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## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**January 16, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, January 16, 2020 in Boardroom 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:05 PM.

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog, Chair  
S. Clearwater, Whitby  
J. Cuthbertson, Clarington, Second Vice-Chair  
R. Dickinson, Brock  
C. Duffy, Post-Secondary Member  
B. Foxton, Uxbridge  
G. Layton, Oshawa  
K. Lui, Member at Large, First Vice-Chair  
D. Sallans, Member at Large  
B. Shipp, Member at Large  
M. Thompson, Ajax  
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby, attended the meeting at 8:00 PM

Absent: O. Chaudhry, Pickering  
K. Murray, Member at Large  
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large  
D. Upadhyay, Youth Member

Also  
Present: Councillor John Neal

Staff  
Present: C. Goodchild, Manager, Policy Planning & Special Studies, Planning & Economic Development Department  
A. Luqman, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department  
S. Penak, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by M. Thompson,  
That the agenda be altered to hear Item 5. A) Allen Frank, Durham Resident, re: Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site, and Item 5. B) Clint Cole, Durham Resident, re: Contaminates Deposited on Rural Lands, next.

**CARRIED**

**5. Delegations**

A) Allen Frank, Durham Resident, re: Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site

Allen Frank, Durham Resident, appeared before the Committee regarding Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site. A. Frank provided a handout to Committee that will be retained in Legislative Services.

A. Frank stated that he is appearing before the DEAC to voice concerns about the health and dumping practices of the landfill site on the property between Ritson Road and Wilson Road, north of Columbus Road, in the City of Oshawa.

A. Frank stated that himself, along with other residents, asked the following questions to City of Oshawa staff, as well as Durham Region staff:

- Has there been studies before the dumping began?
- What is the content of the material being dumped?
- Is the material (or each truck) being monitored or inspected?

A. Frank further stated that they would like to see the following recommendations implemented:

- A thorough study of the area where dumping occurs;
- Studies must all be passed and completed before permits are issued to dump;
- And also, very important, the citizens must be informed about the source of the material being dumped;
- Strict monitoring of each truck as it is dumped;
- The monitor must be a citizen from where the landfill site is (preferably 2 monitors); and
- A hefty fine for any truck that has dumped material containing anything other than what was specified in the permit to dump and the permit being cancelled immediately.

A. Frank concluded that they would like a public meeting to be hosted and that the applicant be present with a copy of the permit he is seeking to attain.

B) Clint Cole, Durham Resident, re: Contaminates Deposited on Rural Lands

Clint Cole, Durham Resident, appeared before the Committee regarding contaminates deposited on rural lands.

C. Cole stated that he would like more scrutinized oversight over silos that are created between all levels of government. He stated that individual

municipalities are not sufficiently managing their fill by-laws, and that the material may be harmful human health and consequently to the watershed. He noted that fill is moving from multiple municipalities without the proper monitoring, and there should be more Regional oversight and closer scrutiny as opposed to the owner/operators self-monitoring.

C. Cole questioned if the Region has proper and adequate policies to protect groundwater.

C. Cole referenced Section 3: Scope of Activities, specifically Section 3.1 b) and 3.1 e) of the DEAC Terms of Reference and stated that it is within DEAC's scope to provide advice on such matters as the one presented today, and to provide advice on policy matters. He asked that DEAC look at the motion from the January 8, 2020 Works Committee meeting regarding "a regional fill policy".

C. Cole responded to questions from the Committee.

Discussion ensued with respect to contaminants being deposited in rural lands; Provincial Regulation 406 and the different types of sampling on the soil that is completed, and the protocols followed by a Qualified Person (QP); and whether the Ministry of Health should be involved in this process.

Staff explained how information flows through the DEAC and back to the Planning and Economic Development Department, and invited members of the public and the DEAC to provide comments on the Environment/Greenlands System Discussion Paper, as well as to follow the Envision Durham process.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recess for 5 minutes. The Committee recessed at 7:49 PM and reconvened at 7:52 PM.

