

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 18, 2021

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, November 18, 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
K. Lui, Member at Large, First Vice-Chair, attended the meeting at 7:03 PM
D. Nguyen, Youth Member
S. Panchal, Youth Member
A. Panday, Post-Secondary Member
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby attended the meeting at 7:12 PM

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

Absent: K. Murray, Member at Large
B. Shipp, Member at Large
M. Thompson, Ajax

Staff

Present: R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
A. Luqman, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the CAO
N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

At this time, the Chair requested a moment of silence for the people of British Columbia who have been displaced or driven out of their homes due to the weather conditions.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by O. Chaudhry, Seconded by D. Stathopoulos,
That the agenda for the November 18, 2021 DEAC meeting, as
presented, be approved.

CARRIED

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by C. Doody-Hamilton, Seconded by O. Chaudhry,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
October 21, 2021, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Presentations

**A) LEAF Backyard Tree Planting Program Update, Erin MacDonald, Acting
Executive Director**

Erin MacDonald, Acting Executive Director, Local Enhancement &
Appreciation of Forests (LEAF), provided a PowerPoint presentation
regarding an update on the LEAF Backyard Tree Planting Program.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Durham Region: July 2020 to today
- Backyard Tree Planting Program: Year 1 Accomplishments
- Backyard Tree Planting Program: Year 1 Participant Data
- Backyard Tree Planting Program: Goals for Year 2
- Naturalization Planting Events: October 2021
- Education and Engagement Events
- Free Native Shrubs: available to volunteers and event participants
- Keys to Success

E. MacDonald advised that LEAF has been delivering the Backyard Tree Planting Program in Toronto and York Region for over 20 years. She stated that the program is a tree planting program for private properties and that they also work in collaboration with municipalities. She added that the Backyard Tree Planting Program was launched in Durham Region in July 2020 and has been a great success so far.

E. MacDonald provided an overview of the first-year accomplishments of the program. She advised that a total of 212 property owners participated in the program with the top reasons for participating being the arborist consultation as well as the subsidized price. She reviewed the goals for year 2 of the program which will run from fall 2021 to spring 2022 and advised that their target for year 2 is to plant 267 trees.

E. MacDonald advised that they had 3 successful community planting events in October 2021 in the City of Oshawa, Town of Whitby and City of Pickering where over 750 trees/shrubs were planted. She also advised that since July 2021, they have hosted a number of virtual education and engagement events. She further advised that there is a program where native shrub species are distributed free of charge to volunteers and those that specifically participated in their education events. This year, 310 native shrub species were distributed.

E. MacDonald stated that she is impressed with everyone's willingness to collaborate and they had some successful social media campaigns as well as excellent municipal partner relationships and support.

E. MacDonald responded to questions from the Committee regarding what the native species for the deciduous and coniferous trees are, as well as the height of the coniferous trees being planted in the program; and, whether there are plans to approach the municipalities of Brock, Uxbridge and Clarington to get them on board as well.

6. Items for Discussion/Input

A) Appointment of DEAC Representative on Durham Community Energy Plan – Implementation Governance Task Force, Ian McVey

I. McVey stated that the Durham Community Energy Plan (DCEP) implementation necessitates a "whole of society" approach that involves local and other levels of governments, citizens, businesses, educational institutions, non-profit organizations and other entities. He stated that staff is looking to bring together a task force of cross sectoral representatives and would like to include a representative from DEAC. He advised that it is a 6-month commitment with the first meeting to be held in January 2022 until June 2022.

Moved by K. Lui, Seconded by S. Clearwater,

That Jay Cuthbertson be appointed as the DEAC representative on the Durham Community Energy Plan – Implementation Governance Task Force.

CARRIED

B) 2022 DEAC Workplan and Terms of Reference

Copies of the 2022 DEAC Workplan and Terms of Reference were received as Attachments #2 and #3 to the agenda.

Moved by J. Cuthbertson, Seconded by S. Clearwater,
That we recommend to the Planning and Economic Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the proposed 2022 Durham Environmental Advisory Committee Workplan be amended as follows, and as amended, be approved:

Under Section 2.0 Community Outreach and Stewardship

- remove “continue developing a residents’ guide to climate resilience” under high priority
- add “Invasive species management” under medium priority
- add “Pollinator seedling distribution project” under medium priority

Under Section 3.0 Community Education & Development

- add “Education around Just Transition initiatives”

Under Section 4.0 Issues of Interest

- add “Greenbelt”
- add “Minister’s Zoning Orders”
- add “Durham Community Energy Plan – Implementation Governance Task Force”
- add “Large-scale fill operations”

CARRIED

Discussion ensued with regards to DEAC’s interaction with DAAC and DATC and it was requested that A. Luqman advise whether the minutes from those meetings are shared between the committees.

Discussion also ensued with regards to whether the Region has a role in fill management across the local municipalities and it was requested that A. Luqman look into which municipalities are authorizing large scale fill operations.

Moved by C. Doody-Hamilton, Seconded by O. Chaudhry,
That we recommend to the Planning and Economic Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the proposed Durham Environmental Advisory Committee Terms of Reference be approved.

CARRIED

C) 2022 Meeting Schedule

A copy of the 2022 Durham Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule was received as Attachment #4 to the agenda.

Moved by J. Cuthertson, Seconded by K. Lui,
That the 2022 Durham Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
Schedule, as presented, be approved.
CARRIED

D) Update from DEAC Webinar Series Subcommittee

Luqman advised that the webinar series have been completed and staff is working on getting them posted on YouTube. Discussion ensued with regards to having the attendance to better evaluate participation.

7. For Information

A) Developing Durham Region's Nuclear Sector Strategy: Engagement Summary Report

A copy of the Developing Durham Region's Nuclear Sector Strategy: Engagement Summary Report was received.

S. Clearwater requested that A. Luqman look into when the committee was requested to participate.

B) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-108 – Durham York Energy Centre Source Test Update

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-108 of the Commissioner of Works was received.

C) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-111 – Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) Environmental Achievement Awards

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-111 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

D) Commissioner's Report #2021-COW-29 – Durham Region Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan – Final Submission

A copy of Report #2021-COW-29 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development and the Commissioner of Social Services was received.

- E) Commissioner's Report #2021-P-24 – Decision Meeting Report, re:
Application to Amend the Durham Region Official Plan to Permit the
Development of a Grain Processing Facility in the Township of Uxbridge

A copy of Report #2021-P-24 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,
That Information Items 7 A) to 7 E) inclusive, be received for
information.

CARRIED

8. **Other Business**

- A) Scugog Tree By-Law Update

G. Carpentier advised that the proposed Tree By-law for the Township of Scugog would be covering trees not covered under the Regional Tree By-law. He advised that there is a draft public survey that will be presented to Scugog Council in December and that he will be speaking on behalf of the Scugog Environmental Advisory Committee to get their support to proceed with the survey.

- B) Friends of the Second Marsh Board Meeting

S. Clearwater advised that the Friends of the Second Marsh Board Meeting is scheduled for November 24, 2021 from 3 to 5 PM.

- C) Anish Panday – Carruthers Creek

A. Panday advised that Rod Phillips, Ajax MPP, has recently stated that he supports putting the Carruthers Creek Headwaters into the Greenbelt.

Discussion ensued with regards to whether DEAC can put forward a motion of support. It was decided that staff would reach out to B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, to get more information as well as a timeline for commenting.

9. **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2022 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 D. Stathopoulos,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM

G. Carpentier, Chair
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council