

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 18, 2019

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, April 18, 2019 in Boardroom 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:04 PM.

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog
O. Chaudhry, Pickering
S. Clearwater, Whitby
J. Cuthbertson, Clarington
R. Dickinson, Brock
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
G. Layton, Oshawa
K. Lui, Member at Large
K. Murray, Member at Large
D. Sallans, Member at Large
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large
M. Thompson, Member at Large
D. Upadhyay, Youth Member
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby, attended the meeting at 7:09 PM

Absent: C. Duffy, Post-Secondary Member

Staff

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

A. Luqman chaired the meeting until the Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs [See Item 5.A) on pages 2 to 4 of these minutes.]

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by K. Murray, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That the agenda for the April 18, 2019 DEAC meeting, as presented be approved.

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by G. Carpentier, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
February 21, 2019, be adopted.

CARRIED AS AMENDED (See Following
Motion)

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,
That the second paragraph on page 7 of the February 21, 2019
DEAC Minutes, under Item 6 B) Items for Information, in part D)
Conservation, to Commissioner's Report #2019-COW-5, be
amended so that it now reads as follows:

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.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Aneesah Luqman, Project Planner, re: Welcome new DEAC members
(Orientation)

A. Luqman provided a Presentation titled: "Welcome to DEAC: 2019-2022
Orientation" and welcomed all new and returning DEAC committee
members.

A. Luqman provided an overview of the roles and responsibilities of regional
planning and the provincial planning context. She also provided an overview
of DEAC and DEAC's role to provide advice to the Region on environmental
planning matters.

A. Luqman provided further details regarding the terms of reference, annual
workplan, conflict of interest, expense claims, agenda distribution, and
quorum and attendance.

5. Items for Action

A) Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs

Election of the DEAC Chair

S. Penak, Committee Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Chair of
the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That G. Carpentier be nominated for the position of Chair of the
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Stathopoulos, Seconded by K. Murray,
That J. Cuthbertson be nominated for the position of Chair of the
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Sallans, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

S. Penak asked if G. Carpentier and J. Cuthbertson wished to stand. J.
Cuthbertson indicated he did not wish to stand. G. Carpentier indicated he
wished to stand.

G. Carpentier was acclaimed to the position of Chair.

Election of the DEAC First and Second Vice-Chairs

S. Penak, Committee Clerk, called for nominations for the positions of First
and Second Vice-Chair of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by G. Layton, Seconded by R. Dickinson,
That K. Lui be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by D. Stathopoulos,
That G. Layton be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by K. Murray, Seconded by O. Chaudry,
That D. Stathopoulos be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of
the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by G. Carpentier,
That D. Sallans be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Sallans, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That J. Cuthbertson be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of
the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by D. Sallans, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

S. Penak asked if K. Lui, G. Layton, D. Stathopoulos, D. Sallans, and J.
Cuthbertson wished to stand. G. Layton, D. Stathopoulos, and D. Sallans
indicated they did not wish to stand. K. Lui and J. Cuthbertson indicated they
wished to stand.

K. Lui and J. Cuthbertson were acclaimed to the positions of First and
Second Vice-Chair, respectively.

G. Carpentier assumed the position of Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

B) Review 2019 DEAC Meeting Schedule

A copy of the 2019 DEAC Meeting Schedule was received as Attachment #2 to the agenda.

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by K. Murray,
That the 2019 DEAC Meeting Schedule be approved.
CARRIED

C) Review and approve 2019 DEAC Terms of Reference and Workplan

A copy of the 2019 DEAC Terms of Reference and Workplan was received as Attachment #3a and #3b to the agenda.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the 2019 DEAC Workplan and the Terms of Reference. Discussion included: the meaning of the statement “provide advice”; how advisory committees work at lower tier municipalities; how to ensure DEAC’s comments are sent to the appropriate staff members and communicated to Regional Council; how staff delineate what is an environmental policy and what’s not; DEAC being more involved at the beginning of the process in regard to providing comments; and having planning timelines align better with DEAC.

Further discussion ensued regarding the importance of community outreach; how ideas are generated for community environmental and stewardship events; whether the Durham Environmental Achievement Awards will occur this year; the working relationship with the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee; formatting the Workplan to include a success column as a mechanism to monitor the success of the committee; and having various knowledgeable speakers present at DEAC on a variety of topics.

