



MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
June 13, 2014
1:30 p.m.
Canada Room

Members of Committee

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Karl Lyew, MEAC Representative

Staff

Nory Takata, Parks Planner
Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager of Waste &
Environmental Management
Alanna Mackenzie, Environmental Programs
Administrator
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets

Regional Councillor Joe Li
Councillor Valerie Burke

The Environmental Issues Committee convened at 1:40 p.m. with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath as Chair.

1. MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY FUND (MESF)

Community Applications:

James Robinson Public School

Nory Takata, Parks Planner provided some brief opening remarks regarding the funding application from James Robinson Public School requesting \$5,000.00 towards completion of phase 4 of the school's accessible schoolyard project.

Ms. McLellan delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the James Robinson Public School phase 4 of the school's accessible schoolyard.

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Seconded by Karl Lyew

That the report dated April 30, 2014 entitled Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund, Funding Applications, Spring 2014, be received; and,

That the presentation by Ms. McLellan regarding another phase of an accessible schoolyard, be received; and further,

That the funding application from James Robinson Public School for \$5,000.00 for another phase of an accessible schoolyard be approved.

Carried

Little Rouge and Robinson Creek Rehabilitation and Monitoring Project

Staff provided summary of the application from Peter Davis, Ontario Streams requesting \$5,000.00 for restoration planting and ongoing monitoring at a number of significant habitat zones of the two creeks within the Rouge Watershed. It was noted that they apply annually because it is on-going work.

There was discussion regarding some further clean-up required in the streams as a result of the December 2013 Ice Storm.

It was suggested that an update of all the work completed by Ontario Streams be presented to a future Environmental Issues Committee meeting.

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Seconded by Karl Lyew

That the funding application from the Ontario Streams for \$5,000.00, for a stream rehabilitation initiative at Little Rouge Creek and Robinson Creek be approved.

Carried

Pomona Mills Park - Alcove Restoration Planting

Staff briefly summarized the details relative to the application from Wing Morse, Pomona Mills Park Conservationists, requesting \$584.54 for planting native trees and shrubs for the restoration of the "Alcove" site in Pomona Mills Park.

Moved by Karl Lyew

Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the funding application from Pomona Mills Park Conservationists, Inc., for \$580.54, for a community planting initiative of native tree and shrub species be approved.

Carried

2. UPDATE ON ZERO FOR WASTE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager of Waste & Environmental Management provided an update regarding the zero waste school program and advised that they have just done the first high school. It was noted that we are up to 18 schools and adding 8 more. Staff advised that York Region was very impressed with the City of Markham's program and are trying to take it region wide.

An application has been submitted for an award through the Ministry of Environment for their zero waste school program.

3. MARKHAM TREES FOR TOMORROW FUND APPLICATIONS

Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) - Backyard Tree Planting Program

Staff summarized the details regarding the funding application from LEAF for \$30,000.00 to support LEAF's Backyard Tree Planting Program.

It was suggested that staff e-mail a copy of the report outlining the details of the number of homes they have reached out to.

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Seconded by Karl Lyew

That the report dated April 18, 2014 entitled "Markham Trees for Tomorrow Fund, Funding Recommendations - Spring 2014" be received; and,

That the funding application from LEAF (Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests) for \$30,000.00 to support LEAF's Backyard Tree Planting Program be approved.

Carried

Evergreen - 'Get Dirty' Community Greening Initiatives

Staff summarized the details relative to the application from Jill Kelly, Project Manager requesting \$30,000.00 for community greening initiative to enhance tree canopy, local biodiversity, wildlife habitat through community tree planting and stewardship events.

There was brief discussion regarding the identified priority sites.

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Seconded by Karl Lyew

That the funding application from Evergreen for \$30,000.00 for their 'Get Dirty' : Community Greening Initiative be approved.

Carried

10,000 Trees for the Rouge - 25th Annual Habitat Restoration Project

Staff briefly summarized the details regarding the application from Colin Creasey, Chairman, requesting \$30,000.00 for their 25th Annual Habitat Restoration Project that will enhance tree canopy, biodiversity and wildlife habitat in the multi-year planting site in the south east section of Milne Park.

There was discussion regarding the budget balance for the Trees for Tomorrow Fund.

Moved by Karl Lyew

Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the funding application from 10,000 Trees for the Rouge for \$30,000.00, for their 25th Annual Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project be approved.

Carried

Funding Source

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Seconded by Karl Lyew

That funding from the Trees for Tomorrow program for the next 7 years (2015 to 2021) at \$0.12M/year totalling \$0.84M be committed as a funding source to partially offset the December 2013 ice storm response and recovery costs.

Carried

4. NEW BUSINESS

Provincial Environmental Symposium

Karl Lyew advised that he recently attended one and suggested that they may be putting an application through the MESF to host such an event at the City of Markham

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Environmental Issues Committee meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.