



MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
Waste Diversion Sub-Committee
March 6, 2013
10:00 AM
Ontario Room

Members Deputy Mayor Jack Heath Regional Councillor Joe Li Councillor Valerie Burke Councillor Logan Kanapathi Karl Lyew, MEAC representative Guests Councillor Howard Shore Councillor Don Hamilton Mylene Bezerre	Staff Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager, Waste and Environmental Management Kimberley Dunsmoor, Community Outreach Assistant Peter Loukes, Director Environmental Services Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator
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The Environmental Issues Committee, Waste Diversion Sub-Committee convened quorum at 10:07 a.m. with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath as Chair.

1. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2013 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE, WASTE DIVERSION SUB-COMMITTEE

Moved by Regional Councillor Joe Li
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

That the minutes from the February 20, 2013 Environmental Issues, Waste Diversion Subcommittee be adopted.

CARRIED

2. UPDATE ON RETAIL SUPPLY

Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager, Waste and Environmental Management advised the Subcommittee that notices were sent out to all the retailers in Markham regarding the clear bag garbage program. She also advised that Dave Douglas, President VisionQuest Environmental Strategic Corporation has been hired to personally meet with the retailers/buyers and ensure that the clear bags will be available in Markham stores for purchase by the program launch date of April 30, 2013.

3. AMNESTY PROGRAM

Staff advised that they have been placing clear bag tips in the newspaper and on the web site reminding residents that diapers, private papers etc are acceptable in the green bin.

There was considerable discussion regarding the number of privacy/shopping bags that should be permitted in the clear bag. The Subcommittee suggested that the advertising relative to the clear bag garbage program must include information regarding the privacy/shopping bag(s).

Staff advised that the clear bag program begins April 30, 2013 and pointed out that if residents have their garbage in dark bags they will be picked up the first and second week of the program. OPPS stickers will be left to remind residents to use clear bags. On the 3rd collection cycle, bags will be left behind with a sticker.

Staff presented the Subcommittee with pictures of the three stickers that will be used to transition to clear bags. Staff also presented a picture of a 'gold star' sticker that will be placed on the green bin or blue box for those residents who have properly sorted all their recycling and waste items.

The Subcommittee suggested the following:

- Amend the wording on the stickers to read "clear garbage bags now required for garbage"
- Test the adhesive on the stickers prior to placing on the resident's bins
- Amend the wording on the gold sticker "Thank you for doing your part in the Markham Clear Garbage Bag Program" and include "You are a Star"

4. MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE (MEAC) PROGRAM SUPPORT

Staff advised that they need to attend the next MEAC meeting to outline what is involved with the Ambassador program. It was noted that the next MEAC meeting is Thursday March 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ontario Room.

5. NEWSLETTER

Staff advised that they anticipate having the newsletter being circulated the first week of April. It was noted that the images to be included have not been finalized.

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath advised that he has requested to include a column with his message in the newsletter.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Environmental Issues Committee, Waste Diversion Sub-Committee adjourned at 11:55 a.m.