



MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

**Electronic Zoom Meeting
November 26, 2020**

Attendance

Present

Caryn Bergmann, Chair
Kevin Boon, Immediate Past Chair
Martin Bush
Diane Ross
Natasha Welch
Victoria Genge
Stuart Cumner
Christopher Ford
Ashok Bangia

Staff

Janet Reid, Community Engagement
Program Specialist
Hristina Giantsopoulos, Election and
Committee Coordinator

Regrets

Regional Councillor Joe Li
Karl Lyew
Nadine Pinto
Frank Vignando
Karl Fernandes
Paddy Wong
Phil Ling
Jennifer Wong, Sustainability Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:12 PM with Caryn Bergmann presiding as Chair.

2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes made to the agenda.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON October 22, 2020

Moved by Kevin Boon
Seconded by Martin Bush

That the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meeting held on October 22, 2020 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were none.

5. APPOINTMENT OF NEW VICE CHAIR OR CO VICE-CHAIRS

There was discussion regarding the appointment process to fill the current vacancies on the committee. Chair Caryn Bergman suggested that the Committee revisit the appointment of a new Vice Chair until the next meeting in January 2021.

6. MEAC DECLARATION OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY

The Committee discussed the presentation of the Declaration of Climate Emergency to General Committee on November 30, 2020. Martin Bush and Caryn Bergman will represent MEAC and make a deputation in support of the declaration on behalf of the group. The Chair, Stuart Cumner and Martin Bush will meet to review speaking points in preparation for the presentation in the coming days. Kevin Boon offered to forward a community member list to Caryn so that they could be contacted to support MEAC and the declaration presentation. Members were asked to reach out to their Ward Councillors in support of this declaration and were encouraged to virtually attend the General Committee meeting.

7. EARTH DAY 2021

Christopher Ford will send a link to a Google Doc so that members can contribute to a brainstorm list of ideas and concept for Earth Day 2021. There was the discussion on the following with respect to Earth Day 2021:

- That it may take place over the course of one week;
- That Steve Lee from the UN may provide a pre-recorded talk in support of the event;
- Consideration of a theme and that it coincide with the global theme;

- Restore Out Earth;
- Restoration; restore what has been lost;
- That there be a series of events planned throughout the week or multiple days;
- That the event will have to be virtual in consideration of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic;
- Consideration of establishing a virtual and interactive outdoor type activity to engage families;
 - Potential participation in parks and trails in Markham;
- Establish a trial run for presentations;
- Confirm the resources available from the City to facilitate this virtual event;
 - IT services;
 - [Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund \(MESF\)](#) application deadline is in April 2021;
- Consideration of the establishment of a sub-committee to work on this initiative, Earth Day Sub Committee;
 - Reach out to Mayor's Youth Action Committee for active participation in this initiative

8. NEW BUSINESS

The Committee inquired about additional news with respect to the removal of styrofoam from the accepted materials in curb-side blue boxes. Staff confirmed that while it is no longer accepted in the blue box, styrofoam can be collected and taken to a depot for processing.

Members, Diane Ross and Kevin Boon announced their term on MEAC has expired and that this was their last meeting. The Committee thanked Diane and Kevin for their work and contributions to MEAC and wished them well in their future endeavors.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Staff provided information regarding the [Home Energy Retrofit Orientation Workshop presented in partnership with Humber College](#) and that there were spaces available for the afternoon session. The Committee suggested that this initiative be included in the Earth Day event line-up.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 28, at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned with the members present as there was no longer quorum.

Moved by	Stuart Cumner
Seconded by	Diane Ross

That the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 8:46 PM.