



MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

**Room C132, Aaniin Community Centre
September 20, 2018**

Attendance

Members

Karl Lyew, Chair
Ashok Bangia
Karl Fernandes
Christopher Ford
Nadine Pinto
Natasha Welch

Council

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Guests

Juliana Apericio, student
Karthik Ganapathiraju, student
Peter Huang, student
Jake Koszczrliski, Student
Boris Lam, Student
Ariana Lim, Student
Jaclyn Leung, Student
Rumaisha Qadar, Student

Staff

Jennifer Wong, Sustainability Coordinator
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator

Regrets

Kevin Boon , Vice Chair
Alimasi Chen
Vikas Gautam
Phil Ling, Immediate Past Chair
Fanny Luk
Elvis Nurse
Adam Poon
Diane Ross
Carrie Sally
Regional Councillor Joe Li

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:17 PM with Karl Lyew presiding as Chair. He welcomed the guests to the meeting.

2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as distributed.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JUNE 21, 2018

The 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

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that local area golf courses are being sold to developers and it is likely that these green spaces will be eliminated within the next few years.

B. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS

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

- Jennifer Wong, Sustainability Coordinator, reported that the Municipal Energy Plan (MEP) was endorsed by Council in May 2018. Markham plans to reach the goal of reducing emissions to net zero by 2050. One such initiative is through increasing charging stations for cars.
- Chair Karl Lyew and Deputy Mayor Jack Heath were to discuss budget needs for the Committee. However, Jennifer Wong is discussing the MEAC budget with Graham Seaman, Director Sustainability.
- A feedback mechanism using Google Form was to be developed for Earth Day 2018 to allow Earth Day attendees to vote electronically for the presentations and displays they most enjoyed; however, the mechanism needed Wi-Fi in order to operate, the Remington Centre did not offer Wi-Fi, and there was no time before the event to find an alternative. It is thought that there will be enough time to develop such a mechanism for Earth Day 2019 events under the leadership of Vice Chair Kevin Boon.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. EARTH MONTH PLANNING

Chair Karl Lyew distributed and reviewed the guide created by Vice Chair Kevin Boon, entitled "MEAC Earth Day Event – Planning and Execution". He recommended that the Committee use this as a template for planning the Earth Day event in 2019. As part of the Committee's brainstorming session, it was suggested that:

- MEAC promote its involvement, and wish to involve secondary school students, at other events geared to youth, e.g. the Ignite Fair at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts, Markham Expo, or Markham Mayor's Youth Council events
- The Committee establish required parameters at the outset of its planning

Karl Lyew advised that the document is comprehensive in how to organize the event and suggested all members review it to determine where they might be able to offer their assistance. He will send an email to all Committee members asking for volunteers to help.

The Committee discussed whether to hold the event on Earth Day itself, which falls on Monday in 2019, or whether to hold it on the immediate previous Saturday. The Committee agreed to hold the event on Saturday April 20 at the Aaniin Community. It was noted that the Committee will need to find ways to engage people who arrive via the west doors and only go as far as the library.

B. 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 2018 and the Vice Chair elected for 2018 would assume the role of Chair in January 2019. Committee members were encouraged to consider this opportunity.

C. MEAC EARTH DAY EVENT – PLANNING AND EXECUTION

This item was discussed in conjunction with Earth Month Planning.

D. MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE – WASTE MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Karl Lyew distributed and reviewed the Workshop Review document. Deputy Mayor Jack Heath spoke about Markham's successful initiatives, such as the clear bag initiative, to make it a leader in waste management in Canada and the world. Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager, Waste Management, will be invited to the next meeting to provide an update on waste management projects.

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 (the date will be set following the Municipal elections) and that MEAC may consider hosting the meeting in spring 2019.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:40 PM.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, October 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., in the Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre.