

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 12, 2021

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:30 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Z. Cohoon, Federation of Agriculture, Chair
T. Barrie, Clarington
N. Guthrie, Member at Large
G. Hight, Regional Councillor
B. Howsam, Member at Large
K. Kemp, Scugog
P. MacArthur, Oshawa
F. Puterbough, Member at Large
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
H. Schillings, Whitby
G. Taylor, Pickering, Vice-Chair
T. Watpool, Brock, Vice-Chair
B. Winter, Ajax

***members of the Committee participated electronically**

Councillor Hight appeared on behalf of Councillor Bath-Hadden as the alternate for the Committee.

Absent: K. Kennedy, Member at Large
G. O'Connor, Member at Large
B. Smith, Uxbridge

Staff

Present: *K. Allore-Engel, Senior Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
*S. Jibb, Manager, Agriculture and Rural, Department of Planning and Economic Development
*M. Scott, Project Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
*denotes staff participating electronically

2. Election of Officers for 2021

N. Prasad called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by B. Winter,
That Zac Cohoon be nominated for the position of Chair of the
Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by F. Puterbough, Seconded by G. Taylor,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

N. Prasad asked if Zac 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 B. Winter, Seconded by T. Barrie,
That Gord Taylor be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the
Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by F. Puterbough, Seconded by H. Schillings,
That Tom Watpool be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of
the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Moved by B. Winter, Seconded by H. Schillings,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

Z. Cohoon asked if Gord Taylor and Tom Watpool wished to stand. Gord Taylor and Tom Watpool indicated they would stand.

Gord Taylor and Tom Watpool were acclaimed as the first and second Vice-Chairs, respectively, of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by B. Winter, Seconded by G. Taylor,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee
meeting held on December 8, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Discussion Items

A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update

S. Jibb advised of the following:

- The first installment of the Speciality Crops Workshop series is scheduled for January 14th. It is a 4-part series being done with OMAFRA and York Region. Over 100 participants have registered for first workshop.
- Staff has teamed up with the Do More Agriculture Foundation. The Foundation offers mental health resources targeted for the agriculture community and will be offering a workshop on February 24th. S. Jibb will circulate link if anyone is interested.
- Staff will be applying for funding from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for the Rural and Economic Development Program which provides 50/50 cost share funding. The application is for a project that will focus on building capacity for innovation and connecting to careers in the agriculture sector. S. Jibb advised that a letter of support from DAAC would strengthen the application.

Moved by F. Puterbough, Seconded by H. Schillings,
That the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee provide staff with
a letter of support for a Rural Economic Development grant
application to develop and implement an agriculture innovation and
careers focused project.

CARRIED

B) 2021 DAAC Workplan and DAAC Terms of Reference

Copies of the draft 2021 DAAC Workplan and Terms of Reference were
provided as Attachments #2 and #3 to the Agenda.

The Committee agreed to the proposed amendments to the Workplan and proposed further amendments as follows:

- Under Section 1. Advice on Policy Development and Implementation, that the following be added:
 - Long Term Waste Management Plan
- Under Section 4. Issues of Interest, that the following be added:
 - Clean Fuel Standards

Moved by H. Schillings, Seconded by D. Risebrough,
That we recommend to the Planning and Economic Development
Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to
Regional Council:

That the Draft 2021 Workplan of the Durham Agricultural Advisory
Committee, as amended, be adopted.

CARRIED

With regards to the draft Terms of Reference, there were no proposed
changes and no amendments.

Moved by T. Watpool, Seconded by P. MacArthur,
That we recommend to the Planning and Economic Development
Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to
Regional Council:

That the Draft Terms of Reference for the Durham Agricultural Advisory
Committee, as proposed, be adopted.

CARRIED

6. Information Items

A) Region of Durham response to ERO Notice regarding Establishment of a Species at Risk Conservation Fund

A copy of the correspondence from the Region to the Ministry of the
Environment, Conservation and Parks, dated December 18, 2020, with
regards to Environmental Registry of Ontario Number 019-2636 - A proposal
under the Endangered Species Act to enable use of the Species at Risk
Conservation Fund was provided as Attachment #4 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued with regards to the species conservation charge
proponents can pay in relation to certain eligible species with respect to the
dollar amount and whether the funds collected in the Region will be used
within the Region. It was the consensus of the committee that staff provide
further information at the next meeting.

B) Drainage Act Regulatory Proposal (Government of Ontario)

The link to the Government of Ontario's Drainage Act Regulatory Proposal Discussion Paper was provided as Attachment #5 to the Agenda and received.

M. Scott provided a brief overview of the Government of Ontario's Drainage Act Regulatory Proposal Discussion Paper and the proposed changes. Discussion ensued with regards to municipal and private drains and committee members were advised that comments could be provided to OMAFRA individually.

7. Other Business

A) Clean Fuel Sub-Committee Update

Z. Cohoon stated that there is a Proposed Clean Fuel Multi-Stakeholders Consultants Committee meeting scheduled for January 20 and advised that he will attend on behalf of the Committee. He stated that the DAAC subcommittee has expressed the following 3 areas of concern which will be communicated at the Multi Stakeholders Consultants meeting:

- the certification requirements of the proposed Clean Fuel Standards;
- the suggested set-back requirement from riparian zones and water bodies; and
- restrictions related to improved/modified lands (ie. lands that have been cleared).

B) 2021 DAAC Farm Tour

Z. Cohoon advised that the 2021 Farm Tour will be virtual and requested that committee members start thinking of themes etc.

A subcommittee consisting of Z. Cohoon, F. Puterbough, T. Watpool, D. Risebrough, B. Smith and K. Kemp was formed to discuss further details of the 2021 Farm Tour.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 starting at 7:30 PM.

9. Adjournment

Moved by B. Winter, Seconded by F. Puterbough,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Z. Cohoon, Chair, Durham
Agricultural Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk