

Public Realm Advisory Committee

June 24, 2015

Ontario Room

Attendance:

<u>Members:</u> Councillor Valerie Burk Councillor Alex Chiu Omar Bhatti Sadiq Pirani (via teleconference) Ivan Cheung Shadi Aghaei Shichun Chen Karen Lui Noel Shippey <u>Regrets:</u> Mavis Fung Councillor Logan Kanapathi	<u>Staff:</u> Brett Lucyk, Public Realm Coordinator Catherine Jay, Urban Design Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator Pamela Cook, Recording Secretary
---	--

The Public Realm Advisory Committee convened at 5:10 p.m. and Pamela Cook served as Recording Secretary.

1. Introductions

The members and participants introduced themselves and gave a brief background as to their experience and interest in the Public Realm Advisory Committee (PRAC).

2. Board / Committee Orientation

Laura Gold, Council / Committee Coordinator for the City of Markham gave a presentation and orientation for the members on the requirements and role of a Markham Committee Member. The Orientation included a review of Municipal Governance, Roles and Expectations of the Committee, Accessibility and Diversity Considerations, Privacy and Confidentiality Considerations, Media Relations, Procedures and Meeting Management, the Code of Ethics, Protection of Personal Privacy, and Meeting Effectiveness. Laura invited questions and comment from Committee members.

Laura offered her regrets and left the meeting, the time being 5:32 p.m.

3. **Update on the Public Realm Strategy**

Brett Lucyk, Public Realm Coordinator reviewed the “*Shared Places Our Spaces – Markham’s Public Realm Strategy*” document which was approved in principle by Council on April 7, 2015. It is anticipated that PRAC will be active advisors to the implementation of the projects outlined in this document.

Brett commented that this document is a result of work carried out over the last four years through shared collaboration, community engagement and partnerships between the public and private sector and was produced through the efforts of Public Relations working staff, this Committee and a number of other contributors.

Markham’s public realm is defined as the visible and accessible spaces, connections and buildings which enhance public life, promote civic pride and enliven the spirit of the City. The scope of areas to which the public has visual or physical access include parks and open spaces, pathways and trails, streets and bridges, wetlands, woodlots, meadows and environmental areas, plazas, squares, publicly accessible buildings and building interfaces. Brett outlined a number of projects already underway or in the advanced planning stages, including *The Nature Effect* series, artistically-designed covers for transportation boxes throughout the City, sculptures designed by Mary Anne Barkhouse for Toogood Pond, ceramic tile cloud flowers in Cornell Park, Top Garden public space artwork at Middlefield and 14th Avenue, Daffodil planting and other various projects.

Councillor Chiu left the meeting, the time being 6:09 p.m.

Catherine Jay, Manager of Urban Design indicated that PRAC needs to look at the action items in the *Shared Places Our Spaces* document and possibly target activities that could benefit from the work of the Committee through active discussion and / or possibly establishing small working groups. It is expected that a smaller pamphlet will be designed to allow for an informative, cost-effective distribution to members of the public and other possible partners so that everyone will have a clear understanding of what is being done. There is also a web page that will be built on over time that connects to the City website.

4. **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

Pamela Cook, Committee Coordinator assumed the Chair and invited the Committee to nominate a member or members to facilitate an appointment of Chair for PRAC.

Moved by Omar Bhatti
Seconded by Karen Lui,

THAT Omar Bhatti be appointed Chair of the City of Markham, Public Realm Advisory Committee, as designated by the Terms of Reference of PRAC for a period of one year.

CARRIED

Omar Bhatti assumed the Chair, and invited nominations for Vice-Chair.

Moved by Karen Lui,
Seconded by Ivan Cheung,

THAT Karen Lui be appointed Vice-Chair of the City of Markham Public Realm Advisory Committee, as designated by the Terms of Reference of PRAC for a period of one year.

CARRIED

5. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Councillor Burke
Seconded by Omar Bhatti,

THAT the Minutes of the Public Realm Advisory Committee held on March 20, 2015 be approved.

CARRIED

6. New Business

a. Dates for Meetings

The Chair asked Committee members to provide the email address so that he can send out some proposed dates for the next meeting and requested members to forward suggestions for agenda items for discussion.

7. Adjournment

On a motion from Noel Shippey the meeting adjourned, the time being 6:21 p.m.