December 10, 2019 be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Presentations

A) Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority Update, Chris Darling, Chief Administrative Officer

Chris Darling, Chief Administrative Officer, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA), appeared before the Committee to provide a CLOCA Update.

C. Darling provided a highlight of the programs and services that CLOCA offers. He advised that the six program areas include: Watershed Science and Management; YPDT CAMC Groundwater Program; Environmental Plan Review and Regulation Services; Conservation Area and Property Management; Community Engagement; and Corporate Services.

C. Darling advised that CLOCA is the only conservation authority that is fully in Durham Region.

C. Darling responded to questions from the Committee regarding what information the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has regarding underground water testing; the impacts of the recent high volume rainfall; whether ground truthing is a requirement for zoning and Clarington's zoning exercise; displacement of wildlife; and how CLOCA can become better communicators of the services they offer, in order to create a better relationship with land holders.

5. Discussion Items

A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update

L. MacKenzie, Program Coordinator, Agriculture and Rural Affairs provided the following update:

- With regards to the Broadband Survey, postcards were handed out, and a survey was released last Tuesday and is now available online. She can provide a hardcopy or township offices will have those as well.
- With regards to the Durham Broadband Roundtable Group, looking for a representative from DAAC to sit on this roundtable that will meet quarterly. The first roundtable meeting will be held February 6, 2020 from 10-12 PM at Regional Headquarters. K. Kilbourne advised that she will send out the details. D. Risebrough commented that the survey is quite technical and complicated.
- With regards to the Eastern Ontario Local Food Aggregation and Distribution Centre, the Peterborough and Kawartha Economic Development are currently evaluating the feasibility of developing a Local Food Aggregation and Distribution Centre. There is an online

survey and DAAC members are invited to attend a focus group being held January 21, 2020 from 10-12 PM in the City of Peterborough.

- The Ontario Farmlands Trust (OFT) and the National Farmers Union – Ontario (NFU-O), will be hosting a series of free workshops on land linking and farmland conservation. The first workshop is being held January 30, 2020 from 4-6 PM at the Lunar Rhythm Gardens in Janetville.
- With regards to a staffing update, interviews are currently taking place for the Manager position, and L. Mackenzie will be moving to a different portfolio, however will continue to support the agricultural portfolio still until her replacement is hired.

B) DAAC Farm Tour

Councillor Bath-Hadden provided a brief update with respect to the DAAC Farm Tour date. She advised that there is a target date of September 17, 2020. K. Kilbourne advised that she would confirm availability on the Regional Events Calendar. Councillor Bath-Hadden also advised that she will be attending the initial meeting with the farm manager to discuss future plans for the site. There will then be a joint meeting with DAAC members, subsequent of that and before the next meeting.

K. Kilbourne advised that the draft farm tour invite list will be circulated to the members once it has been updated.

C) Updates on matters of interest and 2020 DAAC Presentations

K. Kilbourne advised that she followed up with the Municipality of Clarington staff with respect to any presentations they've had from the Ministry of Transportation (MTO). Clarington staff advised that the leases between the farmers on the MTO owned lands and MTO are year to year for the most part. The last meeting the MTO attended at the Agricultural Advisory Committee of Clarington was in 2018. At Clarington's meeting they reviewed the complaints process and Committee members raised issues around fencing, drainage, and local road conditions. K. Kilbourne also advised that the minutes of the Clarington Agricultural Committee detail the complaints process and she will circulate that information to committee members.

K. Kilbourne advised the committee that the following presentations have been confirmed for future DAAC meetings:

- Riaz Razvi, Business Analyst, Durham Region – February
- Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSCRA) – April
- Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Durham Region – May

6. Information Items

A) Report #2019-INFO-91: Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan Update

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-91 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan Update was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda and received.

K. Kilbourne advised that staff are reviewing the first draft internally and will then be providing comments to the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). DAAC will be notified when the draft is released for public comment.

Moved by Councillor Bath-Hadden, Seconded by Kevin Kemp,
That Information Item A) be received for information.

CARRIED

5. Other Business

D. Risebrough advised that his relatives, Mike and Jaime Risebrough of Maplebrough Farm, in the Township of Uxbridge, were recipients of the Holstein Canada Master Breeder Shields for 2019. The formal presentation of the award will take place at Holstein Canada's annual meeting in April 2020 in Regina, Saskatchewan. D. Risebrough stated that the Master Breeder program is the most prolific accolade awarded by Holstein Canada. L. Mackenzie advised that she could put something together to be promoted through Economic Development.

K. Kilbourne advised that the Agriculture Sector Climate Adaptation Strategy and the Durham Region Broadband Strategy were selected as finalists for Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO) awards. Donald Rickard, Chair of the Agriculture Sector Climate Change Expert Task Force, K. Kilbourne and other Regional Economic Development staff will be attending the awards ceremony in February.

K. Kilbourne advised that tonight would be her last meeting as she accepted a position at the City of Pickering. The Committee thanked her for her work and dedication to the DAAC.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 starting at 7:30 PM in Boardroom 1-B, Level 1, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

7. Adjournment

Moved by T. Watpool, Seconded by K. Kemp,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Z. Cohoon, Chair, Durham
Agricultural Advisory Committee

S. Penak, Committee Clerk