

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 15, 2018

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 in Boardroom 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:04 PM.

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog
S. Clearwater, Whitby
C. Duffy, Post-Secondary Member
J. Henry, Regional Councillor, City of Oshawa arrived at 7:17 PM
C. Junop, Youth Member
W. Moss-Newman, Oshawa, Member at Large
C. Pettingill, Second Vice-Chair, Brock
E. Porter, Youth Member
K. Sellers, First Vice-Chair, Ajax
M. Thompson, Ajax, Member at Large

Absent: O. Chaudhry, Pickering
G. Layton, Uxbridge, Member at Large
H. Manns, Chair, Clarington
K. McDonald, Uxbridge
K. Murray, Clarington, Member at Large
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large

Staff

Present: A. Bathe, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
B. Laverick, Project Engineer, Works Department
S. Penak, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
J. Presta, Director, Environmental Services

In the absence of the Chair, K. Sellers, First Vice-Chair, assumed the Chair.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by C. Pettingill,
That the agenda for the February 15, 2018, DEAC meeting, as
presented, be approved.

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by C. Pettingill,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
January 18, 2018 be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Barry Laverick, Project Engineer, Region of Durham Works Department, re:
Duffin Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Reduction Action Plan Study

B. Laverick provided a presentation titled The Duffin Creek WPCP
Phosphorus Reduction Action Plan Study.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Agenda
- Duffin Creek Plant: Recent EA History
- Phosphorus Reduction Action Plan Study
- Minister of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) Algae Study requested by the Town of Ajax
- Ongoing Water Quality Research
- New Lake Erie Phosphorus Limits
 - Studied Lake Erie and recommended new phosphorus limit for wastewater treatment plants in the Lake Erie basin: Legal Phosphorus Limit is 0.05 mg/L
- Proposed Lake Ontario Phosphorus Limits
- Environmental Commissioner of Ontario
 - Before implementing high level of treatment look at lake-wide reduction programs
- Next steps: Collaborative Science and Monitoring Initiative (CSMI) 2018
- Conclusion
- Questions

B. Laverick stated that studies associated with the most recent expansion of the Duffin Creek WPCP have been going on for over a decade. He advised that the information requested by the MOECC included:

- Phosphorus data from the past five years
- Achievable plant performance with optimization
- Assessment of tertiary treatment options
- Determination of lowest effluent phosphorus concentration

- Identify Cladophora growth seasonal window and how to reduce phosphorus during this time
- Feasibility of achieving 0.35 mg/L and 190 kg/d of total phosphorus on an annual basis
- Short, medium and long-term soluble reactive phosphorus reduction strategy

B. Laverick noted that the Phosphorus Reduction Action Plan Study (PRAP Study) that was completed by the Regional Municipality of Durham and the Regional Municipality of York on strategies to further improve phosphorous discharges from the Duffin Creek WPCP has been posted on the Region of Durham website and is available for the public to submit comments to the Ministry until February 23, 2018.

B. Laverick responded to questions from the Committee regarding the reasons for Ajax being included in the study and how residents feel about the feasibility of 0.35mg/L annually; whether incineration is occurring at the Duffin Plant; whether optimization will have a negative impact on the surrounding water fowl; what is the process at the plant and the chemicals used within it; how Duffins' Creek Plant objective concentrations compare to other plants located along Lake Ontario; the nuisance Cladophora situation; different policy receivers; potential of repeat studies during a normal rainfall year; discussions regarding low-tech equipment or remedial action being taken to clean the lakes; and clarification on why optimization was recommended.

J. Presta noted that once the weather is warmer a tour can be arranged for DEAC at the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant.

5. Items for Action

A) Durham Climate Change Symposium De-Brief

Discussion ensued regarding the Durham Climate Change Symposium held February 9, 2018.

G. Carpentier noted that there was an excess of 110 attendees and that the response was amazing. He stated that there was good councillor representation and the speakers/presentations were excellent.

A. Bathe advised that once the presenters have confirmed that their presentations can be released, they will be disseminated and posted to the Durham Region website. She noted she would inform the Committee once this occurred.

