



**MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre
May 17, 2018**

Attendance

Members

Karl Lyew, Chair
Karl Fernandes
Kevin Boon, Vice-Chair
Ashok Bangia
Adam Poon
Alimasi Chen
Natasha Welch
Nadine Pinto
Christopher Ford
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Guests

Natasha Welch

Regrets

Fanny Luk
Diane Ross
Phil Ling, Immediate Past Chair
Elvis Nurse
Carrie Sally
Regional Councillor Joe Li

Staff

Jennifer Wong, Sustainability Services
Coordinator,
Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator
Pamela Cook, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Environmental Advisory Committee convened at 7:12 pm with Karl Lyew in the Chair without quorum. Quorum was obtained at 8:08 pm. The Chair welcomed the new members to the Committee and announced that Aamir (Mohammed) Sadiq has resigned.

2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

3. BOARD/COMMITTEE ORIENTATION

Laura Gold, Council / Committee Co-ordinator provided an overview of the Terms of Reference, and member requirements for the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee. As well Ms Gold presented an orientation explaining the requirements mandated by the Province to municipal governments and Markham's committee structure format to the new and existing Board / Committee members. Diversity Training was completed earlier this week. .

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath offered his regrets after addressing new business agenda items and left the meeting; the time being 7:25 pm.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

The Committee reviewed the Minutes of the last meeting at 8:29 pm when a quorum was obtained.

Moved by Phil Ling

Seconded by Karl Fernandes

THAT the Minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee held on April 18, 2018 be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A) Information reports on Markham Initiatives and Council Matters

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath indicated there will not be a Deputy Mayor Walk for the Rouge this year as it is an election year. Also, it was announced that there will not be a Rouge Day Brochure produced.

A final review of the environmental aspect of waste management in Markham is underway. Deputy Mayor Jack Heath commented that yard waste is the biggest thing and further that the shipment of newsprint to China is being terminated.

Deputy Mayor Heath indicated that MEAC may need to meet over the summer to help work out questions for the Rouge Park Committee's meeting with Parks Canada. The Zoo and Environmental Group will also attend that meeting.

B) Follow up on Action Items

There was no discussion regarding the action items from the previous meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A) Review of Planning & Undertaking of Earth Day Event

Jennifer Wong extended thanks to the Committee for the tremendous success of the recent Markham 2018 Earth Day Event.

2019 Earth Day Planning Suggestions

- The tally from the passports has not yet been completed, but appears there were fewer participants than last year
- Run sheet is complete
- Start planning event sooner – book the venue and strike a planning sub-committee earlier
- Consider asking exhibitors for nominal registration fees to help offset costs for event
- Communication to participants – committee members, exhibitors, volunteers, signage etc needs to be clearer in order to better serve the public
- Need to think about partnerships earlier than November
- Would like new information every year
- Not enough children's programs
- The animal exhibits lost a lot of momentum being outside the area
- Committee should ensure that all members are well informed and able to answer questions throughout the day – explaining event, getting feedback, explain the passports, manning booths; be able to explain to attendees what MEAC is and does and possibly recruit new members
- A more visible space for speakers and presenters would allow for better attendance; and schedule presentations more efficiently - they do not need to take up whole day – Mark Cullen presentation was very popular
- Mobile signs were not available and could have better served the event
- Suggestion that maybe the Aaniin Community Centre & Library should be considered as a possible venue for 2019 and the Committee agreed to investigate this further.
 - Parking may be issue, but could check YRT for shuttling
 - Some schools or churches could provide additional parking

Moved by Phil Ling

Seconded by Christopher Ford

THAT staff investigate the possibility that the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee hold its next meeting at the Aaniin Community Centre and Library to better assess the possibility that location could be the venue for 2019 Earth Day Celebrations..

CARRIED

2019 Earth Day Planning Cont'd

- Possibly ask students to attend meeting at Aaniin Centre
- York University may not present in 2019
- Should try and have better handle on project management for 2019
- Electronic cars a very successful component; Nissan had no cars available; having someone from dealerships at each vehicle to answer questions should be considered; better signage
- Could have done an educational component from the City – things like fuel savings

B) Regional EAC in October 2018 Preliminary Planning

The Chair advised that the Committee will be volunteering to host the 2018 Fall Regional Environmental Advisory Committee Forum. The agenda will be set by York Region and all York Region Environmental Advisory Committees will be invited to attend. The Chair also reminded the Committee of the upcoming Regional Environmental Advisory Committee Spring Forum in Whitchurch-Stouffville on June 12, 2018, and invited MEAC members to consider attending.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Municipal Energy Plan

It was announced that the Municipal Energy Plan is going to Council for final endorsement on May 22nd with some stakeholders making deputations. Markham would like to get to net 0 for energy emissions by 2050.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on **Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 7:00 pm at Aaniin Community Centre.**

9. ADJOURNMENT

That the Environmental Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:08 pm