



MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
April 17, 2013
1:00 p.m.
Canada Room

Members of Committee

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

Regrets

Regional Councillor Joe Li

Staff

Mavis Urquhart, Manager, Environmental Policy and
Program Development
Nory Takata, Parks Planner
Peter Loukes, Director Environmental Services
Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager of Waste &
Environmental Management
Regan Hutcheson, Manager Heritage
Lilli Duoba, Senior Project Coordinator, Rouge Park &
Environmental
Elizabeth Wimmer, Senior Environmental Planner
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

Guests

Jessica Benvenuti, Project Coordinator, Ontario
Streams
Carmen Ng, Executive Director, EcoWatch Canada

The Environmental Issues Committee convened at 1:13 p.m. with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath as Chair.

**1. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 6, 2013 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
COMMITTEE -WASTE DIVERSION SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES**

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the March 6, 2013 Environmental Issues Committee - Waste Diversion Subcommittee
minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

2. MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY FUND (MESF) COMMUNITY APPLICATIONS

Ontario Streams

Jessica Benvenuti, Project Coordinator, Ontario Streams delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the application from Ontario Streams for \$8,500.00 for a stream rehabilitation initiative at Little Rouge Creek and Robinson Creek.

EcoWatch Canada

Carmen Ng, Executive Director delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the various battery collection and recycling programs they offer.

The Committee discussed how to increase the number of schools in Markham that are participating in the battery collection and recycling program. There was discussion regarding how the batteries are handled.

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke

Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

1. That the report dated March 12, 2013 entitled "Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund, Funding applications, Spring 2013" be received; and,
2. That the funding application from Ontario Streams for \$8,500.00, for a stream rehabilitation initiative at Little Rouge Creek and Robinson Creek, be approved; and,
3. That the funding application from EcoWatch Canada for \$9,355.00 for a household battery collection and recycling program be approved; and,
4. That the funds come from the Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund (MESF) account #87 2800168; and further,
5. That Staff be authorized to do all things necessary to give effect to the above.

CARRIED

3. SOUTHEAST COLLECTOR TRUNK SEWER ENHANCEMENT PLAN Dimma House

Elizabeth Wimmer, Senior Environmental Planner delivered a brief PowerPoint presentation regarding the proposal to stabilize the Dimma House through roof replacement, downspout replacements, fascia replacement, mould, asbestos and garbage removal.

It was noted that Council endorsed (as amended by the EIC) the project which was funded through the Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer Enhancement Plan on September 20, 2011. The funding allocation of \$45,000 was conditional based on the on-site relocation of the dwelling and the TRCA agreeing to privatize the dwelling. Staff wishes to amend the proposal to stabilize the Dimma House through on site relocation and redirect the funds to critical repairs; roof replacement, downspout replacements, fascia replacement, mould, asbestos and garbage removal.

There was discussion regarding the privatization recommendation. Staff advised that the TRCA is unable to support this recommendation. It was mentioned that ongoing discussions are occurring with the TRCA and Parks Canada regarding this matter as a condition of the transfer of Markham lands to the park.

The Committee discussed whether the project allocation of \$45,000.00 should be used to stabilize the Dimma House or should be used to stabilize Locust Hill School House (Also funded under the Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer Enhancement Plan).

There was discussion regarding whether the Dimma House needs to be relocated. Staff advised that the Dimma House can be stabilized on the existing location. Staff pointed out that the Dimma House is a significant heritage resource and is thought to be one of Markham's oldest dwellings and could be lost through demolition by neglect if maintenance and repairs are not undertaken immediately.

The Committee suggested that a meeting be set up with a representative of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) to further discuss the responsibility of restoring the Dimma House including the property standards and building maintenance issues.

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke

Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

1. That a meeting be organized with representative(s) of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) to discuss the restoring of the Dimma House; and,
2. That the Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer Enhancement Plan - project allocation for \$45,000.00 be deferred to after the meeting with the TRCA has taken place.

CARRIED

4. UPDATE ON ZERO WASTE PROGRAM AT SCHOOLS

Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager of Waste & Environmental Management provided an oral update regarding the zero waste program at Markham Public and Separate schools.

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Seconded by Karl Lyew

That the oral update from Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager of Waste & Environmental Management regarding the zero waste program at Markham Public and Separate schools be received.

CARRIED

5. MARKHAM TREES FOR TOMORROW FUND, FUNDING APPLICATIONS, SPRING 2013

Nory Takata, Parks Planner summarized the details outlined in the report.

There was discussion regarding whether there can be more done through social media to engage young children to learn more about the importance of trees.

Moved by Karl Lyew

Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the report dated March 18, 2013 entitled "Markham Trees for Tomorrow Fund, Funding Applications, Spring 2013", be received; and,
- 2) That the funding application from LEAF (Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests) for \$30,000 for LEAF's Backyard Tree Planting Program be approved; and,
- 3) That the Funding application from Evergreen for \$30,000, for their Spreading Roots: Community Greening Initiative, be approved; and,
- 4) That the funding application from 10,000 Trees for the Rouge for \$22,000, for their 24th Annual Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project, be approved; and,
- 5) That the funds come from the Markham Trees for Tomorrow Capital Project account #700-101-5399-13431; and further
- 6) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to these recommendations.

CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

Staff distributed a handout regarding "Greening Your Grounds Workshop Series."

ADJOURNMENT

The Environmental Issues Committee adjourned at 3:17 p.m.