

**The Regional Municipality of Durham**

**MINUTES**

**DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**March 22, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, March 22, 2018 in Boardroom 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:02 PM.

Present: O. Chaudhry, Pickering  
S. Clearwater, Whitby  
C. Duffy, Post-Secondary Member  
J. Henry, Regional Councillor, City of Oshawa  
G. Layton, Uxbridge, Member at Large  
H. Manns, Chair, Clarington  
K. McDonald, Uxbridge  
W. Moss-Newman, Oshawa  
K. Murray, Clarington, Member at Large  
C. Pettingill, Second Vice-Chair, Brock  
E. Porter, Youth Member  
K. Sellers, First Vice-Chair, Ajax  
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large  
M. Thompson, Ajax, Member at Large

Absent: G. Carpentier, Scugog  
C. Junop, Youth Member

**Staff**

Present: A. Bathe, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department  
S. Penak, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by K. McDonald, Seconded by K. Sellers,  
That the agenda for the March 22, 2018, DEAC meeting, as  
presented, be approved.

**CARRIED**

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by K. Sellers, Seconded by O. Chaudhry,  
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,  
February 15, 2018 be adopted.  
CARRIED

**4. Presentations**

A) Diana Shermet, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA), re:  
Invasive Species (Phragmites)

D. Shermet provided a presentation titled CLOCA Invasive Species  
Management Strategy.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Outline
- Background
- Accomplishments
- Identifying Gaps & Moving Forward
- CLOCA Invasive Species Management Strategy (ISMS) (2017-2027)
- Phragmites Specific Projects
  - Mapping;
  - Management; and
  - Partnerships
- Phragmites Mapping
- 2015 versus 2017
  - Reduction in stem density by 71%
  - Greater diversity of native species present – 15 native species observed
- Phragmites Management
- 2017
- Partnerships
- Questions

D. Shermet advised that CLOCA has been informally addressing invasive species through a holistic approach since 1995. CLOCA developed an Invasive Species Management Strategy (ISMS) in November 2010 that outlines eight key areas of focus: Prevention; Communication; Best Management Practices; Prioritization; Implementation; Collaborations; Policy; and Research and Monitoring. She noted that the goal of CLOCA's ISMS is

to protect the native biodiversity of CLOCA's watersheds from the threat of invasive species.

D. Shermet noted a key objective of CLOCA's ISMS is to work with partners to communicate the threats of invasive species and educate the public on how to prevent, detect, respond and manage invaders. She stated a few of the current partnerships include the Phragmites Adaptive Management Framework (PAMF) and providing advice and expertise to municipal staff.

D. Shermet also noted that during phragmites mapping at Heber Downs Conservation Area which is a provincially significant area, rare and uncommon species were found.

D. Shermet responded to questions from the Committee regarding how Durham Region compares to other municipalities as it relates to phragmites growth; the duration of phragmites regrowth after treatment and whether follow-up will occur on remaining stocks; the process of flattening the stocks and what chemical is used; other technologies available to reduce or eliminate phragmites; the effect the herbicide has on the other native species in the treated areas; and whether workshops are given to municipalities on invasive species management strategies.

## **5. Items for Action**

### **A) DEAC Awards Subcommittee Recommendations – vote on award winners**

A. Bathe reviewed the sub-committee process used to select the recipients for the 2018 Environmental Achievement Awards. K. McDonald presented the sub-committee's recommendations for the recipients of the George A. Scott Stewardship Award, Dr. J. Murray Speirs Restoration Award, Irene Kock Education/Communication Award, Eric Krause Innovative Plans/Policies/Initiatives Award, Jessica Markland Partnerships Award, and Evylin Stroud Lifetime Achievement Award.

Discussion ensued regarding the recommended recipients.

Moved by Councillor Henry, Seconded by M. Thompson,  
That the sub-committee's recommended recipients of the Eric Krause Innovative Plans/Policies/Initiatives Award, George A. Scott Stewardship Award, Dr. J. Murray Speirs Restoration Award, Irene Kock Education/Communication Award, Jessica Markland Partnerships Award, and Evylin Stroud Lifetime Achievement Award be submitted to the Committee of the Whole as DEAC's nominations for the 2018 Environmental Achievement Awards.  
CARRIED

B) DEAC Awards Volunteers

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Discussion ensued regarding the format for the evening. It was the consensus of the Committee to stay with the same format as last year's DEAC awards and to have the committee members present the awards to the winners.

