



## **MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes**  
**March 26, 2015**

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### **Members**

Karl Lyew, Chair,  
Diane Ross, Vice Chair  
Chuan Li, Immediate Past Chair  
Jocelyn Cheung  
Adam Poon  
Amol Rao  
Carrie Sally

#### **Regrets**

Mark Angelini  
Kevin Boon

#### **Council**

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Regional Councillor Joe Li

#### **Staff**

Jessica Yau, Sustainability Coordinator  
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 7:10 PM with Karl Lyew presiding as Chair.

### **2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted as distributed with one addition: Wellness Clinic. It was agreed to include discussion of it as part of Earth Month discussions.

### **3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON JANUARY 15, 2015**

It was

Moved by           Diane Ross  
Seconded by       Jocelyn Cheung

That the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meeting held on February 26, 2015 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

### **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

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

- Deputy Mayor Jack Heath advised that he had written the Senate regarding the Rouge National Urban Park Act, which should pass soon. This enactment establishes the Rouge National Urban Park, provides for the protection of its natural and cultural resources and the encouragement of sustainable farming practices within the Park.
- Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that Earth Month has been adopted by Markham Council, and that interviews have been held and Markham is close to naming several new members for the Committee.

#### **B. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS**

- B. Shugg Barbeito will update the list.

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. EARTH HOUR EVENT**

It was reported that Mark Angelini, Jocelyn Cheung, Karl Lyew, Carrie Sally and student volunteers will attend. The MEAC members will be in charge of the MEAC booth; Jennifer Wong and Jessica Yau will be able to call on them as needed. It was agreed that Jocelyn Cheung would assist Jessica Yau and Mark Angelini will assist with the Candlelight Walk.

#### **B. EARTH MONTH PLANNING**

Sub-committee co-chairs Amol Rao and Jocelyn Cheung distributed and reviewed a draft itinerary and layout plan for the Earth Day event on April 11, 2015 at the Thornhill Community Centre. The Committee discussed the draft itinerary and noted:

- Workshops and presentations can be adjusted to fit the Mayor's schedule
- Councillor Burke will introduce Mayor Scarpitti
- Deputy Mayor Jack Heath and Regional Councillor will also offer remarks
- The animal show only needs a few minutes to set up; it should be at least two steps higher than floor level so that it is separated from the crowd
- The energy conservation time slot could be filled with the Gardening workshop
- Carrie Sally will confirm the new workshop time slot with Windfall Energy

- The Gardening and Milk Bags workshops can be any length of time; the Gardening workshop could be held at centre stage but the Milk Bags workshop would work better in another location

The Committee discussed and agreed on roles:

- Morning hall monitor – all
- Loading dock – student volunteer
- Stage monitor – Carrie, Chuan, and others will share this task
- Fireside lounge – Amol and Jocelyn
- Logistics – Diane
- MEAC table – Amol and others
- Photographers – ask one of the student volunteers to serve in this role

Committee discussion revealed:

- Chuan Li reported that she has invited the Varley Gallery but has not heard whether they'll attend.
- Deputy Mayor Jack Heath suggested that Natalie Carbone of the Toronto Wildlife Centre be contacted.
- Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy is interested in attending.
- Chuan Li will confirm whether the face painter needs a table.
- Chuan Li will bring the MEAC banners.
- Jocelyn Cheung reported that six volunteers have been confirmed and reviewed the duties for them: one will be assigned to take pictures; two will be assigned to monitor Rock the bike; two will be assigned to serve as guides; and one, likely a MEAC member, will be positioned near the MEAC table to talk about the Committee and its initiatives.
- Jennifer Wong and Jessica Yau will check on the availability of t-shirts and will check with Laura Gold about the availability of a poster board.
- Regarding give-aways: Jocelyn reported that she has ordered the tree seedlings and Chuan Li will contact Markham Recreation to ask about obtaining swim passes.
- Jennifer Wong advised that it would be expensive to have signs printed on poster board; she will investigate alternatives with Corporate Communications. It was suggested that an inexpensive alternative would be to project the agenda on the wall.
- Table skirts – should be rented from Corporate Communications.
- Earth Day poster – should be available for the stage.
- Bookmarks – are not likely to be ready for Earth Hour; Jocelyn Cheung will check into this.
- Jessica Yau reviewed the list of media including mobile signs, media advisories, posters, and ads on the City page, website, calendar, Facebook et al. The Economist and Sun included an article in its March 26, 2015 edition to celebrate the March 28 Earth Hour event and the April 11 Earth Month event.
- Prabh Banga had provided a draft survey and the sub-committee has altered it slightly. Jennifer Wong and Jessica Yau will have it confirmed by Corporate Communications and have copies made.
- Jennifer Wong and Jessica Yau will check to see if they have clipboards that MEAC members can use at the Earth Month event.
- Jessica Yau will check on the process for expensing lunch.

**C) ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE SYMPOSIUM PLANNING**

It was noted that Jennifer Wong will be replacing Prabh Banga on matters relating to EAC Symposium Planning; Jessica Yau will handle Earth Hour and Earth Month planning.

Invitations have been sent out to other municipalities' environmental committees. It was noted that the Canada Room has been booked for this event. Jennifer Wong is preparing an invitation with a link – it should be ready by mid April.

Karl Lyew advised the Committee to begin thinking about keynote speakers and the agenda. Jennifer Wong has reached out to SNAP. There were a number of ideas provided on who could act as a keynote speaker. Gord Miller, the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, is not able to attend. Dave Douglas, Vision Quest Environment has shown interest. Jay Ingram from Daily Planet could be a good choice. The Sustainability Office staff brainstormed ideas for keynote speakers and suggest Richard Lazlo of Quest; or Jim Harris, past Green Party member.

**D) APPOINTMENT OF MEAC MEMBERS TO OTHER CITY OF MARKHAM ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

Bev Shugg Barbeito advised that the Clerk's Office will provide an update on this matter as soon as possible.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

- The Committee wished to officially thank Prabh Banga for her contributions to the Committee and to wish her well in her future endeavours.
- Environmental Advisory Committee Forum - It was noted that on March 5, 2015, the City of Vaughan hosted an Environmental Advisory Committee Forum. Diane Ross was unable to attend this event in person and unanticipated problems prevented her from attending via teleconference. Diane Ross will email Committee members two presentations which were shared with her, and will send the minutes when she receives them.
- Business Cards - Jennifer Wong displayed the generic MEAC business cards design. After discussion, the Committee agreed on the latest design.

It was

Moved by Amol Rao  
Seconded by Carrie Sally

That the design of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) business card be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

- Jennifer Wong advised that the Planning department is seeking input from MEAC members about the Natural Heritage Interface Guidelines until April 24, 2015. Jennifer Wong will send an email to members about this and it will be a discussion item on the agenda for the April 2015 meeting.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:05 PM.

**8. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., in the Ontario Room, Markham Civic Centre.