B) DEAC Homeowners Guide to Climate Change

A. Bathe advised there is potential for the Committee to develop a Homeowners Guide to Climate Change that would reflect the DEAC Workplan. She asked the Committee to think about this idea and bring any ideas or suggestions to the next DEAC meeting to be held on March 22, 2018.

C) Update on Durham College Centre for Food meeting in June

A. Bathe advised the Committee that the June 21, 2018 DEAC meeting will be held at the Durham College Centre for Food at 7:00 PM. She stated the meeting will begin with a tour of the facility followed by the regular meeting afterwards.

D) New Member-at-Large process

A. Bathe announced that S. Clearwater has accepted the position as the new Whitby representative on DEAC.

A. Bathe advised that a letter has been sent to the Town of Whitby to endorse at their next Council meeting and once that occurs DEAC can look for a new member-at-large.

6. Items for Information

A) Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-8 – Climate Change Symposium
February 9, 2018

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-8 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #2 to the agenda.

B) Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-11 – Source Water Protection Annual Report

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-11 of the Commissioner of Works was received as Attachment #3 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the 26 risk areas associated with Source Water Protection; where they are located; and if Greenbank is identified as a risk area.

A. Bathe confirmed that Source Water Protection and the 26 risk areas are associated with Wellhead Protection Areas around municipal wells and not related to surface runoff from Greenbank.

C) Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-14 – Source Water Protection Screening Procedures

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-14 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #4 to the agenda.

D) Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-16 – Amendment to Provincial Transit Funding Agreement for the Phase 1 Highway 2 Bus Rapid Transit Quick Win Project (PULSE)

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-16 of the Commissioner of Finance was received as Attachment #5 to the agenda.

E) Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-21 – Monitoring of Land Division Committee Decisions of the December 11, 2017 and January 15, 2018 meetings

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-21 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #6 to the agenda.

Moved by Councillor Henry, Seconded by G. Carpentier,
That Information Items A) to E) inclusive, be received for
information.

CARRIED

7. Other Business

A) Natural Areas Neighbours Guide Wall Map

A. Bathe informed the Committee that the Province, just two days ago, sent their finalized natural heritage system information. She stated to stay tuned for a Natural Areas Neighbours Guide Wall Map.

G. Carpentier advised that a few copies of the Natural Areas Neighbours Guide were handed out at the Climate Change Symposium. A. Bathe advised she would send the accessible PDF version of the Natural Areas Neighbours Guide to the Committee.

B) Durham Region Pulse Bus and Transit

Councillor Henry noted the success of the Durham Region Pulse Bus that runs from Mary Street in Oshawa to the University of Toronto Campus in Scarborough. He stated that it has moved over 800,000 people and that a number of cars have been taken off the road because one fare is now able to take a passenger in a complete circle. He also noted that the Durham Region Pulse Bus is run by Durham Regional Transit and not Metrolinx.

Discussion ensued regarding a statistical analysis of how many cars have been taken off the road; the Oshawa Trail Network; what information is gathered through travel time studies; and a general sense of the number of people that commute and what modes of transportation they use.

A. Bathe advised the Committee that they are in the process of getting a Transit Planner in place.

C) Forests Ontario Annual Conference Update

K. Sellers advised the Committee that she attended the Forests Ontario Annual Conference on February 9, 2018. She noted that there were great presentations focusing on climate change and that the keynote speaker was Mark Robinson from Storm Hunters. She also noted that there were almost 400 attendees at the conference.

D) Port Granby Project Citizen Liaison Group (CLG)

S. Clearwater notified the Committee that her application had been accepted to sit on the Port Granby CLG on behalf of DEAC. She noted that she will be attending a tour of the project and receiving an orientation. She will report back to the Committee throughout the year.

E) The Diet That Helps Fight Climate Change

C. Pettingill showed a short YouTube video from the University of California titled: The diet that helps fight climate change, by conservation scientist Dr. M. Sanjayan. The video explores the surprising elements of our lives that contribute to climate change and the groundbreaking work being done to fight back.

8. **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, March 22, 2018 starting at 7:00 PM in Boardroom 1-B, Level 1, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

9. **Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Henry, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM

K. Sellers, First Vice-Chair, Durham
Environmental Advisory Committee

S. Penak, Committee Clerk