A. Bathe explained that volunteers will be required to assist with the registration table and to greet attendees at the entrances of the building. A. Bathe will create a Google Document and send out for the Committee to select what positions they would be interested in volunteering for that evening.

A. Bathe will follow up with staff regarding the logistics of rescheduling the May DEAC meeting from May 17, 2018 to May 30, 2018 in order to have the DEAC meeting occur after the 2018 DEAC Awards being held on May 30, 2018.

C) Discussion of the role of DEAC in environmental education

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Discussion took place regarding ways in which DEAC could become more involved or proactive in the community and how to assist in providing environmental education in future projects.

It was suggested that DEAC send an invitation to the Works Department and Health Department offering DEAC's services at the beginning stages of any project to discuss strategies on how to connect more to the public. A. Bathe stated that departmentally there is a project manager for each project that staff member would be the most knowledgeable about all aspects of the project from beginning to end. If a member of the public was unsure about the information, the project manager would be the individual to go to. She also noted that a lot of the documents associated with projects get public-facing through the environmental registry or project website for consultation.

Suggestions included:

- Posting and sharing the topics of presentations coming to DEAC Committee meetings on personal social media sites; and
- Informing A. Bathe of potential topics or specific speakers the Committee would be interested in learning or hearing about, such as include:
  - The Ontario Municipal Board being replaced with the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT);
  - A presentation from any municipal planner in order to understand the process of completing a project from start to finish;
  - A tandem presentation between a regional planner and a lower tier municipal planner; and
  - The provincial planning process presentation given at Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change.

## **6. Items for Information**

- A) Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-27 – Summary of Commissioners Delegated Planning Approval Authority and 2017 Report on Planning Activities

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-27 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #2 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the approval and justification process for amending the Regional Official Plan specifically the permit to expand the VicDom Sand and Gravel pit in the Township of Brock and the two additional golf courses in Uxbridge.

Discussion also ensued regarding the funding Clarington recently received from the 407 funds to plant 80,500 trees at the top of Soper Creek and Bowmanville Creek. A. Bathe advised that she would contact local municipalities regarding where the funding goes and if there is an application process to receive such funding.

- B) Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-30 – Agricultural and Rural Affairs E-Newsletter – February 2018

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-30 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #3 to the agenda.

- C) Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-39 – Monitoring of Land Division Committee Decisions of the February 12, 2018 meeting

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-39 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #4 to the agenda.

D) Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-42 – Durham Climate Change Symposium

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A copy of Report #2018-INFO-42 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was received as Attachment #5 to the agenda.

H. Manns informed the Committee that the Agricultural Task Force and the Food Security Task force will be re-launched.

E) Central Lake Ontario Conservation Year in Review

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A copy of the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Year in Review was received as Attachment #6 to the agenda.

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

CARRIED

**7. Other Business**

A) Port Granby Project Citizen Liaison Group (CLG)

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S. Clearwater stated that the tour and orientation will be taking place Wednesday March 28, 2018 from 4:00-6:30 PM.

B) Bee Condominiums

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A. Bathe informed the Committee that Costco is currently selling bee condominiums. K. McDonald noted that the bee condominiums can be high maintenance and need to be cleaned on a regular basis once the larvae have emerged.

Councillor Henry informed the Committee that NAV CANADA set up two beehives at the Oshawa Executive Airport last summer. Local NAV CANADA air traffic control tower staff collected the honey and then sold it which raised \$4,000. NAV CANADA matched that amount and \$8,000 was donated to Hope Air which provides free flights to those in financial need to receive medical care far from their home.

C) Southeast Collector (SEC) Trunk Sewer Project

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H. Manns noted that she took part in a teleconference relating to the environmental assessment report of the Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer Project.

Discussion ensued regarding the southeast collector trunk sanitary sewer replacement of the watermain through Scarborough. Through the environmental assessment report to the Ministry of the Environment, no odour issues were noted and no ammonium was detected in the air.

S. Clearwater asked how the high density condominium buildings affect the loading; whether builders have to show they are not changing groundwater flow; and if the builders are responsible for any changes in run off. H. Manns stated that she would follow up on that.

D) News from around the table

K. Sellers noted that tree planting season is coming up.

E. Porter informed the Committee that she had recently returned from Boulder City, Colorado where they are aiming to become a zero waste city.

**8. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, April 19, 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 K. Murray,  
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

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H. Manns, Chair, Durham Environmental  
Advisory Committee

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S. Penak, Committee Clerk