



MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

**Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre
October 18, 2018**

Attendance

Members

Karl Lyew, Chair
Kevin Boon , Vice Chair
Phil Ling, Immediate Past Chair
Alimasi Chen
Karl Fernandes
Diane Ross

Regrets

Ashok Bangia
Christopher Ford
Nadine Pinto
Natasha Welch
Elvis Nurse
Regional Councillor Joe Li
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Guests

Karthik Ganapathiraju, Student
Boris Lam, Student
Ariana Lim, Student
Rumaisha Qadar, Student

Staff

Juliana Apericio, Diversion Program Technician
Jacqueline Tung, Community Engagement Assistant
Jennifer Wong, Sustainability Coordinator
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:20 PM with Karl Lyew presiding as Chair. He welcomed Jacqueline Tung and warmly thanked the students for attending the meeting.

2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Item 5 A - Presentation about Markham Waste Management was deferred to a future meeting. The agenda was accepted as amended.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON JUNE 21, 2018 AND SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

It was noted that the name of a student, who attended the September 20, 2018 meeting, was misspelled: the name should read Jake Koszczewski.

Approval of the minutes was deferred to the next meeting, as there was no quorum during the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A. INFORMATION ON MARKHAM INITIATIVES AND COUNCIL MATTERS

- Jennifer Wong reported that Markham is recruiting ten participants from among residents involved in the Plug 'N Drive program, and owners of homes in new developments, to take part in a pilot project designed to see how best to reduce household gas emissions.
- Jennifer Wong led the group in a discussion of ways to make sustainability issues, such as climate change, resonate with Markham residents. The students advised that they reach out to youth groups via fun activities such as the 24-hour Film Challenge, a Think Tank conference with inspirational speakers, Markham Expo, and a youth conference to encourage grade 8 students to get involved in their community as they transition to high school. Other suggestions included financial incentives and discounts.
- Jennifer Wong advised that the 2019 Committee budget is under review and she is now focused on long term budget planning.

B. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS

Chair Karl Lyew advised that the list of action items only lists items yet to be completed.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. PRESENT ATION - MARKHAM WASTE MANAGEMENT

The presentation was deferred to a future meeting.

B. EARTH MONTH PLANNING

Chair Karl Lyew reviewed the guide created by, entitled "MEAC Earth Day Event – Planning and Execution" and advised that the guide indicates how much work is required to host the Earth Day event. Vice Chair Kevin Boon explained that the document is a template for running and organizing an Earth Day event. He asked Jennifer Wong to provide information for the sections she had organized for past events. Copies of the guide will be provided for the students and feedback would be welcome.

Jennifer Wong advised that Aaniin Community Centre might not be the best venue for the 2019 Earth Day event because there is a lot of activity there on a Saturday, some rooms will not be available, and the atrium will only have enough space for eight exhibitors' booths. It may also be difficult to hold test drives in the busy parking lot.

Committee members discussed other venue options. It was agreed that Jennifer Wong would try to reserve the gym at the Aaniin Community Centre; however, if the gym is not available, then she will check availability and try to reserve, in this order of preference, the Pan Am Centre, Remington Centre/Marriott Hotel, Kings Square Mall (Woodbine and 16th Avenues).

Committee members and students were encouraged to think about an Earth Day event theme that will resonate with Markham residents.

C. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Chair Karl Lyew reviewed the Committee practice where the current Vice Chair assumes the position of Chair and the Committee elects a new Vice Chair, i.e. current Vice Chair will become the Chair for 2019 and the Vice Chair elected for 2019 would assume the role of Chair in January 2020. Committee members were encouraged to consider this opportunity.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

A. REGIONAL EAC MEETING

Chair Karl Lyew reported that another group has volunteered to host the York Region EAC meeting in fall 2018 and that MEAC may consider hosting the meeting in spring 2019.

B. MEETING WITH MAYOR SCARPITTI

Chair Karl Lyew advised that he will approach Mayor Frank Scarpitti to schedule a "pizza night" to meet with the members of MEAC and the Markham Mayor's Youth Council.

C. RESIGNATION – FANNY LUK

Chair Karl Lyew announced that Fanny Luk has tendered her resignation from MEAC. The Committee would like to thank Fanny for her time and dedication to the City's environmental issues during her time serving on MEAC.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:45 PM.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., in the Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre.