

Present: Beatrice Adesemowo, Chair
David Budd
Poonam Dewan
Robynne Dunn
Gayle Giesbrecht
Mahroz Hussain
Laurie Kuchirka, Vice-Chair
Melanie Maloney
Patti Mavins, Whitby in Bloom Committee Representative
Miranda Pautler
Judy Rivers
Michelle Thornley

Also Present: Councillor Yamada, Mayor's Designate
Suprajha Vaithianathan, Staff Liaison, Energy & Sustainability
Programs Coordinator
Heather Ellis, Council and Committee Coordinator (Recording
Secretary)

Regrets: Timothy Eric

Call to Order

1. Disclosures of Interest

1.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes - October 6, 2021

Recommendation:

Moved By Laurie Kuchirka

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of October 6, 2021 be approved.

Carried

3. Presentations

3.1 Danielle Luciano, Operations Technician, Durham-York Energy Centre,
Regional Municipality of Durham
Re: Waste Management in the Region of Durham

Danielle Luciano provided a presentation regarding Waste Management in the Region of Durham. Highlights of the presentation included:

- delivering programs to schools and community groups about waste management;
- areas of service for residential waste;
- the 5 R's including, rethink, reduce, reuse, recycle, and recover of waste management;
- producing energy from the combustion of garbage through the Durham York Energy Centre;
- waste diversion achievements;
- the Durham Residential Waste 2018 Audit results; and,
- proposed solutions such as increased throughput at the Durham York Energy Centre, a Mixed Waste Pre-sort and Anaerobic Digestion facility, and developing a new Long-term Waste Management Plan.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- whether there was an initiative for businesses;
- whether there was an initiative in place to include multi-residential dwellings in organic waste recovery;
- whether electricity was being generated from the waste and if natural gas generation was an option;
- the target date and location for the Anaerobic Digestion facility;
- how would the increase in throughput at the Durham York Energy Centre and Anaerobic Digestion facility impact greenhouse gas emissions;
- why there were no increases in recycled waste;
- whether the breakdown in waste materials by type was available; and,
- whether the Region could work with the property management of multi-residential dwellings to establish an organic waste program.

4. Delegations

4.1 There were no delegations.

5. General Business and Reports

5.1 Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) Fall Tree Planting

Suprajha Vaithianathan provided an update regarding the Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) Fall Tree Planting event. Ms. Vaithianathan stated that the event was well received and over 60 members of the community participated in the event.

5.2 Waste Reduction Week Celebrations

Suprajha Vaithianathan provided an update regarding the Waste Reduction Week Celebrations. Ms. Vaithianathan stated that the two webinars were well attended and links to the recordings would be emailed to Members of the Committee.

A brief question and answer period ensued regarding whether the links would be shared with people who registered for the event.

5.3 2022 First Quarter Celebrations

Suprajha Vaithianathan requested feedback from the Committee regarding the 2022 first quarter celebrations.

Canada Water Day

Suprajha Vaithianathan stated that Canada Water Day would be March 22, 2022. Ms. Vaithianathan advised that the Town was planning an in-person screening of the documentary called 'Plastics' by A Greener Future.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- whether there would be a 'virtual option' arranged if COVID-19 restrictions were still mandated; and,
- whether there would be a panel discussion following the film.

Earth Hour, Earth Month, Earth Week and Earth Day

Suprajha Vaithianathan stated that Earth Hour would be March 26, 2022. Ms. Vaithianathan further stated that April 2022 was Earth Month, April 18 to 22, 2022 was Earth Week, and Earth Day was April 22, 2022. She advised that online and social media posts would be advertising activities and events associated with those dates. She requested

feedback from the Committee regarding activities to celebrate Earth Month, Week, Day and Hour.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- submitting proclamation requests;
- hosting an internal competition between the Town facilities to reduce energy consumption during Earth Hour;
- challenging schools to reduce energy consumption during Earth Hour;
- providing gloves and garbage bags for community cleanups;
- coordinating cleanups with schools;
- increasing planting events such as tree planting and planting native species gardens; and,
- hosting a competition for waste collection among residents.

2022 Year of the Garden

Suprajha Vaithianathan requested that the Committee provide clarification regarding defining 'a garden friendly community' and what that means for the Town.

Heather Ellis provided the definition put forward by Jade Schofield and the Committee discussed the matter.

It was the consensus of the Committee to define a 'Garden Friendly Community' as a commitment by the Town that would include:

- enhancing the natural greenspaces through ongoing maintenance and naturalization efforts including tree planting and expansion of native plant gardens on Town property; and,
- educating and informing residents of the benefits of gardening through the delivery of educational programs and the Whitby in Bloom Garden Tour hosted by the Whitby in Bloom Committee and the Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) Backyard Tree planting program.

5.4 Appointment of Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Representative for the Whitby in Bloom Committee

Heather Ellis advised that the appointment of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Representative for the Whitby in Bloom Committee would take place at this time.

Laurie Kuchirka nominated Poonam Dewan for the position of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Representative for the Whitby in Bloom Committee.

Poonam Dewan accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations and the nominations were closed.

Recommendation:

Moved By Laurie Kuchirka

That Poonam Dewan be appointed as the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Representative for the Whitby in Bloom Committee for the remainder of 2021.

Carried

5.5 Whitby in Bloom Committee Update

Patti Mavins provided an update regarding the Whitby in Bloom Committee which included:

- the 2022 Speaker Series;
- the Whitby in Bloom Committee 2022 Garden Tour;
- including Cullen Central Park on the Whitby in Bloom Committee 2022 Garden Tour; and,
- adding new gardens in Cullen Central Park.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Correspondence from C. Castle on behalf of Sailwinds Condominium Green Team

Re: Durham Region Works Department, 'Where Does Your Waste Go?'

Beatrice Adesemowo stated that correspondence had been received regarding the Durham Region Works Department, 'Where Does Your Waste Go?' online event.

Laurie Kuchirka stated that the event highlighted waste concerns regarding multi-residential units that was addressed in the 'Waste Management in the Region of Durham' presentation.

7. Council Update

7.1 Councillor Yamada provided an update regarding:

- the Economic Development Strategy;
- the Outdoor Recreational Ice Skating - Natural Ice Surface Pilot Project; and,
- an upcoming item on the regional Health and Social Services Committee agenda, Unbudgeted Provincial funding from the

Ministry of Long-Term Care for Increase in Staffing Hours and
Supporting Professional Growth for the Four (4) Regional
Municipality of Durham Long Term Care Homes.

8. Other Business

8.1 There was no other business.

9. Next Meeting

9.1 Wednesday, December 1, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

10. Adjournment

10.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Michelle Thornley

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Note: These minutes were approved by the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee on December 1, 2021.