

**Present:** Beatrice Adesemowo  
M. Christine Castle, Chair  
Gayle Giesbrecht (logged off at 8:02 p.m.)  
Laurie Kuchirka, Vice-Chair  
Melanie Maloney  
Miranda Pautler  
Robynne Dunn  
Patti Mavins, Whitby in Bloom Committee Representative

**Also Present:** Councillor Yamada, Mayor's Designate  
Jade Schofield, Project Manager, Sustainability and Climate Change  
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator  
(Recording Secretary)

**Regrets:** Judy Rivers  
Timothy Eric

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Call to Order

1. Disclosures of Interest

- 1.1** M. Christine Castle made a declaration of pecuniary interest regarding Item 5.7, Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) Award Nominations, as she is an owner in the Durham Condominium Corporation 123 (The Sailwinds) which the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee is considering supporting as nominee for the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee Achievement Award. Ms. Castle did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

**2.1** Minutes - March 3, 2021

Recommendation:

Moved By Gayle Giesbrecht

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of March 3, 2021 be approved.

**Carried**

3. Presentations

**3.1** Jade Schofield, Project Manager, Sustainability and Climate Change, Town of Whitby  
Re: Zero Carbon Whitby: Corporate Energy and Green House Gas (GHG) Reduction Plan Update

Jade Schofield provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Zero Carbon Whitby Corporate Energy and Green House Gas (GHG) Reduction Plan. Highlights of the presentation included:

- a carbon budget framework to track Whitby's annual progress on emissions and whether the Town is meeting or exceeding those emissions;
- the objectives and principles of the plan to provide a viable carbon management framework and focus on long-term results;
- a corporate carbon budget target of 62.6 kilotonnes between 2022 to 2045;
- integrating carbon accounting into the budget;
- adopting an internal price on carbon in order to compare low carbon with high carbon options for services;
- applying Tier 3 of the Whitby Green Standard as a requirement for new construction of Town facilities; and,
- reporting on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures through the annual Sustainability Report.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- how the equity portion to the carbon budget algorithm was factored;
- whether carbon sinks, such as increasing tree coverage, would be used to increase the net zero goal for Whitby;
- why Town buildings were inefficient;
- whether other municipalities have implemented similar strategies with positive results;
- how older buildings would be retrofitted or upgraded towards net zero; and,
- whether there were plans to incorporate net zero tools and building requirements into public construction projects.

Recommendation:

Moved By Robynne Dunn

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee supports an update to the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Terms of Reference in 2022 to include climate change roles and responsibilities.

**Carried**

Recommendation:

Moved By Laurie Kuchirka

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee supports the Zero Carbon Whitby Plan.

**Carried**

Recommendation:

Moved By Miranda Pautler

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee supports the Town's adoption of Tier 3 of the Whitby Green Standard for corporate new buildings.

**Carried**

4. Delegations

**4.1** There were no delegations.

5. General Business and Reports

**5.1** Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee 2020 Annual Report Update

Jade Schofield advised that the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee 2020 Annual Report would be submitted as correspondence for the April 12, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting.

**5.2** Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee 2021 Work Plan: Action Steps

M. Christine Castle requested feedback from the Committee regarding action items for the 2021 Work Plan.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- partnership opportunities with the Whitby in Bloom Committee to raise awareness on pollinators and pollinator/native gardens;
- partnership opportunities with the Whitby Public Library to create a booklet on sustainability themed reading materials and activities for the community;
- a tree planting event for advisory committee members;
- collecting ideas for The Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up, National Forest Week, and Waste Reduction Week;
- opportunities within the Town to 're-wild' spaces;
- promoting Citizen Science platforms such as Ice Watch and Milkweed Watch, and contacting the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) on these initiatives;
- supporting signage along trails to support the environment such as anti-litter promotion;
- working on a policy to protect large caliper trees; and,
- increasing and creating a platform for Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee communication through social media.

Laurie Kuchirka advised that she would distribute a list of action items that Members could sign up for.

### **5.3 Climate Conversation Webinars**

Jade Schofield advised that the Climate Conversation Webinar series would be promoted through the Town's social media beginning on April 8, 2021.

### **5.4 District Energy pre Feasibility Study Council Report**

Jade Schofield advised that a pre Feasibility Study Report was being prepared for Council. Ms. Schofield further advised that the report investigates a low-carbon energy option for the North Whitby Sports Complex.

### **5.5 Earth Day Council Report**

Jade Schofield advised that the Earth Day Report would go to the Committee of the Whole meeting on April 12, 2021. Ms. Schofield stated that the Report outlines activities for Earth Day under COVID-19 conditions such as a virtual scavenger hunt, and encouraging individuals and families to participate in clean-up activities.

### **5.6 Sustainability Annual Report**

Jade Schofield advised that the Sustainability Annual Report was expected to be included on the May 3, 2021 Committee of the Whole agenda.

**5.7** Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) Award Nominations

Having previously declared a conflict of interest, M. Christine Castle did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter.

Laurie Kuchirka assumed the role of Chair.

Jade Schofield advised there were a number of initiatives in 2020 that could be considered for the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) Award nominations including:

- the youth organization Fridays for Future and their efforts to bring attention to climate change;
- the Town's adoption of the Whitby Green Standard;
- the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee's support of the Waste Sorting Game;
- the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's invasive species removal initiative; and,
- the Whitby Marina's initiative to remove garbage from the lakeshore using Seabin technology.

Laurie Kuchirka reviewed the nomination for the Sailwinds with the Committee.

Patti Mavins recommended that information regarding the results of the Sailwinds initiatives be included in the nomination package to highlight their achievements and impacts.

M. Christine Castle resumed the role of Chair.

**5.8** Whitby in Bloom Committee Update

Patti Mavins provided an update regarding the Whitby in Bloom Committee. Ms. Mavins advised that the first two Gardening Webinars were well attended. She further advised that the Whitby in Bloom Committee 2021 Garden Tour may be cancelled or an alternative to an in-person event may be considered.

**5.9** Community Services Department Update

Aimee Pugao provided a Community Services Department update which included:

- a rehabilitation/re-pavement of the Waterfront Trail commencing on April 19, 2021;
- Storywalk in May 2021; and,
- a Community Garden Open House in April/May 2021.

6. Correspondence

**6.1** There was no correspondence.

7. Council Update

**7.1** Councillor Yamada provided updates regarding:

- cash-in-lieu of parkland for medium and high density developments;
- an application for a seven story residential seniors' apartment complex at 106, 118, and 126 Mary Street East;
- phase two of the COVID-19 vaccination distribution plan has been rolled out; and,
- the shoreline clean up in May/June was postponed.

Patti Mavins requested an update regarding the Election Sign By-law.

Councillor Yamada advised that the Election Sign By-law was deferred to the April 19, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting.

8. Other Business

**8.1** There was no other business.

9. Next Meeting

**9.1** Wednesday, May 5, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

10. Adjournment

**10.1** Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Beatrice Adesemowo

That the meeting adjourn.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

**Note: These minutes were approved by the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee on May 5, 2021.**