



**Markham Environmental Advisory Committee
Minutes
March 20, 2014**

ATTENDANCE

<u>Members</u> Chuan Li, Chair Karl Lyew, Vice Chair James Lin, Immediate Past Chair Mark Angelini Kevin Boon Jocelyn Cheung Marie LeGrow Amanda Napoli Adam Poon Amol Rao Diane Ross Carrie Sally Vern Ricksen Tam	<u>Regrets</u> Phil Fung Muhammad Rashid
<u>Council</u> Deputy Mayor Jack Heath Regional Councillor Joe Li	
<u>Guest</u> Councillor Colin Campbell	
<u>Staff</u> Prabh Banga, Sustainability Coordinator Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Secretary	

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:00 PM with Chuan Li presiding as Chair.

2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as distributed.

3. EARTH HOUR

Councillor Colin Campbell advised the final details of the Earth Hour initiative “Beyond the Hour” at the Cornell Community Centre. The lantern walk will start at approximately 7:50 pm, followed by a countdown to the start of Earth Hour at 8:30 pm, and a concert. Jocelyn Cheung, Mark Angelini, Bev Shugg Barbeito and Peter Barbeito volunteered to assist people cross the road safely during the lantern walk. Chuan Li, Karl Lyew, James Lin, Kevin Boon, Amol Rao, Rick Tam, and Adam Poon volunteered to staff the MEAC table. Jocelyn Cheung and Amanda Napoli volunteered to take pictures of the event.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 20, 2014

It was

Moved by Amol Rao
Seconded by Vern Ricksen Tam

THAT the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meeting held on February 20, 2014 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A. INFORMATION REPORTS – MARKHAM INITIATIVES

Prabh Banga, Sustainability Coordinator, reported on the Markham Organic Home Gardens initiative. This new program is supported by the GreenPrint, Markham’s Community Sustainability Plan, and Markham’s Food Charter. The program encourages residents to grow organic food at home and to donate the surplus produce to their local food bank. She reported that registration is free and available now online. Because there was an overwhelming response for the pilot project in Southeast Markham last year, the program has been expanded to the entire City of Markham.

B. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS

Chair Chuan Li reviewed the list and provided updates:

- Members’ biographies – Information and pictures are needed from Amol Rao, Diane Ross, and Karl Lyew; pictures are needed from Kevin Boon and Phil Fung.
- T-shirts for the volunteers: Chuan Li will advise Prabh Banga the sizes that are needed.
- Banner for Earth Day– Regional Councillor Joe Li advised that his contact would need 48 hours to print the banner. MEAC could provide the artwork and his contact would print it, or MEAC could find another printer and the contact would pay for the printing. The Committee agreed to have Regional Councillor Joe Li’s contact print the banner. Amol Rao will coordinate this with Regional Councillor Joe Li.
- Media – Prabh Banga will send wording to Amol Rao and which media to send it to; Adam Poon will contact Asia media.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chaun Li attended the Regional Environmental Advisory Committee on March 6, 2014 in Aurora. She reported that York Region presented information on “Greening Your Grass”, “Water for Tomorrow” and “Eco Shopper”. “Rock the Bike” was also on display.

B. EARTH DAY PLANNING

The Committee discussed details for the Earth Day event. The following updates on the planning and undertaking of the event were provided:

- Poster – the Committee discussed the design and layout, and suggested corrections as required; the posters will be distributed to Market Village vendors to promote the events; Jocelyn Cheung will revise the artwork as required
- Bookmark – for distribution at Earth Hour, libraries and community centres; the Committee discussed the design and layout, and suggested corrections; Jocelyn Cheung will revise the artwork as required and arrange the printing up to a cost of \$200;
- Passport – the Committee discussed the design and layout, and suggested corrections; Jocelyn Cheung will revise the artwork as required and arrange the printing; all members will hand out the passports during the event to encourage attendees to visit booths of participating vendors
- Photography – Jocelyn Cheung and Amanda Napoli will take pictures during the event
- Programming – Chuan Li and Adam Poon have arranged a diverse line up:
 - 11:00 – 12:00 Live Band Dimension
 - 12:00 – 1:00 Animal Show
 - 1:00 – 1:30 Lion Dance
 - 1:30 – 1:45 Remarks by Mayor Frank Scarpitti, Deputy Mayor Jack Heath and Regional Councillor Joe Li (mic powered by Rock the Bike)
 - 1:45 – 2:15 “Aim to Sustain” Awards presentation; performance by winners
 - 2:15 - 2:45 Sheng Li (Asian opera singer); mike powered by Rock the Bike
 - 2:45 – 4:00 Live Band Dimension
- Booths – almost all participants are confirmed
- Rock the Bike will be on stage in the background during the programming; Chuan Li will investigate whether a waiver needs to be completed by those who take part.
- Emcees – Chuan Li and Adam Poon; In between each program set, the emcees will mention the booths and coupon give-aways
- Media – Chuan Li (Mandarin), Carrie Sally (English)
- Layout – Karl Lyew led the committee in discussion of possible layouts for the tables
- Survey – it was agreed that Committee members would send their top three choices to Diane Ross so she can finalize the survey
- Exhibitors may begin to set up at 9:00 am; it would be appreciated if some MEAC committee members could meet as early as 9am @ the stage area to assist with directing the exhibitors to their booth locations during set up
- Committee members will meet at the stage in the Food Court at 10:00 am
- Addendum: the live band Dimension cancelled and was replaced with Rock the Bike powering recorded music

C. DEPUTY MINISTER'S WALK

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath announced that the Deputy Mayor's Annual Walk will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2014. Details are still to be confirmed.

D. OAK RIDGES MORaine

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that the Oak Ridges Moraine Plan is to be reviewed every ten years to determine whether changes to its policies are needed. This review was originally intended for 2012, but was extended to 2015 to be in line with a legislated review of the Greenbelt and Niagara Escarpment Plans. The process is opening up at this time for public comment.

E. ROUGE NATIONAL PARK

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that the Oak Ridges Moraine and the Greenbelt will be included in the park. Additional details will follow at future meetings.

F. FLAP GUIDELINES

The Fatal Light Awareness Program (FLAP) Canada is a non-profit organization concerned with the safe passage of migratory birds through urban areas particularly during each migration season. At night, migrating birds are drawn to the lit areas and they can become trapped in the maze of buildings that obstruct their instinctive migration route. During the day, migrating birds do not see glass. The reflectivity or transparency of glass creates an illusion and birds often crash into the buildings with fatal results. FLAP has recently issued guidelines to help make buildings safe for birds.

7. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Karl Lyew
Seconded by Mark Angelini

That the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 9:25 PM.

CARRIED

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ontario Room.