



## Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Minutes

May 1, 2024, 7:00 p.m.  
Hybrid Meeting  
Whitby Town Hall

Present: Wenda Abel  
Sara Best, Vice-Chair  
Andrea Cecchetto  
Brian Kelly  
Catherine Philogene  
Bryan Widner, Chair  
Bob Willard  
Zartasha Zainab

Regrets: Janet Dignem  
Anahita Jami  
Patti Mavins

Also Present: Councillor Leahy  
Junaid Khan, Staff Liaison, Project Manager, Sustainability and  
Climate Change  
Kristin Palilionis, Staff Liaison, Climate Change Coordinator  
Heather Ellis, Council and Committee Coordinator (Recording  
Secretary)

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1. Call to Order
  2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Recommendation:

Moved by Wenda Abel

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of April 3, 2024 be approved.

### **Carried**

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 6.1, Question and Answer Period with Town Staff regarding Municipal Sustainability Matters, at this time.

## **4. Presentations**

### **4.1 Junaid Khan, Project Manager, Sustainability and Climate Change, Town of Whitby**

Re: Invasive Species Management

Junaid Khan provided a presentation regarding Invasive Species Management. Highlights of the presentation included:

- initiatives to address invasive species within the Town; and,
- challenges and best practices for establishing an invasive species management plan.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the initial steps in establishing an invasive species management plan;
- creating an invasive species inventory and mapping locations of invasive species in Whitby;
- initiating an invasive species management plan feasibility study; and,
- grants and other funding sources to support the implementation of a mapping or planning study.

## **5. Delegations**

There were no delegations.

## **6. General Business and Reports**

### **6.1 Question and Answer Period with Town Staff**

Re: Municipal Sustainability Matters

A question and answer period ensued between Justin Malfara, Principal Planner, Zoning & Regulation, Peter Angelo, Director, Engineering, and Seva Marouchko, Sr. Manager, Development Engineering &

Environmental Services and Members of the Committee regarding municipal sustainability matters, including:

- home heating fuel options and guidelines pertaining to sustainability;
- whether Council may provide input regarding the heating options considered for new subdivision developments during the approval process;
- municipal direction to builders to incorporate green infrastructure into future developments;
- whether new Town infrastructure supports renewable energy sources;
- the capacity of the distribution network to service homes and future developments with electricity;
- development standards for park land dedication;
- alternatives to stormwater management ponds and when alternative solutions may be implemented;
- whether low impact development measures were implemented in Whitby;
- whether the development approval process could include low impact development measures;
- whether the existing stormwater management and sewer systems could support intense, short duration rainfalls and rapid snowmelt events;
- whether the Town would disconnect eavestroughs from the Town's stormwater system to reduce stress on the overall system;
- whether the Town has installed stormwater pretreatment systems;
- tracking sodium levels in the stormwater management system and whether the Town has implemented a salt management plan; and,
- whether upgrades to stormwater ponds were included as part of maintenance work.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 8, Council Update, at this time.

## 6.2 April Sustainability Events

Kristin Palilionis provided an update regarding April Sustainability Events which included:

- Whitby's Official Tree Unveiling and Tour of Whitby Civic Park;
- the LEAF Community Tree Planting;
- the Repair Café, Earth Month Family Storytime and Craft, and the Waste Reduction Event at the Whitby Public Library; and,
- the Bird Conservation Presentation.

## 6.3 May Sustainability Events

Kristin Palilionis provided an update regarding May Sustainability Events which included:

- Provincial Day of Action on Litter, Tuesday, May 14, 2024;
- World Bee Day, Monday, May 20, 2024; and,
- International Day for Biological Diversity, Wednesday, May 22, 2024.

## 7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

## 8. Council Update

Councillor Leahy provided an update regarding the status of the motion adopted by Council regarding supporting the Ontario Energy Board's decision to end the gas pipeline subsidy.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 4.1, a presentation from Junaid Khan, Project Manager, Sustainability and Climate Change regarding Invasive Species Management, at this time.

## 9. Other Business

There was no other business.

## 10. Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 5, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

## 11. Adjournment

Recommendation:

Moved by Sara Best

That the meeting adjourn.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

**Note: These minutes were approved by the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee on June 5, 2024.**