

Present: Adel Abdollahzadeh, Vice-Chair
Margaret Christine Castle
Gayle Giesbrecht
Stacey Kerr
Stuart Livingstone
Melanie Maloney
Miranda Pautler, Chair
Deborah McCord
Judy Rivers
Leslie Tate

Also Present: Regional Councillor Yamada, Mayor's Designate
Aimee Pugao, Planner II, Parks Planning
Maria McDonnell, Manager, Sustainability, Heritage, Downtown and
Community Development
Jade Schofield, Project Manager, Sustainability and Climate Change
Jodi Janwin, Staff Liaison, Energy Conservation Officer
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator
(Recording Secretary)

Regrets: None noted

1. Disclosures of Interest

- 1.1** Miranda Pautler made a declaration of pecuniary interest regarding Item 6.1., Environmental Registry of Ontario regarding the discussion paper on reducing litter and waste in our communities as she is employed as an Ontario public servant.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

- 2.1** Minutes - March 6, 2019

Recommendation:

Moved By Stuart Livingstone

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of March 6, 2019 be approved.

Carried

3. Presentations

3.1 Jade Schofield, Project Manager of Sustainability and Climate Change
Re: Durham Community Energy Plan

Jade Schofield provided a presentation regarding the Durham Community Energy Plan. She advised that climate mitigation was a long term management strategy and that the current focus was on climate adaptation. Highlights of the presentation included:

- the expected cost savings through the low carbon pathway energy scenario;
- the impact and increase in employment opportunities through job creation; and,
- the programs that would need to be implemented such as Durham Green Standard and coordinating land use policies.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- how the programs were factored into the Energy Plan;
- what measures were in place to ensure compliance by builders; and,
- which stakeholders were represented in the stakeholder engagement.

Recommendation:

Moved By Margaret C. Castle

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee endorse the proposed Durham Community Energy Plan alongside Staff's proposed recommendation as presented to the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee, be supported for consideration by Whitby Council.

Carried

4. Delegations

4.1 There were no delegations.

5. General Business and Reports

5.1 Work Plan Development Charrette

Jade Schofield requested that the Committee discuss and identify key themes that would effectively describe a sustainable community.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- zero waste;
- greenspace;
- a more connected public transportation network;
- ecological restoration and retrofitting parks with native species;
- sustainable guidelines for Town events;
- education, engagement, and communication initiatives;
- buying food locally, infrastructure, employment, and transportation;
- good governance;
- urban agriculture;
- increasing biodiversity;
- early education programs for recycling;
- climate resiliency; and,
- pollinators.

Jade Schofield advised that the action items would be ranked by short, mid, and long term goals to create the action plan.

5.2 Earth Day Weekly Activities

- Downtown Whitby Spring Clean-up - April 13, 2019
- Earth Hour 2019

Jodi Janwin advised that the Committee would be participating in the Downtown Whitby Spring Clean-up on April 13, 2019 and that scales would be on site to collect data about the amount of waste collected. She advised that clear bags would be used for recycling materials and black bags would be used for waste.

Jodie Janwin provided an update regarding Earth Hour data and advised that 1,114 homes were off the grid in Whitby.

5.3 Durham Integrated Growers (DIG)

Re: Resilient Communities, Regenerative Landscapes: An Urban Agriculture Symposium

Stacey Kerr provided an update regarding the Durham Integrated

Growers Symposium and advised that the symposium addressed community gardens, food security, and agro-ecology.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Town policies regarding community gardens; and,
- land zoning issues for urban agriculture.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear item 7.1, Council Update, at this time.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Environmental Registry of Ontario

Re: Discussion Paper on Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities

Having previously declared a conflict of interest, Miranda Pautler did not take part in the discussion on this matter.

Jade Schofield advised that Town Staff would be submitting comments to the Environmental Registry of Ontario by way of a memo supported by Council regarding the discussion paper on litter and waste reduction.

6.2 Climate Change Declared an Emergency

Jade Schofield provided information regarding the climate change emergency declaration initiative and requested that the Committee consider climate change an emergency.

It was the consensus of the Committee to establish a subcommittee to investigate the climate change emergency declaration.

Recommendation:

Moved By Melanie Maloney

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee recommends that a subcommittee be created to investigate the climate emergency declaration and report back to the Committee to present their findings at the May 1, 2019 meeting.

Carried

Margaret Castle, Gayle Giesbrecht, Stacey Kerr, Melanie Maloney, Jodi Janwin and Jade Schofield volunteered to sit on the subcommittee.

7. Council Update

7.1 Regional Councillor Yamada provided updates regarding:

- Council's support to continue Whitby Farmers' Market at Celebration Square and to consider a farmers' market in the Brooklin area;
- public concerns regarding traffic congestion should the Zoning By-law Amendment Application for 143 Garrard Road be approved;
- public concerns regarding a proposed municipal road connection should the Zoning By-law Amendment Application for 850 Taunton Road East be approved; and,
- the Special Events Policy Volunteer Manual.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear item 6.1, Environmental Registry of Ontario, at this time.

8. Other Business

8.1 Tree Planting Event - September 2019

Aimee Pugao advised that there would be a tree planting event funded by TD Canada Trust at Rosedale Park in September 2019.

8.2 Beehive Installation

Aimee Pugao advised that a beehive funded by TD Canada Trust would be installed on the roof of Whitby Town Hall in June 2019.

9. Next Meeting

9.1 May 1, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.
Committee Room One, Whitby Town Hall

10. Adjournment

10.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Leslie Tate

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

H. Oerlemans, Council and Committee
Coordinator

M. Pautler, Committee Chair