

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 8, 2021

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, April 8, 2021 in Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:00 PM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog, Chair
O. Chaudhry, Pickering
S. Clearwater, Whitby
J. Cuthbertson, Clarington, Second Vice-Chair
R. Dickinson, Brock
C. Doody-Hamilton, Member at Large
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
G. Layton, Oshawa attended the meeting at 7:05 PM
K. Lui, Member at Large, First Vice-Chair
K. Murray, Member at Large
D. Nguyen, Youth Member
S. Panchal, Youth Member
B. Shipp, Member at Large attended the meeting at 7:15 PM
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby attended the meeting at 7:10 PM

***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: M. Thompson, Ajax
J. Whalen, Post-Secondary Member

Staff

Present: S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
A. Luqman, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by K. Murray, Seconded by D. Stathopoulos,
That the agenda for the April 8, 2021 DEAC meeting, as presented,
be approved.

CARRIED

3. Declarations of Interest

G. Carpentier made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Item 6. E) ROPA 2021-002 Regional Official Plan Amendment in the City of Pickering – Bunker Hill Golf Course. He indicated that he completed a survey at the Bunker Hill Golf Course 3 years ago.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by O. Chaudhry,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
March 18, 2021, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Presentations

A) Green Infrastructure, Yuestas David, Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)

Yuestas David, Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Green Infrastructure.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Water Balance
- Grey Infrastructure – Stormwater Conveyance
- Green Infrastructure – Restore to Pre-Development Water Balance
- Stormwater Management Objectives
- Stormwater Quantity – Grey vs Green Infrastructure
- Stormwater Quality
- STEP's LID Life Cycle Costing Tool
- RSMeans – LID Life Cycle Costing Tool
- Green Infrastructure (GI) Cost Comparison
- Green Infrastructure Opportunity Assessment
- Objectives and Deliverables
- Inventory of RoP's Land Assets
- Typical Site Summaries
- LID Treatment Train Tool (Free)
- Function
 - Integration
- Typical Site Summary – Human Services
- GI/Site Design Considerations
- Pre – to Post – Green Infrastructure
- Human Services
 - SWM Results
 - GI Costs
- Example Installed Projects

- Kortright Bioretention
- Kortright Bioretention/Infiltration Chamber
- Co-Benefits of GI

Y. David responded to questions from the Committee regarding the difference between stormwater management (SWM) ponds and wet ponds; whether there is there an advantage of a bioswale over a typical SWM pond in that the plants chosen for the bioswale may trap contaminants whereas the SWM pond won't; what can be saved financially in grey infrastructure when a municipality invests in green infrastructure; the benefits of bioswales on the environment; high density developments not allowing for any landscaping; the depth of the samples obtained from the infiltration chamber and whether the samples were checked for pesticide residue; and whether the research into quantifying the co-benefits of green infrastructure ultimately qualify the cost of ecosystem services provided.

6. Items for Discussion/Input

A) Update on DEAC Climate Resiliency Guide

A. Luqman advised that the DEAC Climate Resiliency Guide was presented to the Planning & Economic Development Committee on April 6, 2021 and will subsequently be presented to Regional Council on April 28, 2021. Once approved by Regional Council there will be a formal launch that will include a public service announcement and a social media campaign. She also advised that J. Cuthbertson will be making a presentation to the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change Committee on April 16, 2021.

Discussion ensued regarding making a few hard copies of the guide available around the Region.

B) Update from DEAC Environmental Awards Subcommittee

A. Luqman advised that there were no further updates since the last DEAC meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding putting an ad in the local newspapers. A. Luqman advised that she would reach out to corporate communications for further information.

C) Update from DEAC Webinar Series Subcommittee

A. Luqman advised that she forwarded the proposed webinar schedule to B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development.