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by D. Sallans,
That we recommend to the Planning & Economic Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the proposed 2019 Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) Workplan and Terms of Reference, be approved.
CARRIED

6. Items for Information

A) DEAC Feedback on Report #2019-P-5: Region of Durham Woodland Conservation and Management By-law

A copy of Report #2019-P-5 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received as Attachment #4 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the legal terminology used in the by-law and how it may not be appropriate for the lay person, but that it does cover off all the provisions; not all municipalities having a tree by-law; consequences for not following the by-law; and the importance of protecting small parcels of trees as well as large forests.

A. Luqman advised that the official comments were due April 12, 2019 but she received an unofficial extension of Wednesday, April 24, 2019 to give DEAC members further time to comment. G. Carpentier noted that he was comfortable sharing his comments with the committee and circulating them through email.

The Committee also noted that trees were the main focus of the Durham Climate Change Symposium that was held on February 9, 2018.

B) Envision Durham – Climate Change & Sustainability Discussion Paper Overview

A copy of the Envision Durham – Climate Change & Sustainability Discussion Paper Overview was received as Attachment #5 to the agenda.

A. Luqman noted that the Climate Change & Sustainability Discussion Paper is an overview of all topics and builds on the areas of energy efficiency, air quality, compact urban form and climate change mitigation as they relate to the Regional Official Plan. She also noted that if any committee members had comments, to submit them to her directly.

C) Notice of Study Commencement - Town Wide Bridges and Culverts Hydraulic Capacity Assessment Master Plan

A copy of the Notice of Study Commencement - Town Wide Bridges and Culverts Hydraulic Capacity Assessment Master Plan was received as Attachment #6 to the agenda.

D) Notice of Study Commencement - Whitby Coastal Flood Hazard Risk Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

A copy of Notice of Study Commencement - Whitby Coastal Flood Hazard Risk Municipal Class Environmental Assessment was received as Attachment #7 to the agenda.

E) Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-9 – Monitoring of Land Division Committee Decisions of the January 14, 2019 Meeting

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-9 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received as Attachment #8 to the agenda.

F) Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-10 – Update on Remaining Landfill Capacity in Ontario

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-10 of the Commissioner of Works was received as Attachment #9 to the agenda.

G) Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-13 – EBR 013-4551 Making Polluters Accountable: Industrial Emission Performance Standards

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-13 of the Commissioner of Works was received as Attachment #10 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the difference between the Cap and Trade system and the proposed new Ontario regulation that establishes Emission Performance Standards (EPS) for industrial carbon emitters. It was noted that comments can still be submitted through the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry.

H) Commissioner's Report #2019-INFO-17 – Monitoring of Land Division Committee Decisions of the February 11, 2019 Meeting

A copy of Report #2019-INFO-17 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received as Attachment #11 to the agenda.

I) Memorandum from John Henry, Regional Chair and CEO – re: Letter to Premier Doug Ford regarding Single-Use Plastics in Ontario

A copy of the Memorandum from John Henry, Regional Chair and CEO – re: Letter to Premier Doug Ford regarding Single-Use Plastics in Ontario was received as Attachment #12 to the agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of single use plastics and the word “reduction” not being mentioned in the letter because elimination should be a priority. Further discussion ensued regarding what products Durham accepts in their recycling program, and that the City of Peterborough accepts Styrofoam and plastic bags.

The committee expressed their interest in having items for information and items for comment more clearly defined in the agenda.

Moved by M. Thompson, Seconded by K. Murray,
That Information Items 6A) to 6I) inclusive, be received for information.

CARRIED

7. Other Business

A) Regional Envirothon

D. Stathopoulos advised the Committee that Durham College will be hosting the Regional Envirothon on May 9, 2019 and that the Oshawa Environmental Advisory Committee will be sponsoring the event.

B) Pollinator Awareness Week

D. Upadhyay informed the Committee that his school is preparing for pollinator awareness week. It will occur the first week of June and a conference for all schools in Durham regarding how to achieve the bee city school designation is currently being organized.

C) Off-leash Dog Park in the Township of Scugog

G. Carpentier stated that after viewing the site for the recently proposed off-leash dog park in the Township of Scugog, he observed many concerns with the proposed location as a cold-water stream, forest, and meadow run through it. He informed the Committee that he wrote a detailed proposal to the Township suggesting a different parcel of land, that if fenced and signed properly, would resolve all the issues. G. Carpentier attended the public open house April 16, 2019 and noted that the Township had taken his suggestions into consideration and changed their perspective.

8. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2019 starting at 7:00 PM in Boardroom 1-B, Level 1, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

9. Adjournment

Moved by O. Chaudhry, Seconded by M. Thompson,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM

G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham
Environmental Advisory Committee

S. Penak, Committee Clerk