

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 21, 2019

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, February 21, 2019 in Boardroom 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:06 PM.

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog
S. Clearwater, Whitby
C. Duffy, Post-Secondary Member
G. Layton, Uxbridge, Member at Large
H. Manns, Chair, Clarington
K. Murray, Clarington, Member at Large
K. Sellers, First Vice-Chair, Ajax
M. Thompson, Ajax, Member at Large
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby

Absent: O. Chaudhry, Pickering
K. McDonald, Uxbridge
W. Moss-Newman, Oshawa
C. Pettingill, Second Vice-Chair, Brock
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large

Staff

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

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by K. Sellers, Seconded by G. Carpentier,
That the agenda for the February 21, 2019 DEAC meeting, as
presented and as amended, be approved.
CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by G. Carpentier, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
November 15, 2018 be adopted.
CARRIED

Moved by K. Sellers, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
January 17, 2019 be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Heather Brooks, Chair, re: Natural Environment Climate Change Collaborative

H. Brooks provided a Presentation titled: “Natural Environment Climate Change Collaborative”.

H. Brooks asked that the Committee keep the following questions in mind during the presentation:

- 1) Are there adaptation methods, products, or programs, that you as a committee think are important to engage regarding resilience of the natural environment?
- 2) Are you aware of any gaps that if implemented, would enhance climate change resiliency?

H. Brooks advised the Committee that the climate is expected to get warmer, wetter and wilder, with an increase in temperatures by 4 degrees, 16% more precipitation, rain storms that will become more extreme, and violent storms that will increase by about 15%. These changes will result in very hot days that will impact the vulnerable communities, infrastructure, and erosion of natural systems.

H. Brooks stated that building climate resilience will involve both mitigation (action to reduce emissions that cause climate change) and adaptation (action to manage the risks of climate change impacts) strategies.

H. Brooks advised that the Towards Resilience: Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan was approved in December 2016 and to achieve climate change resilience in the natural environment would involve:

- 1) Adaptive Management of Plans & Policies;
- 2) Collaboration; and
- 3) Stewardship, Education and Outreach.

H. Brooks noted that the Natural Environment Climate Collaborative was established at the end of August 2018 to avoid duplication, exchange information with all municipalities, and network. She also noted that a key outcome of the Ontario Climate Consortium (OCC) report was a recommended completion of an Ensemble Climate Change Model specific for Durham Region.

H. Brooks advised that funding was secured to hire an individual to update the model which is planned to be completed by the end of 2019. It will incorporate the global climate model, dynamic downscaling, and extremes and averages for the variables that are being put into the model. This in turn will help inform the Watershed Plans, Official Plans, Conformality Amendment and other programs and policies that need to be updated.

H. Brooks also advised the Committee that on March 7, 2019 at St. Francis Centre for Community Arts & Culture in Ajax, there will be the Durham Region Natural Climate Change Summit, meant to promote the importance of the natural environment, share successes, create opportunities for implementation, and share and gain knowledge.

A. Luqman advised that the Natural Environment Climate Change Collaborative is looking for two members of DEAC to be represented at the Summit, and she will email the details of the Summit and the presentation to the Committee.

H. Brooks responded to questions of the Committee regarding short and long-term projections and analyzing the old model to help the future; the concentration of developments resulting in more heat islands; bringing the agricultural and developmental sectors together at the Natural Environment Climate Change Collaborative; and whether there is a distinct group that takes ownership of the mitigation strategies.

5. Items for Discussion/Action

A) Update on 2019 DEAC Awards

A. Luqman advised the Committee that the DEAC Awards are tentatively set for June 26, but that date is dependant on when new members come in. She noted that a report will be considered at the March 5, 2019 Planning & Economic Development Committee regarding the appointment of new members. The report will be considered by Regional Council on March 27, 2019.

Discussion ensued regarding soliciting nominations prior to the new committee being formed and that members for the DEAC Awards Sub-committee should be appointed at the DEAC meeting on March 21, 2019.

B) Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority – Invitation to a Stormwater Management Workshop on Friday, March 1, 2019, at Cardinal Golf Course from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

A copy of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority – Invitation to a Stormwater Management Workshop was received as Attachment #3 to the agenda.

C) Rain it in Student Competition, Water Environment Association Ontario

A copy of the Rain it in Student Competition, Water Environment Association Ontario correspondence was received as Attachment #4 to the agenda.

A. Luqman advised the Committee that the co-founder of the Rain it in Student Competition, Ellen Stitt, was a former DEAC youth member.

6. Items for Information

A) Monitoring – Regular Reports

1. Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-149 – Monitoring of Growth Trends

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-149 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received as Attachment #5 to the agenda.

2. Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-154 – Monitoring of Land Division Committee Decisions of the November 5, 2018 meeting

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-154 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received as Attachment #6 to the agenda.

3. Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-3 – Monitoring of Land Division Committee Decisions of the December 10, 2018 meeting

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-3 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received as Attachment #7 to the agenda.

4. Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-158 – Durham York Energy Centre Source Test Update

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-158 of the Commissioner of Works was received as Attachment #8 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the maximum point of impingement compared to the limits within the Ontario Regulation 419/05 Air Pollution – Local Air Quality.

The Committee noted their interest on having a speaker on the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) at a future meeting.

