

Present: Beatrice Adesemowo
Poonam Dewan
Robynne Dunn
Mahroz Hussain, Chair
Laurie Kuchirka (logged off at 7:31 p.m.)
Patti Mavins, Whitby in Bloom Committee Representative
Miranda Pautler
Judy Rivers
Michelle Thornley, Vice Chair

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

Regrets: David Budd
Timothy Eric

Call to Order

1. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

- 1.1** The Committee was advised that the appointment for Chair and Vice Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee for the January 1, 2022 to November 14, 2022 term would take place at this time.

Suprajha Vaithianathan called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Michelle Thornley nominated Mahroz Hussain for the position of Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Mahroz Hussain accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations and the nominations were closed.

Suprajha Vaithianathan called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Beatrice Adesemowo nominated Michelle Thornley for the position of Vice Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Michelle Thornley accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations and the nominations were closed.

Recommendation:

Moved By Michelle Thornley

That Mahroz Hussain be appointed Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee for a term ending on November 14, 2022.

Carried

Recommendation:

Moved By Beatrice Adesemowo

That Michelle Thornley be appointed Vice Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee for a term ending on November 14, 2022.

Carried

2. Disclosures of Interest

2.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

3.1 Minutes - December 1, 2021

Recommendation:

Moved By Beatrice Adesemowo

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of December 1, 2021 be approved.

Carried

4. Presentations

4.1 Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Region of Durham
Re: Durham's Greener Homes Program

Ian McVey provided a presentation regarding Durham's Greener Homes Program. Highlights of the presentation included:

- an overview of Durham's Greener Homes Program and avenues for funding for home owners;
- analyzing market characterization such as demographic data and home archetype, brand and creative development, program website and client portal, database systems, and the incentive program design;
- launching the program in April 2022;
- establishing the criteria for analyzing success of the program; and,
- expanding the program into other sustainability retrofits such as water efficiency, stormwater management, and green roofs.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- whether colleges were being consulted regarding net zero training for contractors;
- whether the incentive programs would be prescriptive or performance based;
- whether utility usage data was available for facilities; and,
- how fluctuations in emissions resulting from COVID-19 would be measured.

5. Delegations

5.1 There were no delegations.

6. General Business and Reports

6.1 Climate Adaptation Plan Update

Jade Schofield provided an update regarding the Climate Adaptation Plan which included:

- development of the Climate Change Master Plan and its two phases;
- phase one, climate adaptation, would be completed in June 2022; and,

- phase two, climate mitigation and the long term reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, would be completed in January 2023.

6.2 Canada Water Day: March 22, 2022

Suprajha Vaithianathan provided an update regarding Canada Water Day. Ms. Vaithianathan stated that a pre-registered event was planned to promote Canada Water Day. She further stated that the event included a question and answer session and live screening of Paddle Against Plastic by Rochelle Byrne.

6.3 Earth Hour: March 26, 2022

Suprajha Vaithianathan provided an update regarding Earth Hour and requested feedback from the Committee regarding activities, webinars, and submitting a proclamation request to Council.

6.4 Earth Month: April 2022

Suprajha Vaithianathan provided an update regarding Earth Month and requested feedback from the Committee regarding activities, webinars, and submitting a proclamation request to Council.

6.5 Year of the Garden 2022

Patti Mavins advised that the Garden of Reflection at Cullen Central Park would be included in the 2022 Whitby in Bloom Garden Tour to support the Year of the Garden 2022.

A brief discussion ensued regarding distributing items such as seeds and information to support Year of the Garden 2022 at the Canada Water Day event.

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

Suprajha Vaithianathan requested a volunteer for the position of Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Representative for the Whitby in Bloom Committee.

Robynne Dunn volunteered for the position of Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Representative for the Whitby in Bloom Committee.

6.7 Whitby in Bloom Committee Update

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

- the 2022 Whitby in Bloom Committee Garden Tour;
- the 2022 Whitby in Bloom Committee Speaker Series; and,
- the 2022 Whitby in Bloom Committee Garden Educational Seminars.

7. Correspondence

7.1 There was no correspondence.

8. Council Update

8.1 Councillor Yamada provided an update which included:

- the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism (IDEA) Project;
- opening of the outdoor skating rinks;
- the Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan; and,
- a motion to rename Dundas Street.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the importance of hiring staff to focus on inclusion, diversity, and equity at the Town; and,
- ensuring Town services meet the needs of all residents.

9. Other Business

9.1 There was no other business.

10. Next Meeting

10.1 Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

11. Adjournment

11.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Michelle Thornley

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Note: These minutes were approved by the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee on March 2, 2022.