

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 20, 2021

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, May 20, 2021 in Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:02 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
R. Dickinson, Brock
C. Doody-Hamilton, Member at Large attended the meeting at 7:11 PM
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
G. Layton, Oshawa
K. Lui, Member at Large, First Vice-Chair
D. Nguyen, Youth Member
S. Panchal, Youth Member
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: J. Cuthbertson, Clarington, Second Vice-Chair
K. Murray, Member at Large
B. Shipp, Member at Large
M. Thompson, Ajax
J. Whalen, Post-Secondary Member
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby

Staff

Present: A. Bathe, Senior Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
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 O. Chaudhry, Seconded by B. Foxton,
That the agenda for the May 20, 2021 DEAC meeting, as
presented, be approved.

CARRIED

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by O. Chaudhry,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
April 8, 2021, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Presentations

A) Envision Durham Environment & Climate Change Policies, Amanda Bathe,
Senior Planner

Amanda Bathe, Senior Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation
regarding Envision Durham Environment & Climate Change Policies.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Presentation Overview
- Context
- Discussion Papers
- Policy Review Approach
- Proposed Policy Directions
- Healthy Communities
 - Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction
 - Climate Resilient Development
 - Nature Based Solutions
- Protected Greenlands System
 - Establish a Regional Natural Heritage System
 - Significant Woodlands and Significant Valleylands Study
- Supportive Infrastructure
- Connected Transportation System
- Next Steps

A. Bathe responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether canopy protocols and targets include developers of new subdivisions; whether Durham Region is proposing incentives to encourage private sector construction of green buildings; how the Natural Heritage Systems (NHS) link to developments where natural features appear not to be preserved; how significant valley lands mapping differs from conservation authority mapping; the difference between the protected Greenland Systems and the NHS and the need to clarify the difference; the importance of strengthening the language around “no net loss” and ensuring it includes no net loss of wetlands; whether Durham Region should create a tree canopy policy similar

to the Regional Municipality of York; whether Durham Region should restrict land applications of septage waste ; what garden suites are and where they would be located; and excess soil management and whether the soil is free of contamination.

Discussion ensued regarding whether the Committee would like to comment on the Envision Durham Environment & Climate Change Policies as a group or individually. It was the consensus of the Committee to send any comments to A. Luqman prior to the June DEAC meeting to see whether there is consensus to submit comments as a group.

6. Items for Discussion/Input

A) Update on DEAC Climate Resiliency Guide

A. Luqman advised that the DEAC Climate Resiliency Guide was endorsed by Regional Council on April 28, 2021. She advised that a few hard copies have been printed and that she has received multiple emails from interested citizens requesting a hardcopy. She suggested that Committee members share the link to the Guide first and then if someone would like a hard copy to email her directly.

B) Update from DEAC Environmental Awards Subcommittee

G. Layton advised that the DEAC Environmental Awards Subcommittee met on May 10, 2021. She advised that a link was provided to the subcommittee members to review the nominations that have been received and that C. Acosta, Planner, provided them with an awards scoring sheet.

G. Layton advised they have received 13 nominations but have not yet received a nomination for the Lois James Leadership Award. A. Luqman advised that school boards have been contacted directly and have been given until May 28th, 2021 to submit a nomination. G. Layton advised that the subcommittee will meet again in three weeks.

C) Update from DEAC Webinar Series Subcommittee

A. Luqman advised that all five webinars that were scheduled for the months of April and May have been completed. She advised that the backyard chickens webinar and the creative planting spaces were the most attended. She advised that a second series is being planned for the Fall and that C. Doody-Hamilton is working on that series.

D) Spring Bee Pollinator Seedling Distribution Project Update

A. Luqman advised that all Waste events had to be cancelled with the earlier announcement of the extended stay at home order. She advised that the seed packets and stickers could be assembled through the Summer in order

to be ready for a possible return to in person Waste events in the Fall. She further advised that Waste staff provided her with contacts for local community gardens as another avenue to distribute the seed packets.

E) Town of Whitby Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review

A. Luqman advised that the Town of Whitby is updating their Comprehensive Zoning By-Law in order to identify potential gaps between the Region of Durham and the Town of Whitby Official Plans. She advised that comments are being accepted until May 28, 2021.

7. For Information

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

A copy of Envision Durham Memorandum, re: Climate Change and Environment Proposed Policy Directions Overview was received.

B) ROPA 2021-002 Notice of Complete Application and Public Meeting

A copy of ROPA 2021-002 Notice of Complete Application and Public Meeting was received.

C) Notice of Study Completion – Whitby Coastal Flood Risk Assessment and Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

A copy of the Notice of Study Completion – Whitby Coastal Flood Risk Assessment and Municipal Class Environmental Assessment was received.

D) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-36 – 2020 Annual Water Pollution Control Plants Performance Report

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-36 of the Commissioner of Works was received.

E) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-40 – Durham York Energy Centre Annual Report Update

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-40 of the Commissioner of Works was received.

F) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-45 – Quarterly Report – Commissioner's Delegated Planning Approval Authority, and Summary of Planning Activity in the First Quarter of 2021

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-45 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

G) DAAC minutes from its April 13, 2021 meeting

A copy of the April 13, 2021 DAAC meeting minutes was received.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by D. Stathopoulos,
That Information Items 7 A) to 7 G) inclusive, be received for
information.

CARRIED

8. Other Business

A) James L. Baillie Memorial Birdathon 2021

G. Carpentier announced that he will be taking part in the 2021 James L. Baillie Memorial Birdathon. He advised that he would send a secure link to the James L. Baillie Memorial Birdathon to Committee members if anyone wished to make a donation.

9. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, June 17, 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 S. Clearwater,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM

G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham
Environmental Advisory Committee

S. Glover, Committee Clerk