Discussion ensued regarding the following potential webinar topics for the Fall:

- September – Lam Tran from LEAF to discuss the importance of urban forests, opportunities for community engagement and involvement, and environmental benefits;
- October – Chantal Whitaker, Sustainability Officer, City of Pickering to discuss sustainability initiatives in the City of Pickering; and
- Fall - Moranne McDonnell, Vice President, Distribution Operations, Elexicon, to discuss sustainable energy initiatives in Durham Region

Discussion also ensued regarding hosting a webinar that would discuss the creation of meadows or prairies and their development.

D) Spring Bee Pollinator Seedling Distribution Project Update

A. Luqman advised that the seeds have been purchased and that a draft design for the seed packet labels has been created. She advised that she confirmed with waste services staff that they are moving forward with their compost events where DEAC will be able to distribute the seed packets.

E) ROPA 2021-002 Regional Official Plan Amendment in the City of Pickering – Bunker Hill Golf Course

A copy of the ROPA 2021-002 Regional Official Plan Amendment in the City of Pickering – Bunker Hill Golf Course was provided to the Committee through SharePoint.

A. Luqman advised that this amendment would redesignate the subject site from prime area to major open space area and would include a redevelopment of the golf course. She advised that comments are requested by April 16, 2021.

Discussion ensued regarding how this amendment would contribute to long-term sustainability and the reduction of the Region's carbon footprint.

F) Envision Durham Memorandum, re: Climate Change and Environment Proposed Policy Directions Overview

A copy of the Envision Durham Memorandum, re: Climate Change and Environment Proposed Policy Directions Overview was received as Attachment #2 to the agenda.

A. Luqman advised that there will be a presentation at DEAC next month regarding the Envision Durham: Climate Change and Environment Proposed Policy Directions Overview.

7. For Information

- A) Commissioner's Report #2021-A-21 – Climate Change Update and Durham Region Corporate Climate Change Action Plan
- A copy of Report #2021-A-21 of the Chief Administrative Officer of Works was received.
- Discussion ensued regarding the importance of ensuring that carbon impacts are front and centre in all elements of Regional business in order to meet the targets outlined in Report #2021-A-21 of the Chief Administrative Officer.
- B) Commissioner's Report #2021-COW-3 – Regional Submission to the Ministry of the Environment Lake Simcoe Protection Plan 10-year Review
- A copy of Report #2021-COW-3 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development and Commissioner of Works was received.
- C) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-26 – 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
- A copy of Report #2021-INFO-26 of the Commissioner of Works was received.
- Concern was noted with respect to the discrepancy between this report and Report #2021-INFO-10: 2020 Source Water Protection Annual Report that highlighted the use of pesticides, whereas this report did not.
- Discussion ensued regarding the difference in terminology used between the two reports to subclassify pesticides.
- D) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-27 – Staff Comments on Proposed Hazardous and Special Products Regulation Environmental Registry of Ontario #019-2836
- A copy of Report #2021-INFO-27 of the Commissioner of Works was received.
- E) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-31 – Canada Healthy Communities Initiative
- A copy of Report #2021-INFO-31 of the Commissioner of Finance was received.
- F) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-35 – Durham York Energy Centre Source Test Update
- A copy of Report #2021-INFO-35 of the Commissioner of Works was received.

G) DAAC minutes from its March 9, 2021 meeting

A copy of the March 9, 2021 DAAC meeting minutes was received.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by O. Chaudhry,
That Information Items 7A) and 7G) inclusive, be received for
information.

CARRIED

8. Other Business

A) Scugog Environmental Advisory Committee – Potential Tree Cutting By-Law

G. Carpentier advised that the Scugog Environmental Advisory Committee (SEAC) is proposing to talk to the residents of the Township of Scugog and ask them what they think about implementing a tree cutting by-law that would be different than the Regional by-law and would address smaller scale issues. He advised that the Committee is currently working through what type of questions they should ask the residents, and that education will be key in order to foster native trees and the use of proper terminology.

9. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, May 20, 2021 starting at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

10. Adjournment

Moved by O. Chaudhry, Seconded by K. Murray,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM

G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham
Environmental Advisory Committee

S. Glover, Committee Clerk