

Present: Beatrice Adesemowo
Laurie Kuchirka, Vice-Chair
Miranda Pautler
Judy Rivers
Robynne Dunn
Patti Mavins, Whitby in Bloom Committee Representative

Also Present: Councillor Yamada, Mayor's Designate
Jade Schofield, Project Manager, Sustainability and Climate Change
Suprajha Vaithianathan, Staff Liaison, Energy & Sustainability
Programs Coordinator
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator
(Recording Secretary)

Regrets: M. Christine Castle, Chair
Timothy Eric
Gayle Giesbrecht
Melanie Maloney

Call to Order

1. Disclosures of Interest

1.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes - April 7, 2021

Recommendation:

Moved By Patti Mavins

That the Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of April 7, 2021 be approved.

Carried

3. Presentations

3.1 Jade Schofield, Project Manager, Sustainability and Climate Change, Town of Whitby

Re: Introduction of Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Staff Liaison, Suprajha (Supri) Vaithianathan, Energy and Sustainability Program Coordinator

Jade Schofield introduced Suprajha Vaithianathan, Staff Liaison, Energy and Sustainability Program Coordinator, to the Committee. Ms. Schofield advised that Supri would be the Staff Liaison for the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

3.2 John Taylor, Senior Manager, Zoning and Regulation, Town of Whitby
Re: Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review: Notice of Phase One Virtual Community Open House

John Taylor provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review, Notice of Phase One Virtual Community Open House. Highlights of the presentation included:

- the purpose and timeline to create a new Zoning By-law that would implement regional and provincial policies, align with the Town's Official Plan, reflect current zoning practices, and was web-based and user friendly;
- reviewing Whitby's three existing Zoning By-laws;
- general provisions of the Zoning By-law such as accessory apartments and structures, new provisions such as community and rooftop gardens, and fencing between residential and non-residential uses;
- reviewing zoning for mixed uses, agricultural, open space, and natural heritage;
- assessing current provisions for parking and driveways; and,
- focusing on public and stakeholder concerns regarding current Zoning By-laws during phase one consultations.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- whether the Zoning By-law amendments would be aligned with the Envision Durham Study and updates that are planned for the Official Plan; and,
- whether changes to the Zoning By-laws would increase housing costs.

4. Delegations

4.1 There were no delegations.

5. General Business and Reports

5.1 Climate Conversations Webinar Series Update

Jade Schofield provided an update regarding the Climate Conversations Webinar Series which included:

- the results from the Earth Week kickoff and Durham Farm Fresh presentation; and,
- the upcoming Climate Conversation Webinar on Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the importance of highlighting local farmers;
- distributing Durham Farm Fresh brochures; and,
- the opening of the local farmers' market at Simcoe Street and Bond Street.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- the number of registrants versus the number of attendees for the webinars; and,
- whether registrants were registering for all four webinars or individual webinars.

5.2 Zero Carbon Whitby Report Update

Jade Schofield provided an update regarding the Zero Carbon Whitby Report which included:

- Council's approval of the Report;
- an upcoming news release on May 17, 2021; and,
- Whitby's status as one of three municipalities in Canada with a Carbon Budget.

5.3 District Energy Pre Feasibility Report Update

Jade Schofield provided an update regarding the District Energy Pre Feasibility Report which included:

- presenting the District Energy Pre Feasibility Report to Council at the Committee of the Whole meeting on May 3, 2021; and,
- Council's endorsement of the next steps for designing a geothermal district energy system to support the North Whitby Sports Complex and surrounding commercial and industrial businesses.

5.4 Upcoming Reports

Sustainability Annual Report

Jade Schofield advised that the Sustainability Annual Report would be finalized and presented to Council at the June 7, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting. Ms. Schofield advised that the Report included initiatives from 2020 across all Town departments.

Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) Backyard Tree Planting Program

Jade Schofield advised that the Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) Backyard Tree Planting Program Report would highlight the success of the LEAF Program in Whitby. Ms. Schofield stated that Whitby was the most successful municipality in Durham Region and that the Town would be seeking endorsement from Council to continue this program for an additional five years.

Climate Adaptation Plan

Jade Schofield advised that community engagement would be initiated throughout the summer 2021 for the Climate Adaptation Plan. Ms. Schofield further advised that this Committee would be consulted throughout the engagement strategy.

5.5 Fall Community Engagement Brainstorming

Jade Schofield requested that the Committee discuss opportunities for fall community engagement.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- activities for National Shoreline Cleanup in September 2021 such as a shoreline cleanup and encouraging families to help with the cleanup, and hosting a cleanup education workshop to understand what happens to garbage and recycled goods that are collected;
- activities for National Forest Week, September 19 to 25, 2021 such as providing a tree identification presentation, paint night, or sustainable art project on National Tree Day, and hosting a tree identification workshop followed by a scavenger hunt;
- activities for Waste Reduction Week in October 2021 such as creating a virtual tour of a waste facility, providing a 'did you know' article to educate the public on how much recycled waste was recycled versus dumped in dump sites; and,
- additional activities such as a litter game, clean-up and swap days, a waste reduction scavenger hunt, and developing a

resource guide highlighting stores that offer 'Bring Your Own Bags/Containers'.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Community Services Department, and Public Works Department Joint Report, CAO 11-21
Re: 2021 Earth Day and Provincial Day of Action on Litter Celebrations

Laurie Kuchirka requested that the correspondence received regarding 2021 Earth Day and Provincial Day of Action on Litter Celebrations be reviewed by the Committee and received for information.

7. Council Update

7.1 Councillor Yamada provided an update regarding:

- the Metrolinx Bus Rapid Transit presentation at the Special Council meeting on April 22, 2021; and,
- a motion to remove tolls on Highways 412 and 418 at the Regular Council meeting on April 26, 2021.

Patti Mavins requested further information regarding the Metrolinx Bus Rapid Transit design and the 3-Lane and 4-Lane proposal options.

8. Other Business

8.1 There was no other business.

9. Next Meeting

9.1 Wednesday, June 2, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

10. Adjournment

10.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Miranda Pautler

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Note: These minutes were approved by the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee on June 2, 2021.