



## MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

Ontario Room, Civic Centre

November 17, 2016

### Attendance

#### Members

Diane Ross, Chair  
Phil Ling, Vice Chair  
Ashok Bangia  
Kevin Boon  
Jocelyn Cheung  
Vikas Gautam  
Fanny Luk  
Karl Lyew, Immediate Past Chair

#### Regrets

Allan Lee  
Anna Li  
Chuan Li  
Adam Poon  
Elvis Nurse  
Carrie Sally  
Jennifer Wong, Sustainability Services  
Coordinator

#### Council

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Regional Councillor Joe Li

#### Staff

Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:13 PM with Diane Ross presiding as Chair.

### **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 16, 2016 AND SEPTEMBER 15, 2016**

It was

Moved by            Jocelyn Cheung  
Seconded by        Kevin Boon

That the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meetings held on June 16, 2016 and on September 15, 2016 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**A. INFORMATION ON MARKHAM INITIATIVES AND COUNCIL MATTERS**

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that, in late April 2017, Markham will require mandatory participation in its Textile Recycling initiative. It is anticipated that textile recycling could lead to an 85% waste diversion rate for Markham. It is hoped that MEAC members might play an important role in raising awareness of the initiative with Markham residents, similar to the role it played with the introduction of the Clear Garbage Bag initiative.

**B. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS**

Chair Diane Ross reviewed and updated the list of action items.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. YORK REGION EAC**

Committee members had agreed to hold this meeting on October 20, the same day as the October MEAC meeting would normally have been held. Presentations included:

- LEAF (Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests)
- Radon test kits by York Region Public Health
- Tree plantings by York Region Forestry
- Community gardens and farmers markets by Georgina EAC
- Zero energy by 2050 by Markham's Sustainability Office

The Aurora EAC is involved with the Blue Dot Movement, a David Suzuki Foundation initiative to recognize every Canadian's right to live in a healthy environment; Aurora EAC members have volunteered to attend a future MEAC meeting to share ideas about this.

York Region staff will produce the minutes of the meeting. Chair Diane Ross will send the minutes and details of the next York Region EAC meeting, when available, to Committee members.

**B. MARKHAM'S SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING**

This presentation was deferred to January 2017.

**C. EARTH MONTH PLANNING**

Chair Diane Ross reported that a lantern walk and skating at the Markham Civic Centre are being considered as part of Earth Hour events on March 25, 2017. Earth Day events will be scheduled for April 22, 2017. The location of the Earth Day events is still to be determined. Markham staff is considering a "festival style" event, so an appropriate size venue, frequented by residents, will be needed, such as Markville Mall, Markham Flato Theatre, or the Markham Civic Centre parking lot. A list of past vendors will be provided to Jennifer Wong. The committee suggested that consideration be given to linking this event to Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration (Canada 150); other ideas for the event include street food and music.

Regional Councillor Joe Li advised that Markham is planning a special event in September 2017 to celebrate Canada 150; he will update MEAC as details become available and will keep MEAC in mind to participate in the event.

**D. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Chair Diane Ross 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 Phil Ling will become the Chair for 2017 and the Vice Chair elected for 2017 would assume the role of Chair in January 2018. It was recommended that Carrie Sally be nominated for the position of Vice Chair; current Vice Chair Phil Ling will discuss with her whether she would agree to be nominated for the position of Vice Chair.

It was

Moved by Regional Councillor Joe Li

Seconded by Diane Ross

That Carrie Sally be elected as Vice Chair of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) for a one-year term.

CARRIED

**E. MEAC BUDGET**

Chair Diane Ross reported that the MEAC account balance is \$5,358.51. Staff have suggested that MEAC conserve these funds.

**F. DECEMBER HOLIDAY GATHERING**

It was agreed to meet informally at 7:00 pm on December 6, 2016 at Panera Bread (Birchmount Road and Highway 7).

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

None was identified.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by           Regional Councillor Joe Li  
Seconded by       Jocelyn Cheung

That the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 8:55 PM.

CARRIED

## **8. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., in the Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre.