

## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

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

**October 21, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, October 21, 2021 in Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:03 PM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

#### **1. Roll Call**

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog, Chair  
S. Clearwater, Whitby  
J. Cuthbertson, Clarington, Second Vice-Chair  
C. Doody-Hamilton, Member at Large  
B. Foxton, Uxbridge  
G. Layton, Oshawa  
K. Lui, Member at Large, First Vice-Chair  
D. Nguyen, Youth Member  
S. Panchal, Youth Member  
A. Panday, Post-Secondary Member  
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby attended the meeting at 7:10 PM

**\*all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: O. Chaudhry, Pickering  
R. Dickinson, Brock  
K. Murray, Member at Large  
B. Shipp, Member at Large  
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large  
M. Thompson, Ajax

#### **Staff**

Present: S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
A. Luqman, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by C. Doody-Hamilton, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,  
That the agenda for the October 21, 2021 DEAC meeting, as  
presented, be approved.

**CARRIED**

**3. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by K. Lui, Seconded by C. Doody-Hamilton,  
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,  
September 23, 2021, be adopted.  
CARRIED

**5. Presentations**

A) Sustainability in the City of Pickering, Chantal Whitaker, Sustainability Supervisor and Melanie Edmond, Sustainability Coordinator, City of Pickering

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Chantal Whitaker, Sustainability Supervisor and Melanie Edmond, Sustainability Coordinator provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding sustainability in the City of Pickering.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Join us on the Journey to Become One of the Most Sustainable Cities in Canada
- Community and Corporate Initiatives
- Enhancing the Natural Environment
- Helping our Pollinators
- Engaging our Community
- Reducing Waste
- Becoming More Energy Efficient
- Supporting Access to Local Food
- Looking Towards the Future

C. Whitaker responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether the City of Pickering has considered partnering with Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and HydroOne to plant butterfly habitats in the hydro right of ways; where the electric vehicle (EV) charging stations are located in the City of Pickering; whether the City of Pickering has considered including mandates that all new multi-residential developments have protection on shiny surfaces to ensure bird friendly buildings; the timing and width of roadside mowing to better accommodate and protect the wildlife; the costs and details of the dog waste collection program; details of the City of Pickering's EV strategy; details of the Valley Plentiful Community Garden program; and where the funding comes from for the tree planting program.

Discussion ensued regarding the transition to battery powered equipment by Works Department staff in the City of Pickering. It was noted that the

Township of Scugog is considering this transition but is encountering roadblocks with how long batteries last, etc. C. Whitaker advised that Rob Gagnon, Supervisor, Parks and Property at the City of Pickering would welcome conversations with Township of Scugog staff and advised she can share his contact information with A. Luqman.

**6. Items for Discussion/Input**

A) Introduction of New Post-Secondary Student Member

A. Luqman introduced the new post-secondary student member, Anish Panday. She stated that he is a 4<sup>th</sup> year Ryerson University student studying Urban and Regional planning and has a keen interest in sustainable communities.

A. Panday introduced himself and stated he looks forward to being apart of DEAC.

B) Update from DEAC Environmental Awards Subcommittee

A. Luqman advised that during the DEAC awards ceremony there were a number of technical issues and glitches throughout the night but that it went well overall. She advised that the public service announcement (PSA) has been shared through the Region's social media channels and that the link to the event has been posted to the Region's YouTube page.

G. Layton noted that Regional Chair Henry offered to personally deliver all of the DEAC environmental awards to the recipients.

C) Update from DEAC Webinar Series Subcommittee

A. Luqman advised that a total of four webinars were scheduled for the Fall and that three have already occurred. She advised that the remaining webinar will be held November 2, 2021 and will focus on energy conservation around the home with guest speakers from Elexicon and I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability.

C. Doody-Hamilton highlighted that Rochelle Byrne, Executive Director/Founder, A Greener Future, mentioned that there were opportunities for high school students to collect volunteer hours, and suggested that S. Panchal share that information with his environmental club at his high school.

**7. For Information**

A) Commissioner's Report #2021-P-22 – Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) Post-Secondary Student Membership Appointment

A copy of Report #2021-P-22 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

B) New IESO Report: Decarbonization and Ontario's Electricity System:  
Assessing the Impacts of Phasing out Natural Gas Generation by 2030

A copy of the new IESO Report: Decarbonization and Ontario's Electricity System: Assessing the Impacts of Phasing out Natural Gas Generation by 2030 was received.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the phasing out of natural gas by 2030; the lack of mention in the IESO Report as to when the phase out of the Pickering Nuclear Power Plant would occur; and, what the results of the closure of the Pickering Nuclear Power Plant would have on the electrical grid.

C) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-94 – Envision Durham – Growth  
Management Study – Release of Housing Intensification Study Technical  
Report

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-94 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

D) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-96 – Class Environmental Assessment  
for the York Durham Sewage System Twinning of Primary Trunk Sanitary  
Sewer in the City of Pickering

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-96 of the Commissioner of Works was received.

E) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-97 – Envision Durham – Growth  
Management Study – Release of Employment Strategy Technical Report

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-97 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

F) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-100 – Envision Durham – Growth  
Management Study – Release of Community Area Urban Land Needs  
Analysis Technical Report

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-100 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the designated greenfield areas (DGA); how designated brownfield areas would factor into the number of developable DGA lands; whether there is a plan for preserving the greenspace areas; and, whether there is overlap between the greenfield and brownfield areas.

A. Luqman advised that Report #2021-INFO-100 is a technical report in support of the land needs assessment as part of the Envision Durham

Municipal Comprehensive Review, and that the density targets are noted in Provincial legislation. She suggested that any comments that Committee members have be submitted to [envisiondurham@durham.ca](mailto:envisiondurham@durham.ca).

In response to a question from Committee regarding if there is a map that would show whether there is overlap between the designated greenfield areas and the brownfield areas, A. Luqman advised that she would email the Committee members a link to the Region's Official Plan.

G) Harwood Avenue Improvements Study – Feedback by October 29, 2021

A copy of the Harwood Avenue Improvements Study was received.

H) Town of Whitby ISeeChange – Climate Adaptation Plan Community Input Platform

A copy of the Town of Whitby's ISeeChange – Climate Adaptation Plan Community Input Platform was received.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,  
That Information Items 7 A) to 7 H) inclusive, be received for  
information.

CARRIED

**8. Other Business**

A) Proposed Scugog Tree By-Law

G. Carpentier advised that the Scugog Environmental Advisory Committee (SEAC) has asked the Township of Scugog to develop a Township of Scugog Tree By-Law that would encompass areas not covered under the Regional Tree By-Law. He stated that the current challenge is separating the rural needs from the municipal needs. He further stated that the by-law has not been presented to Council yet, and that a councillor does sit on the SEAC.

B) Durham Food Policy Council De-Brief

G. Carpentier advised that he recently attended a Durham Food Policy Council focus group session. He advised that the Durham Food Policy Council has a number of research and public participation opportunities, including the Food System Environmental Scan and the Food System Report Card. A. Luqman advised that she would send out the details of the participation opportunities to the Committee after the meeting.

**9. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, November 18, 2021 starting at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**10. Adjournment**

Moved by C. Doody-Hamilton, Seconded by B. Foxton,  
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

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G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham  
Environmental Advisory Committee

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S. Glover, Committee Clerk