C. Goodchild, Manager, Policies & Special Studies, Planning & Economic Development Department, referenced the Works Committee motion at the January 8, 2020 Works Committee meeting regarding the development of a Regional fill policy. She advised that staff will be meeting to discuss and determine next steps and noted that excess soil regulation work is on-going. She further noted that staff brought forward a site-alteration by-law model in 2012 for municipalities to use if they wished. C. Goodchild advised that she will let the staff working group know that DEAC would like the opportunity to provide comments on whatever comes out of the working group and the January 8, 2020 Works Committee motion.

A. Luqman advised that she would email the Committee three links to various newspaper articles that provide additional background information on this issue.

**1. Election of Officers for 2020**

Election of the DEAC Chair

S. Penak, Committee Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by B. Foxton,  
That G. Carpentier be nominated for the position of Chair of the  
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by G. Layton,  
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

S. Penak asked if G. Carpentier wished to stand. G. Carpentier indicated he wished to stand.

G. Carpentier was acclaimed to the position of Chair.

Election of the DEAC First and Second Vice-Chairs

S. Penak, Committee Clerk, called for nominations for the positions of First and Second Vice-Chair of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by G. Carpentier, Seconded by R. Dickinson,  
That J. Cuthbertson be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of  
the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by G. Layton,  
That K. Lui be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the  
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by S. Clearwater,  
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

S. Penak asked if K. Lui and J. Cuthbertson wished to stand. K. Lui and J. Cuthbertson indicated they wished to stand.

K. Lui and J. Cuthbertson were acclaimed to the positions of First and Second Vice-Chair, respectively.

G. Carpentier assumed the position of Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by M. Thompson,  
That the agenda be altered to hear Item 6. A) Jamie Davidson,  
Acting Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage, Central  
Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA), re: CLOCA Draft  
Watershed Plan Update, next.

CARRIED

## 6. Presentations

### A) Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) Draft Watershed Plan Update

Jamie Davidson, Acting Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage, CLOCA, appeared before the Committee to present an update on the Draft Watershed Plan.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA)
- 2012 Watershed Management Plans: Existing Conditions and Plan Development
  - Existing Conditions Reports
  - Watershed Management Plans
- Natural Heritage System (NHS)
- Action Plans
- Recommended Official Plan (OP) Policies
- Watershed Health Targets
- What's Changed in the Past 5 Years?
  - Legislation
  - Climate Change and Growth
  - Action Plans
- Updating the Plans: Planning, Evaluating, and Achieving Watershed Health
  - Planning for Watershed Health
  - New Watershed Plan Vision
  - Evaluating Watershed Health
  - Achieving Watershed Health
- Next Steps

J. Davidson responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether CLOCA monitors tree cover and whether that is reportable to upper levels of government; whether the impacts of landfill or clean fill are considered with respect to the health of watersheds; the monitoring of Ephemeral ponds and amphibian monitoring; whether CLOCA was approached by the City of Oshawa to complete any water processing at the fill site as mentioned by the two delegations earlier in the meeting.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by G. Layton, Seconded by R. Dickinson,  
That the agenda for the January 16, 2020 DEAC meeting, as  
presented, be approved.

CARRIED

**3. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,  
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,  
November 21, 2019, be adopted.

CARRIED

In regard to the delegation made by Highway for Heroes to the DEAC on  
November 21, 2019, G. Carpentier updated the Committee that they can now  
operate throughout the entire Hwy 401 corridor, as opposed to only operating  
within 15 kms of the Hwy 401 and in specific areas.

**5. Delegations**

- A) Allen Frank, Durham Resident, re: Phase 2 of the Columbus Road Landfill Site

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. See page 2 of these minutes.

- B) Clint Cole, Durham Resident, re: Contaminates Deposited on Rural Lands

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. See pages 2 and 3 of these minutes.

**6. Presentations**

- A) Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) Draft Watershed Plan Update

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. See page 5 of these minutes.

**7. Items for Discussion/Input**

A) Attendance at the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Advisory Committee

A. Luqman advised that the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Advisory Committee is looking for a representative from DEAC.

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by R. Dickinson,  
That Susan Clearwater be appointed as the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee representative to the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Advisory Committee.  
CARRIED

B) Update from Climate Change Resiliency Homeowner's Guide Subcommittee

J. Cuthbertson advised that the Climate Change Resiliency Homeowner's Guide Subcommittee met prior to the meeting. He advised that the members divided up a few different topics for a more in-depth look and welcome any comments from the other members of the Committee.

C) Update from Environmental Awards Subcommittee

A. Luqman advised that the Environmental Awards Subcommittee met and established names for the two additional award categories after reviewing the background information. She noted there have been discussions about collaborating with the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change Committee which would potentially move the awards to the Fall of 2020. She stated that more details would be available once a workplan is finalized.

D) 2020 DEAC Workplan and Terms of Reference Update

Copies of the draft 2020 DEAC Workplan and draft Terms of Reference were provided as Attachments #3 and #4 to the Agenda.

The Committee agreed to the Workplan as presented and added that the Meeting Schedule dates will need to be updated to reflect the 2020 DEAC meetings.

Moved by G. Layton, Seconded by S. Clearwater,  
That the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) recommends to the Planning & Economic Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the Draft 2020 Workplan of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee, as amended, be approved.

CARRIED

With regards to the draft Terms of Reference, the committee agreed to the proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference and proposed a further amendment as follows:

- Under Section 5. Membership Interest, 5.1, 8<sup>th</sup> line, that the following be struck out:
  - “will nominate a sufficient number of members at large who are bona fide farmers”

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by M. Thompson,  
That the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC)  
recommends to the Planning & Economic Development Committee  
for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the DEAC Terms of Reference, as amended, be approved.

CARRIED

**8. For Information**

A) Commissioner’s Report #2019-A-34 – Climate Change Update

A copy of Report #2019-A-34 of the Chief Administrative Officer was received as Attachment #5 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets referenced under Section 2.3 of Report #2019-A-34: Climate Change Update; whether the percentage gaps are too large; and the need for a better description of solid waste landfill referenced under Section 5.10 of the Notes Section of Table 3.

B) Durham Waste Management Annual 2018 Report

A copy of the Durham Waste Management Annual 2018 Report was received as Attachment #6 to the agenda.

C) Durham/York Energy from Waste Project Ambient Air Monitoring 2019, Third Quarterly Report

A copy of the Durham/York Energy from Waste Project Ambient Air Monitoring 2019, Third Quarterly Report, was received as Attachment #7 to the agenda.

D) Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-90 – Monitoring of Growth Trends Report

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-90 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #8 to the agenda.

E) Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-91 – Carruther's Creek Watershed Plan Update

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-91 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #9 to the agenda.

F) Durham/York Energy from Waste Project 2019 Odour Management and Mitigation Monitoring Report

A copy of the Durham/York Energy from Waste Project 2019 Odour Management and Mitigation Monitoring Report was received as Attachment #10 to the agenda.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by G. Layton,  
That Information Items 7A) to 7F) inclusive, be received for information.

CARRIED

**9. Other Business**

A) Newspaper article, re: Aquamation

S. Clearwater raised a concern regarding the process of Aquamation which is a process used for the disposal of human and pet remains using lye and heat. She referenced a newspaper article titled: Ontario agency trying to shut down Newcastle funeral operator's use of new body disposal method that appeared in the Toronto Star on December 16, 2019. She stated her concern that the effluent would go into the waste water, and then onto farmers fields. Discussion ensued regarding whether the low-heat method would destroy prions (transmissible pathogens) that could cause neurodegenerative disorders.

[Subsequent to the meeting A. Luqman emailed the newspaper article link to the Committee.]

**10. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2020 starting at 7:00 PM in Boardroom 1-B, Level 1, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**11. Adjournment**

Moved by B. Foxton, Seconded by M. Thompson,  
That the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

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G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham  
Environmental Advisory Committee

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S. Penak, Committee Clerk