

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 11, 2018

A regular meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 in Boardroom 1-A, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:30 PM

Present: Z. Cohoon, Federation of Agriculture, Chair
E. Bowman, Clarington
B. Howsam, Member at Large
J. Henderson, Oshawa
K. Kemp, Scugog
K. Kennedy, Member at Large
F. Puterbough, Member at Large, Vice-Chair
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
H. Schillings, Whitby
B. Smith, Uxbridge
G. Taylor, Pickering
T. Watpool, Brock, Vice-Chair
B. Winter, Ajax

Absent: I. Bacon, Member at Large
G. O'Connor, Regional Chair

Staff

Present: K. Kilbourne, Project Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
L. MacKenzie, Agriculture Program Coordinator, Department of Planning and Economic Development
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

1. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by K. Kemp, Seconded by B. Winter,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee
meeting held on June 12, 2018 be adopted.
CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Presentations

A) Dr. Christopher Wellen and Eleonora Gagliardi, Ryerson University, Research Project, Farming on the Urban Fringe: Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities

Dr. Wellen and E. Gagliardi provided a PowerPoint Presentation regarding Farming on the Fringe: Challenges and Opportunities.

Dr. Wellen stated that the Farming on the Urban Fringe project is being conducted by a small team from Ryerson University who will be studying farm areas in and around Durham Region to better understand the opportunities and pressures of farming on the urban fringe. Dr. Wellen stated that the study will focus on what has changed on the agricultural landscape since the 1970's and the relationship between social factors and land management.

E. Gagliardi stated that the research also looks at better understanding the unique farming conditions that take place on the urban fringe and how land tenure and policies affect soil. She stated that the team will look at different farms and their perspectives and practices with regards to farm management, soil health and land tenure systems and how they are interrelated. E. Gagliardi advised that the geographic scope of the project is currently limited to a small area in west Durham, however, she is interested in expanding the scope and doing further research in the Durham Region area. Interviews are currently being conducted and will focus on the following 6 thematic areas: farm operations; soil health; land tenure; future change; demographics; and tests. The information collected will be used for research and the data will remain confidential. She welcomed any interested members in assisting with providing data for the team's research.

Dr. Wellen and E. Gagliardi responded to questions of the committee with regards to determination of the study area and the importance of getting data from a broad spectrum of farms.

4. Discussion Items

A) 2018 DAAC Farm Tour

Discussion ensued regarding the final details of the Farm Tour being held September 13, 2018 at Reesor Elevators in Scugog. Z. Cohoon confirmed that the picnic tables will be moved to the Farm Tour location on Wednesday, September 12, 2018. D. Risebrough confirmed that decorations, parking, tents and milk are in place. He stated that group leaders are still needed for the stations.

B) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update – N. Rutherford

L. MacKenzie, Agriculture Program Coordinator, provided the following update on behalf of N. Rutherford, Manager, Agriculture and Rural Affairs:

- 64 face to face interviews have been conducted with regards to the Local Food Business Retention and Expansion Project and the survey data has been entered into the database. Next steps are to analyze data; develop goals and action plans; prepare final report and action plans.
- The current Agricultural Strategy is coming to the end of its 5 years in 2018. Staff is starting the process to revise the Strategy for the next 5 years.
- There will be a NAFTA/Trade Roundtable held in October at Regional Headquarters in Durham Region and hosted by The Honourable Jim Wilson, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. Representatives from the agricultural sector, including dairy, are encouraged to participate.
- The Smart Cities Forum is being held on September 29, 2018 at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT). The forum will be the first event in a broader series of municipal engagement activities in anticipation of the next round of the federal Smart Cities Challenge. There will be exhibit areas, one of which will feature innovation in agriculture. Any members using technology are welcome to attend and demonstrate that technology. L. MacKenzie provided a handout with additional information on registering.

C) Application to amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Clark Consulting Services on behalf of Mike Kennedy, to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels in the Township of Uxbridge, File: OPA-2018-003

A copy of the Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Clark Consulting Services on behalf of Mike Kennedy, to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels in the Township of Uxbridge, File: OPA 2018-003 was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda. Discussion ensued with regards to the details surrounding the proposed severance.

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by K. Kemp,
That the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee supports the
Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted
by Clark Consulting Services on behalf of Mike Kennedy to permit
the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the
consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels in the Township of
Uxbridge, File: OPA 2018-003.
CARRIED

5. Information Items

A) Correspondence from MPAC re: On-Farm Business Subclasses

A copy of the correspondence from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) dated June 11, 2018 regarding small-scale on-farm business subclasses was provided as Attachment #3 to the Agenda and received. Discussion ensued with regards to the optional subclasses for both industrial and commercial property classes to promote and support local farm enterprises across Ontario. K. Kilbourne advised that she has requested further information from MPAC, which will be provided at a subsequent meeting.

B) Carruther's Creek Watershed Plan Update (2018-INFO-102)

A copy of Information Report #2018-INFO-102 from the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan Update was provided as Attachment #4 to the Agenda and received.

C) Correspondence from Durham Farm Connections re: 150 Farm Families Commemoration

A copy of correspondence from Durham Farm Connections dated July 4, 2018 regarding the 150 Farm Families Commemoration was provided as Attachment #5 to the Agenda and received.

D) ROPA 2018-003 Mike Kennedy/Clark Consulting Public Meeting Report (2018-COW-XX)

A copy of Early Release Report #2018-COW-XX of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding an Application to amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Clark Consulting Services on behalf of Mike Kennedy, to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels in the Township of Uxbridge was provided as Attachment #6 to the Agenda and received.

E) ROPA 2018-001 Youngfield Farms Recommendation Report (2018-COW-XX)

A copy of Early Release Report #2018-COW-XX of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding an Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Youngfield Farms Limited, to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels in the Township of Scugog was provided as Attachment #7 to the Agenda and received.

F) Proposed Revisions to Advisory Committees Terms of Reference (2018-COW-159)

A copy of Report #2018-COW-159 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding Proposed Revisions to the Terms of Reference for the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee, Durham Active Transportation Committee, and Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was provided as Attachment #8 to the Agenda and received.

6. Other Business

There were no items of other business.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 starting at 7:30 PM in Boardroom 1-B, Level 1, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

8. Adjournment

Moved by B. Winter, Seconded by B. Smith,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM

Z. Cohoon, Chair, Durham
Agricultural Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk