



MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Minutes
June 18, 2015**

ATTENDANCE

Members

Karl Lyew, Chair
Diane Ross, Vice Chair
Chuan Li, Immediate Past Chair
Kevin Boon
Jocelyn Cheung
Mavis Fung
Fanny Luk
Adam Poon
Amol Rao
Carrie Sally

Regrets

Mark Angelini
Ashok Bangia
Vikas Gautam
Phil Ling
Allan Lee

Council

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Regional Councillor Joe Li

Staff

Jennifer Wong, Sustainability Services Coordinator
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:12 PM with Karl Lyew 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 MAY 21, 2015

It was

Moved by Kevin Boon
Seconded by Jocelyn Cheung

That the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meeting held on May 21, 2015 be adopted as distributed, with the following change in italics:

6B. MUNICIPAL ENERGY PLAN

Jennifer Wong reviewed information relating to the City of Markham's long term city-wide energy plan.

CARRIED

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A. INFORMATION ON MARKHAM INITIATIVES AND COUNCIL MATTERS

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that:

- the proposed York University campus, to be constructed beside the Pan Am Centre, may impact the pathway to the Rouge Park;
- at a recent meeting of the Canadian Federation of Municipalities, the ICLEI ('International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives') Biodiversity Handbook was discussed. *biodiverCITIES: A Handbook for Municipal Biodiversity Planning and Management* serves as an informative and action-oriented resource to motivate change through the development of a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) using a "Milestone" based framework. This document is intended for municipal staff ready to make their community resilient, sustainable, and liveable. Amol Rao will email the handbook to Committee members and invite ICLEI representatives to make a presentation at a future meeting.
- Clarington has built a waste management facility which exceeds all known standards and when it is operational, all waste management activity will be recorded.

B. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS

Chair Karl Lyew reviewed and identified the status of the action items.

It was suggested that MEAC strike an Earth Day subcommittee at its September meeting. Committee members were asked to think of possible venues for an Earth Day event and consider volunteering to be part of the subcommittee.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A) APPOINTMENT OF MEAC MEMBERS TO OTHER CITY OF MARKHAM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Bev Shugg Barbeito reported that the committee could consider making motions regarding its representation on various committees and also making a motion to recommend to Markham Council for MEAC to have representation on the Public Realm Committee. Committee discussion revealed that Mavis Fung sits on the Public Realm Committee; Chuan Li may be able to attend meetings as her designate.

B) GROWTH PLAN AND GREENBELT PLANS

Chuan Li reported that she had submitted comments from MEAC members on the provincial plans under review.

C) EAC WEBPAGE

Jennifer Wong reported that she has updated the Markham EAC webpage. It was suggested that MEAC may wish to consider showcasing its members and events it has planned on its EAC webpage. Jocelyn Cheung and Amol Rao volunteered to further develop for the Markham EAC webpage.

D) EARTH DAY PLANNING

Discussion of this item was deferred to the September 2015 meeting.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

A. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

The Committee agreed to include a student as a member of the Committee. Jennifer Wong will approach the Mayor's Youth Task Force about making a recommendation.

B. DEPUTY MAYOR'S WALK

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that an exploration walk in Rouge Park might be held soon in order to plan a new route for the annual Deputy Mayor's Walk.

C. CLIMATEWISE BUSINESS NETWORK

Chair Karl Lyew reported that the Windfall Ecology Centre is working to develop a target-based sustainability program for businesses. The Windfall Centre program, named "ClimateWise Business Network," will assist in establishing an environmental leader's network in York Region. MEAC members have been invited to attend a meeting on Thursday June 25, 2015 with business and community leaders about strengthening the network of organizations in York Region working towards setting and achieving sustainability goals. Jessica Yau will attend on behalf of the City of Markham. Committee members were asked to advise Jennifer Wong if they were interested in attending. Jennifer Wong will request the meeting materials to distribute them to Committee members.

Addendum: Jennifer Wong advised by email on June 23, 2015 that the Windfall Ecology Centre Climate Wise Workshop has been postponed to a date to be determined in September.

D. LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair Karl Lyew reported that interested MEAC members might apply by June 25, 2015 to IESO to become part of a committee of senior City staff and community members brought together to discuss energy planning. The Markham Sustainability Office will submit Graham Seaman's application for consideration.

E. BEE PROTECTION

Jennifer Wong advised that she may have contacts knowledgeable in protecting bees, and will share that information with the Committee.

F. E-WASTE COLLECTION

It was reported that 13,000 pounds of e-waste was collected at the Earth Day event.

G. COMMITTEE INFORMATION SHEET

Jennifer Wong reported that the 1-page information sheet about MEAC will be ready in September. Markham Corporate Communications will ensure consistency in presentation with the information sheets of other Markham committees. Chuan Li will provide information on MEAC's mandate and recent achievements.

7. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Amol Rao
Seconded by Jocelyn Cheung

That the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 8:45 PM.

CARRIED

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., in the Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre.