



MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
June 14, 2011
11:00 AM
Council Chamber

Members

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Councillor Valerie Burke
Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Staff

Mavis Urquhart, Manager, Environmental Policy and Program Development
Karen Boniface, Technical Coordinator, Operations
Bill Wiles, Manager By-Laws Enforcement and Licensing
Bob Nicolson, Manager of Business & Technical Services
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

Other

Ivan Liew, York Region Police Officer

The Environmental Issues Committee convened at 11:28 am with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath as Chair.

1. THE LIVING CITY SCOREBOARD

Mavis Urquhart, Manager, Environmental Policy and Program Development distributed copies of "The Living City Scoreboard" to Committee.

2. PARKS AMBASSADORS PROGRAM (2.0)

[Report](#) [Appendix A](#) [Appendix B](#) [Appendix C](#) [Appendix D](#)

General Committee on May 30, 2011 referred the "Parks Ambassadors Program" report to the Environmental Issues Committee.

Bill Wiles, Manager By-Laws Enforcement and Licensing delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the proposed Parks Ambassadors Program.

Ivan Liew, York Region Police delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the proposed Park Ambassadors Program advising that this is the presentation that is shown to the volunteers.

The Committee inquired whether there has been any resistance from residence. Mr. Liew and Mr. Wiles advised that they have received good public response to the proposed program.

There was discussion regarding the proposed year end recognition event for the volunteers and suggested that staff consider having something similar for Adopt-a-Park Program volunteers.

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath distributed a summary sheet comparing the Adopt-a-Park Program and Park Ambassadors Program.

There was discussion regarding the requirement for volunteers to provide a letter of clearance from police.

The Committee suggested that the recommendation from the May 30, 2011 Park Ambassadors Program report also include:

- Staff report back to Council on the outcome of the program after the season
- Staff report back with options to collaborate all Markham park related programs (such as Adopt-a Park and Park Ambassadors Program)
- Staff report back whether volunteers working within Markham's parks should be required to provide a letter of clearance from police

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the report entitled Parks Ambassadors Program be received; and,
- 2) That Council approve the Town's participation in York Regional Police's Parks Ambassadors Program commencing in the **Summer** of 2011; and,
- 3) That the estimated 2011 costs of \$5,000 for the program be funded equally from the 2011 Operating budgets within the Operations and By-law Enforcement & Licencing departments and the 2012 anticipated costs will be addressed in the 2012 budget process; and,
- 4) **That staff report back to Council on the outcome of the Parks Ambassadors Program; and,**
- 5) **That staff report back with options to collaborate all Markham Park related programs (such as Adopt-a Park and Park Ambassadors Program); and,**
- 6) **That staff report back whether volunteers working within Markham Parks should be required to provide a letter of clearance from police; and further,**
- 7) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

The Environmental Issues Committee adjourned at 12:35 p.m.