



MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES March 21, 2013

ATTENDANCE

Members

James Lin, Chair
Kevin Boon
Marie LeGrow
Karl Lyew
Chuan Li
Philip Ling
Amanda Napoli
Adam Poon
Muhammad Rashid
Carrie Sally
Rodney Yee

Regrets

Christopher Sauer, Immediate Past Chair
Mark Angelini
Phil Fung
Alexander Karlovski
Erica Tsang-Tsanitsch

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Regional Councillor Joe Li

Staff

Katie Burns, Sustainability Office
Mylene Batista Bezerra, Assistant, Office of Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Kimberley Dunsmoor, Community Outreach Assistant, Waste & Environmental Management
Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager Waste & Environmental Management
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:03 PM with James Lin presiding as Chair. Two new members, Amanda Napoli and Muhammad Rashid, were welcomed and introductions were made.

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 FEBRUARY 21, 2013

It was

Moved by Phil Ling
Seconded by Chuan Li

THAT the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meeting held on February 21, 2013 be adopted as distributed.

Carried

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A. INFORMATION REPORTS – MARKHAM INITIATIVES

Katie Burns, Sustainability Office, reported on a number of initiatives where the Sustainability Office:

- Is integrating sustainability issues into the Annual Report
- has hired a Communications Officer ,who is developing a communications strategy and a corporate energy plan; MEAC may wish to be involved in reviewing them when they've been completed
- is undertaking outreach initiatives relating to GreenPrint
- will hire a summer student to assist in launching the next sustainability project; there may also be a role for MEAC members in the project
- is part of the Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP) in partnership with TRCA in Bayview Glen to increase energy efficiency
- is developing an Inclusive Playspace Policy, seed lending libraries and a food charter

B. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS

The list of Outstanding Action Items was reviewed and status updates were provided. The list will be updated and attached to the minutes.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. WASTE MANAGEMENT

Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager Waste & Environmental Management, advised that, in October, Markham Council approved a series of Waste Diversion initiatives for implementation during 2013 and 2014, including:

- Use of clear bags for garbage effective April 30, 2013
- Mandatory material separation for recycling and garbage
- Curb side Collection Ban Policy for Electronics and Batteries
- Zero Waste projects for schools

Ms Marsales also advised that, in April, Markham homes will receive a newsletter reminding residents that the use of clear bags for garbage will go into effect April 30, 2013 and offering a \$2 coupon for clear garbage bags, thanks to Glad, an important supporter of this initiative. MEAC members were asked to take on an exciting leadership role to serve as ambassadors for the Clear Bag program. It is hoped that, on April 27 at a number of retail locations across Markham, Committee members would promote the initiative to Markham residents, answer their questions and offer clear bag samples. Ms Marsales also advised that a Chinese environmental group has been asked to participate at T&T Supermarkets for the same purpose. She assured the Committee that the Waste & Environmental Management department would support them at the selected locations. Kimberley Dunsmoor will send Committee members a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and a short training session could be scheduled if needed. It was agreed that Mylene Batista Bezerra, Kimberley Dunsmoor, and Karl Lyew will decide on the retail locations to ensure coverage across Markham and will recruit volunteers.

B. EARTH DAY 2013

Earth Day sub-committee Chair Chuan Li reviewed the Committee's plans for Earth Day 2013. She reported that the insurance forms had been completed and submitted, the contract with Markville Mall signed and submitted, and the partners for the event confirmed.

Other details were discussed, including:

- Chuan Li circulated a sign-up sheet for Committee members to volunteer their time to help at the event; set-up will be from 9-10 AM, the event will run from 10 AM - 3 PM, and clean up will take place from 3 - 4 PM. Carrie Sally advised that she will bring one or two others to assist.
- Chuan Li will create a location "map" to indicate where Committee members and partners are to set up.
- Katie Burns has submitted for payment the Markville Mall invoice for \$10 Markville Mall gift cards that will be given to the Committee's partners as thanks for their participation and for the \$100 Markville Mall gift card for the winner of the survey draw.
- Chuan Li will send Katie Burns a poster encouraging event attendees to complete the survey to win a gift card; Katie Burns will arrange to have copies printed.
- Kevin Boon is finalizing survey questions.
- The seedlings that will be given away are being shipped to Chuan Li.
- A promotional poster and accompanying memo are being finalized by the Sustainability Office Communications Officer to be ready for pick-up by Carrie Sally on March 28 for subsequent distribution to the 146 stores in the mall.
- The Earth Day event will be placed on the Markham page of the Markham Economist & Sun for two weeks prior to the event, and promoted on Markham's website. Carrie Sally will follow up to ensure that Markville Mall promotes the event on its website.
- Mayor Frank Scarpitti and Deputy Mayor Jack Heath will speak to attendees and thank Markville Mall management at approximately 1:00 PM; Carrie Sally has invited the Markville Mall team to attend at that time.
- Katie Burns will investigate whether Markham banners are available, bring t-shirts to the April meeting, and bring name tags on the day of the event.
- Karl Lyew will serve as photographer at the Earth Day event.

C. ROUGE PARK

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that Markham has submitted a detailed response to Parks Canada relating to establishing Rouge Park as the first national urban park. Consideration will be required for a number of issues relating to the Greenbelt, land use planning and restrictions, homeownership, farmland, recreation needs and financing.

D. SOLAR SUB-COMMITTEE

Chair James Lin will follow up with Chris Sauer about plans for this sub-committee.

6. ADJOURNMENT

It was

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| Moved by | Chuan Li |
| Seconded by | Phil Ling |

That the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 9:00 PM.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next regular monthly meeting of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee has been scheduled for Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Ontario Room.