

**Present:** M. Christine Castle, Vice-Chair  
Robynne Dunn  
Timothy Eric  
Erica Gale  
Gayle Giesbrecht  
Laurie Kuchirka  
Luis Licsi  
Melanie Maloney  
Judy Rivers

**Also Present:** Councillor Yamada, Mayor's Designate  
Aimee Pugao, Planner II, Parks Planning  
Jade Schofield, Project Manager, Sustainability and Climate Change  
Jodi Janwin, Staff Liaison, Energy and Sustainability Programs  
Coordinator  
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator  
(Recording Secretary)

**Regrets:** Beatrice Adesemowo  
Miranda Pautler, Chair  
Deborah McCord  
Robert Toyama, Whitby in Bloom Committee Representative

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#### Call to Order

Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator, advised that due to the ongoing COVID-19 State of Emergency, the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting is being held electronically. She provided Members of the Committee with an overview of meeting etiquette and procedures with respect to conducting the meeting electronically.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 5.1, New Member Introductions at this time.

#### 1. Disclosures of Interest

**1.1** There were no disclosures of interest.

**2.** Approval of Previous Minutes

**2.1** Minutes - March 4, 2020

Recommendation:

Moved By Gayle Giesbrecht

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of March 4, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

**3.** Presentations

**3.1** There were no presentations.

**4.** Delegations

**4.1** There were no delegations.

**5.** General Business and Reports

**5.1** New Member Introductions

M. Christine Castle provided a brief introduction of her role on the Committee and requested that each member introduce themselves and provide one fact regarding why they chose to serve on the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Members provided brief introductions.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 1, Disclosures of Interest at this time.

**5.2** Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) Update

Jade Schofield provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding updates to the Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) program in Whitby. Highlights of the presentation included:

- advantages of supporting tree planting on private property;
- economic, health, and environmental benefits of urban forests and tree planting;

- backyard tree planting programs and services provided by LEAF;
- qualifying participants for the LEAF program;
- additional programs provided by LEAF such as shrub planting and native garden kits;
- the role of the Municipality as a partner in the LEAF program; and,
- the proposed partnership with LEAF, the Region of Durham, and the Town.

Jade Schofield advised that the proposal would be presented to the Committee of the Whole at the May 11, 2020 meeting.

A brief question and answer period ensued regarding:

- when the program would be implemented and how the program would be advertised to the public;
- whether private school properties would be included in the program;
- whether the program was limited to backyards of private properties;
- whether the target number of 40 trees planted per year could be increased;
- how much of the cost would be subsidized by the Region of Durham and the Town; and,
- what the Committee could do to support the LEAF program in Whitby.

M. Christine Castle advised that correspondence had been received from a Whitby resident regarding the LEAF program.

Jodi Janwin read the correspondence to the Committee for information purposes.

Jade Schofield advised that some of the issues regarding the protection of mature trees raised by the resident were addressed by various Town policies to protect trees located in the Heritage District and that trees removed due to development were subject to a tree compensation fund.

### **5.3 Anti-Litter App Update**

Jade Schofield provided an update regarding the Town's Anti-Litter App. Ms. Schofield advised that the Town has been working on an app for residents to identify locations in Whitby that require litter clean-up. She further advised that the app would allow residents to sign-up for a one-time clean-up or a two year adopt-a-park. She stated that the Town would supply residents with bags, gloves, and safety equipment.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- including litter clean-up as volunteer hours for high school students;
- expanding the app to allow residents to 'pin' an area for Town Staff to clean-up; and,
- changing the name of the app to include more positive terms.

#### **5.4 Earth Day and Litter Clean-up Day Update**

Jade Schofield advised that Earth Day and Litter Clean-up Day events and the tree identification workshop had been cancelled. Ms. Schofield further advised that the Town was participating in a Canada-wide social media relay that would announce the Town's commitment to Earth Day. She advised that the Staff tree-planting event was postponed to a future date.

#### **5.5 Community Services Department Update**

Aimee Pugao advised that due to event cancellations resulting from COVID-19, there were no updates at this time.

#### **5.6 Whitby in Bloom Update**

Jodi Janwin advised that the Whitby in Bloom Speaker Series and Garden Tour had been cancelled for 2020 due to COVID-19.

### **6. Correspondence**

#### **6.1 There was no correspondence.**

### **7. Council Update**

#### **7.1 Councillor Yamada provided updates regarding:**

- a request to lift the holding provision on a proposed 18-storey apartment complex at Garden Street and Taunton Road;
- the Councillors in the Classroom program for grade 5 and grade 10 classes commencing in the fall; and,
- improvements to the recreation assistance fee program for low-income residents.

### **8. Other Business**

#### **8.1 Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee 2020 Work Plan**

M. Christine Castle requested that the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee 2020 Work Plan be reviewed at the next meeting to determine which items could be completed this year and to provide new members an opportunity to review the Work Plan.

9. Next Meeting

**9.1** Wednesday, June 3, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.  
Committee Room One, Whitby Town Hall  
575 Rossland Road East

Heather Oerlemans advised that the Committee would be notified regarding the continuance of COVID-19 safety measures and how those measures would impact future Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee meetings. Ms. Oerlemans further advised that the date and time of upcoming meetings would remain unchanged.

10. Adjournment

**10.1** Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Erica Gale

That the meeting adjourn.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

**Note: These minutes were approved by the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee on June 3, 2020.**