5. Commissioner's Report #2018-INFO-159 – Summary of Commissioner's Delegated Planning Approval Authority, and Summary of Planning Activity in the Third Quarter of 2018

A copy of Report #2018-INFO-159 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received as Attachment #9 to the agenda.

Moved by G. Carpentier, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That Information Items 6A), 1) to 5) inclusive, be received for
information.

CARRIED

B) Water Quality

1. Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks 2017-2018 Chief Drinking
Water Inspector Annual Report

A copy of the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks 2017-2018
Chief Drinking Water Inspector Annual Report was received as Attachment
#10 to the agenda.

2. Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks – Minister's Annual Report
on Drinking Water 2018

A copy of the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks Annual
Report on Drinking Water 2018 was received as Attachment #11 to the
agenda.

S. Clearwater noted her concerns regarding the use of systemic pesticides
and neonicotinoids, and the ecological damage they may cause.

Discussion ensued regarding posing the following question to the Ministry of
the Environment: what monitoring, or standards do you have in place for
systemic pesticides?

3. Mark Majchrowski, CAO Kawartha Conservation – re: Writing to the
Honourable Rod Philips, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
regarding the ongoing challenges that face the rural municipalities in
providing cost effective water rates to the community, while meeting Drinking
Water Standards

A copy of the correspondence from Mark Majchrowski, CAO Kawartha
Conservation regarding the ongoing challenges that face the rural
municipalities in providing cost effective water rates to the community, while
meeting Drinking Water Standards was received as Attachment #12 to the
agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the tone of the letter and whether it is a normal
process to ask the province to de-regulate and impose no further regulations
regarding drinking water standards.

4. Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-4 – 2018 Source Water Protection Annual Report

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-4 of the Commissioner of Works was received as Attachment #13 to the agenda.

S. Clearwater noted that for the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Protection Region, risk management procedures will be negotiated dependent on pesticide being applied.

S. Clearwater was asked by the Chair to follow-up on the Trent website, to find more detailed information on their fertilizers and pesticides and bring back to the Committee.

Moved by G. Carpentier, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That Information Items 6B), 1) to 4) inclusive, be received for information.

CARRIED

C) Environment and Climate Change

1. Regional Response to the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Environment and Climate Change Canada regarding Bill C-69 Impact Assessment

A copy of the Regional Response to the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Environment and Climate Change Canada regarding Bill C-69 Impact Assessment was received as Attachment #14 to the agenda.

2. Consultation #2 on Draft Durham Agricultural Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

A copy of the Consultation #2 on Draft Durham Agricultural Climate Change Adaptation Strategy was received as Attachment #15a and 15b to the agenda.

S. Clearwater noted her concern on Page 7 of Attachment 15b that stated, "due to the seasonal nature of agriculture and the timing of work on the creation of the Durham Climate Adaptation Plan (DCCAP), the agricultural sector stakeholders were not available to participate". Discussion ensued regarding the tone that statement sets for the whole document and that the grassroots group is missing.

Moved by K. Murray, Seconded by K. Sellers,
That Information Items 6C), 1) and 2) inclusive, be received for information.

CARRIED

D) Conservation

1. Commissioner's Report #2019-COW-5 – Preserving and Protecting our Environment for Future Generations – A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan

A copy of Report #2019-COW-5 of the Chief Administrative Officer was received as Attachment #16 to the agenda.

S. Clearwater noted her concerns with there being no mention of upgrading an existing freight line from Myrtle Station to Union Station to service residents in the North; and about controls for depositing hauled sewage and septage (waste from septic tanks) on farmer's fields.

2. Correspondence from Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer – Regional response regarding Bill 66 (Schedule 10) – Proposed Amendments to the Planning Act and Open-for-Business Planning Tool and Regulation

A copy of the Correspondence from Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer regarding the Regional response regarding Bill 66 (Schedule 10) – Proposed Amendments to the Planning Act and Open-for-Business Planning Tool and Regulation was received as Attachment #17 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the old school mentality that sustainable living is opposed to economic development.

A. Luqman advised that all of schedule 10 of Bill 66 has been repealed.

3. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's comments on Preserving and Protecting our Environment for Future Generations: A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan

A copy of the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's comments on Preserving and Protecting our Environment for Future Generations: A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan was received as Attachment #18 to the agenda.

It was advised that the deadline for comment was January 28, 2019.

4. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority – 2018 Year in Review publication with highlights from some of their 2018 programs and services

A copy of the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority – 2018 Year in Review publication with highlights from some of their 2018 programs and services was received as Attachment #19 to the agenda.

Moved by K. Murray, Seconded by K. Sellers,
That Information Items 6D), 1) to 4) inclusive, be received for information.

CARRIED

7. Other Business

A) Quorum At Meetings

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the issue of obtaining a quorum during the few months after a new term of Council comes into effect, and possible changes to the appointment process that could be made to streamline the process.

It was also noted that receipt of nominations from area municipalities can be an issue and delay the appointments of new members.

Further discussion ensued regarding Ajax decreasing the number of advisory committees by almost half.

8. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2019 starting at 7:00 PM in Boardroom 1-B, Level 1, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

9. Adjournment

Moved by K. Murray, Seconded by K. Sellers,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM

H. Manns, Chair, Durham Environmental
Advisory Committee

S. Penak, Committee Clerk