

Present: Robynne Dunn
Mahroz Hussain, Chair
Laurie Kuchirka
Patti Mavins, Whitby in Bloom Committee Representative
Miranda Pautler
Judy Rivers
Michelle Thornley, Vice Chair

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

Regrets: Beatrice Adesemowo
David Budd
Poonam Dewan
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 - March 2, 2022

Recommendation:

Moved By Michelle Thornley

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of March 2, 2022 be approved.

Carried

3. Presentations

3.1 Suprajha Vaithianathan, Energy and Sustainability Programs
Coordinator, Town of Whitby
Re: 2021 Town of Whitby Annual Sustainability Report

Suprajha Vaithianathan provided a presentation regarding the 2021 Town of Whitby Annual Sustainability Report. Highlights of the presentation included:

- the Town's commitments including the Corporate Sustainability Plan (2016), the Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan (2016), the Durham Community Energy Plan (2019), and Zero Carbon Whitby (2021);
- identifying environmental sustainability in the Whitby Business Plan 2020-2021;
- key accomplishments in 2021 such as Zero Carbon Whitby, community tree planting, the rooftop beehive at Town Hall, the Active Transportation Plan, the Seabin Initiative, the Climate Change Master Plan, expansion of the Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) program, and the Whitby Sports Complex;
- the 2020 residential curbside diversion rates; and,
- the Carbon Disclosure Project that provides a score to measure and manage environmental impacts of carbon emissions.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- how the effectiveness of initiatives to reduce carbon output were measured and whether modifications were made to improve effectiveness;
- whether there was a corporate master plan outlining how the Town expected to achieve 100 percent net zero by 2025; and,
- methods for tracking energy savings.

4. General Business and Reports

4.1 Pollinator Week

Suprajha Vaithianathan requested feedback from the Committee regarding additional activities for Pollinator Week.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- an outdoor beehive presentation;
- focusing on the endangered native species of bees;
- hosting a Story Walk through a park with a pollinator garden;

- educating people on the best time to prepare their gardens in the spring to protect bees; and,
- providing information on establishing a pollinator garden.

4.2 Whitby in Bloom Committee Update

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

- the Trees, a Wise Investment webinar on May 25, 2022; and,
- the 2022 Whitby in Bloom Committee Garden Tour.

5. Council Update

5.1 Councillor Yamada provided an update regarding:

- Council's approval of the summary report from Envision Durham regarding the Growth Management Study, Alternative Land Needs;
- Council's approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Region of Durham for development at 270 Water Street; and,
- Bill 109.

6. Other Business

6.1 Ban on Single Use Plastics

Miranda Pautler requested an update regarding the ban on single use plastics.

Suprajha Vaithianathan stated that she would provide an update at a later date.

7. Next Meeting

7.1 Wednesday, June 1, 2022 - 7:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting

8. Adjournment

8.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Robynne Dunn

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Note: These minutes were approved by the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee on June 1, 2022.