

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 14, 2022

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:30 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Z. Cohoon, Federation of Agriculture, Chair
N. Guthrie, Member at Large
G. O'Connor, Member at Large attended the meeting at 8:13 PM
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
H. Schillings, Whitby
B. Smith, Uxbridge, Vice-Chair
G. Taylor, Pickering
T. Watpool, Brock, Vice-Chair
B. Winter, Ajax
***members of the Committee participated electronically**

Absent: T. Barrie, Clarington
G. Highet, Regional Councillor
B. Howsam, Member at Large
K. Kemp, Scugog
K. Kennedy, Member at Large
F. Puterbough, Member at Large

Staff

Present: A. Brown, Program Specialist, Department of Planning and Economic Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
M. Scott, Project Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
***all staff except R. Inacio participated electronically**

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by B. Smith,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting
held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Jade Schofield, Project Manager – Sustainability and Climate Change, Town of Whitby & Eleri Davies, Sustainable Solutions Group – Climate Emergency Response Plan

Jade Schofield, Project Manager – Sustainability and Climate Change, Town of Whitby and Eleri Davies, Sustainable Solutions Group, provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to the Whitby Climate Emergency Response Plan.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Today's Objective and Agenda
- Engagement Questions
- About Sustainable Solutions Group (SSG)
- Whitby's Climate Emergency Response
 - Whitby Climate Action Timeline
 - Climate Change Master Plan
- Phase 1: Climate Adaptation Plan
 - An Adapted Whitby
 - How We Engaged
- Phase 2: Climate Mitigation Plan
 - The Process: Mitigation Plan
 - Project Outputs: Mitigation
- Merging the Technical and Engagement Processes
 - CityInSight Model Overview
 - How We Engage
- We Want Your Feedback

J. Schofield advised that the presentation would be an update on how the Town of Whitby, as a community, plans on responding to the changing climate, and the development of a climate emergency response plan.

E. Davies provided a brief overview of Whitby's Climate Action Timeline, Climate Adaptation Plan, and Climate Mitigation Plan. She also provided an overview of the spatial, temporal and financial analysis that was done to develop the Implementation Guide and identification of the five key adaptation measures.

E. Davies advised they are currently in Phase 2 of the Climate Mitigation Plan and discussed the project outputs from the Mitigation Plan. She stated that a technical and engagement process are merged when developing a climate plan by using a series of guiding principles which will align with Federal, Provincial, and international policies. She provided an overview of the CityInSight spatial and temporal model and discussed the various input and output scenarios and models used to develop climate plans.

Members of the committee were requested to provide feedback on the following engagement questions:

1. The project will be successful if:
2. What are some opportunities to reduce GHG emissions in the Town of Whitby?
3. What are some challenges to reduce GHG emissions in the Town of Whitby?
4. What questions do you have for us about the project?

E. Davies advised that the questions will be available on menti.com for members to provide their comments or feedback.

J. Schofield responded to questions with regards to where energy comes from; how it is produced; and the difference between a zero-emission vehicle and a fuel burning vehicle.

Discussion ensued with regards to electric vehicles; energy production; recycling of used batteries; ecological goods and services for agriculture; the importance of agriculture for fuel and food; energy efficiency and reducing emissions; and carbon tax costs.

B) Mike Scott, Project Planner, Planning and Economic Development Department – Implementation of the Regional Agricultural System

Mike Scott, Project Planner, Planning and Economic Development Department, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the Implementation of the Draft Regional Agricultural System.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Durham Regional Official Plan Context
- Major Open Space Areas
- Prime Agricultural Areas
- Project Context
- Project Context – Alternative Slide
- Assessment Unit Review Criteria
- Proposed Changes

- Agri-Food System
- Next Steps

M. Scott advised that Report #2022-P-16: Envision Durham – Implementation of the Provincial Agricultural System was presented to the Planning and Economic Development Committee on June 7, 2022. M. Scott provided a review of the Regional Agricultural Systems Map Viewer for members of the committee.

Discussion ensued with regards to the difference in Land Use Designation between the Urban Area Boundary and the Assessment Unit as contained in Attachment #5 to Report #2022-P-16; and whether hydro properties will be designated as Prime Agricultural Area or Major Open Space.

5. Discussion Items

A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update

A. Brown provided the following update:

- Report #2022-EDT-10: Growing Agri-Food Durham – A Five-Year Plan to Grow the Agri-Food Industry was presented to the Planning and Economic Development Committee on June 7, 2022 and will go to Council on June 29, 2022.
- Durham Farm Fresh Marketing Association provided their annual update to the Planning and Economic Development Committee and will be receiving funding.
- Allison Brown, Stacey Jibb, Michael Scott and OMAFRA hosted an Agricultural Economic Development and Planning Workshop for municipal planners, economic developers, and building officials regarding agriculture and recommended collaboration of respective professions.
- Durham Region Federation of Agricultural will be hosting a workshop in partnership with OMAFRA regarding storm recovery. The workshop will be held virtually on June 21, 2022 at 7:30 PM and a link will be circulated to committee members.

B) 2022 DAAC Farm Tour Sub-Committee Report

D. Risebrough provided the following update:

- Farm Tour planning and organization is going well for the September 15th Farm Tour at Sargent's Family Dairy. All logistical items are in place and will finalize everything over the summer months.
- The final meeting will take place on September 13th with preparation over two days before the farm tour and requesting committee member assistance during set up.

C) May 25 Council Meeting Delegation

Z. Cohoon advised that he presented to Regional Council on May 25, 2022 regarding Envision Durham – Growth Management Study Land Need Assessment to reiterate the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee’s position with respect to adopting Scenario 5.

6. Information Items

A) Report #2022-P-16 – Envision Durham – Implementation of the Provincial Agricultural System

A copy of Report #2022-P-16 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development – Envision Durham – Implementation of the Provincial Agricultural System was provided as a link to the Agenda and received.

B) Municipal Agricultural Fees Comparison

The Municipal Agricultural Fees Comparison Chart was shared with members of the committee. A. Brown requested members of the committee to review the comparison chart for site plans, building permits, and site alterations by municipality in Durham and advise if they have any questions.

C) Report #2022-EDT-10 – Growing Agri-Food Durham – A Five-Year Plan to Grow the Agri-Food Industry

A copy of Report #2022-EDT-10 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development – Growing Agri-Food Durham – A Five-Year Plan to Grow the Agri-Food Industry was provided as a link to the Agenda and received.

A. Brown advised that the document will be converted into a graphically designed format and will then be circulated to the public.

7. Other Business

There was no other business to be considered.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 starting at 7:30 PM.

9. Adjournment

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by B. Winter,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Z. Cohoon, Chair, Durham Agricultural Advisory
Committee

K. Smith, Committee Clerk