

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 15, 2022

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 15, 2022 in Lower Level Boardroom (LL-C), Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:10 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: A. Abu-Rayash, Member at Large
G. Carpentier, Scugog, Chair
O. Chaudhry, Pickering
S. Clearwater, Whitby
J. Cuthbertson, Clarington, First Vice-Chair attended the meeting at 7:14 PM
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
G. Layton, Oshawa, Second Vice-Chair attended the meeting at 7:14 PM
K. Lui, Member at Large
K. Murray, Member at Large attended the meeting at 7:14 PM
M. Nasir, Ajax
S. Panchal, Youth Member
B. Shipp, Member at Large
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: R. Dickinson, Brock
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby

Staff

Present: R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
A. Luqman, Senior Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the CAO
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by O. Chaudhry,
That the agenda for the September 15, 2022 Special Durham
Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) meeting, as presented, be
approved.

CARRIED

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by O. Chaudhry, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,
That the minutes of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee
meeting held on Thursday, June 16, 2022, be adopted.

CARRIED

Moved by G. Layton, Seconded by M. Nasir,
That the minutes of the Special Durham Environmental Advisory
Committee meeting held on Thursday, July 21, 2022, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Presentations

A) Friends of Second Marsh, Peter Taylor, President

P. Taylor, President, Friends of Second March provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Friends of Second Marsh.

P. Taylor stated that the Second Marsh is one of the last, largest (137 hectares), and most biodiverse coastal wetlands on the North Shore of Lake Ontario. He stated that the Second Marsh is a provincially significant wetland, and area of natural and scientific interest.

P. Taylor also stated that the Second Marsh offers six different habitats that support a large and diverse range of plant and animal species that include:

- 305 bird species,
- 8 reptile and 10 amphibian species,
- Over 18 fish species,
- 30 mammal species,
- 588 plant species,
- 8 provincially significant plant species, and
- 136 plant species regionally not present, rare, and uncommon

P. Taylor further stated that the Marsh is threatened by urban development, incompatible land uses, air, water, noise and light pollution, sedimentation, shoreline erosion, climate change, and invasive species.

P. Taylor informed the Committee that there are several things that could be done to help the Marsh. These include:

- Visiting the Marsh
- Becoming a Member of Friends of Second Marsh (FSM)
- Signing up for the Wetlands & Wildlife Newsletter
- Attending FSM events and Hikes
- Volunteering for FSM Projects
- Donating to FSM

P. Taylor responded to questions from the Committee regarding how to access the Wetlands & Wildlife newsletter; whether there are any plans in the future to restore the shore bird habitat at the marsh; whether there is a mechanism to protect the land in perpetuity during the transition to the City of Oshawa; whether there will be public access again to the West parking lot of General Motors now that the ownership of the parking lot is changing; and what herbicides are used to control the phragmites in the marsh.

6. Items for Discussion

A) Update from Durham Climate Commission Proposal

A. Luqman advised that the proposal to amalgamate the mandate of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change Committee (DRRCC) as it relates to climate change to the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) is scheduled to be presented to Committee of the Whole and Regional Council in December 2022 or January 2023. She also advised that in the meantime, any members who are interested in continuing to volunteer to sit on the DEAC should submit an application for both the DEAC and DRRCC committees.

I. McVey provided additional clarity regarding the potential membership on the proposed Climate Commission that will be based out of Ontario Tech University.

B) Final Draft of the Town of Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan: Phase 1 – Resilience Executive Summary and Implementation Plan

A link to the final draft of the Town of Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan: Phase 1 – Resilience Executive Summary and Implementation Plan was received.

A. Luqman advised that the final draft of the Town of Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan: Phase 1 – Resilience Executive Summary and Implementation Plan will be presented to Whitby Council on September 26, 2022, for approval. She can provide the link to committee members if they wish to submit correspondence or delegate at that meeting.

C) The Greenbelt Foundation 2022 Fall Grant Round

A. Luqman advised that the deadline to submit a letter of intent is September 21, 2022, and that the Greenbelt Foundation 2022 Fall Grant focuses on pandemic recovery by supporting tourism, strengthening the greenbelt, and engaging community members.

D) Letter from Geoff Carpentier, re: LSRCA/Region of Durham/Township of Uxbridge Trailhead Parking Initiative

A letter from Geoff Carpentier, re: LSRCA/Region of Durham/Township of Uxbridge Trailhead Parking Initiative was received as Attachment #1 to the agenda.

G. Carpentier expressed his concerns regarding inadequate public consultation with key user groups such as local naturalists' clubs, the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC), and the Scugog Environmental Advisory Committee (SEAC); and that the tri-party agreement (Durham Region, TRCA, and the Township of Uxbridge) went forward from a lower-tier community who is now assuming the lead and managing the funds when he believes it should be under Regional control as most of the land is Regionally owned.

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) supports in principle the letter from Geoff Carpentier, re: TRCA/Region of Durham/Township of Uxbridge Trailhead Parking Initiative and request that it be referred to the appropriate staff for consideration during the evaluation of the pilot for paid parking at the Durham Regional Forest Tracts, in the Township of Uxbridge.

CARRIED

7. For Information

A) Information Report #2022-INFO-66: Federal Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations

A copy of Report #2022-INFO-66 of the Commissioner of Works was received.

B) Information Report #2022-INFO-65: Trail Sustainability Fund and Pilot for Paid Parking at the Durham Regional Forest Tracts, in the Township of Uxbridge

A copy of Report #2022-INFO-65 of the Commissioner of Works was received.

C) Information Report #2022-INFO-64: Connecting the GGH: A Transportation Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

A copy of Report #2022-INFO-64 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

S. Clearwater expressed her disappointment to see that the Transportation Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe is forecasted out to 2051 and still does not include using the rail line through Myrtle station to Toronto.

- D) Commissioner's Report #2022-COW-16: Updated Source Protection Plans and Assessment Reports for Proposed New Municipal Wells in the Hamlet of Blackstock, in the Township of Scugog, and the Communities of Cannington and Sunderland, in the Township of Brock

A copy of Report #2022-COW-16 of the Acting Commissioner of Works and Commissioner Planning & Economic Development was received.

- E) Commissioner's Report #2022-COW-15: Proposed Wastewater Energy Transfer Project – Dockside Development in the Town of Whitby

A copy of Report #2022-COW-15 of the Acting Commissioner of Works and the Commissioner of Finance was received.

- F) Canadian Green Retrofit Economy Study – Released June 2022 by the Canada Green Building Council

A copy of the Canadian Green Retrofit Economy Study released June 2022 by the Canada Green Building Council was received.

- G) Motion regarding the Lake Scugog Enhancement Project (Item 9.1.1 – June Regional Council Minutes)

A copy of the motion regarding the Lake Scugog Enhancement Project was received.

G. Carpentier advised that the Lake Scugog Enhancement Project includes plans to revitalize the Lake Scugog waterfront, and to create significant wildlife habitats along the waterfront and in the Township of Scugog.

- H) Commissioner's Report #2022-F-16: E-Mission Zero – DRT Fleet Electrification Plan

A copy of Report #2022-F-16 of the Commissioner of Finance was received.

In response to a question from the Committee regarding whether the Region would need to purchase two electric buses for every bus route in order to have one charging while the other one is in service, A. Luqman advised that she would follow-up with Durham Region Transit staff for a response.

- I) Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee meeting – Minutes from May 24th meeting

A copy of the May 24, 2022, Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC) meeting minutes was received.

J) Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee – Minutes from June 14th meeting

A copy of the June 14, 2022, Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee minutes was received.

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by O. Chaudhry,
That Information Items 7. A) to J) inclusive, be received for information.
CARRIED

8. Other Business

A) Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) Farm Tour

O. Chaudhry advised that he and G. Layton attended the DAAC Farm Tour and that it was nicely arranged and was a good experience. He advised that he will put together a small summary of the event to be provided to committee members.

B) DEAC Youth Member

A. Luqman advised that DEAC's youth member, Derek Nguyen, has graduated high-school and is no longer able to sit on DEAC.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2022, starting at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

10. Adjournment

Moved by O. Chaudhry, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM

G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham Environmental
Advisory Committee

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk