



## **MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES April 19, 2012**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### Members

Christopher Sauer, Chair  
Kevin Boon  
Phil Fung  
Marie LeGrow  
Chuan Li  
James Lin  
Salim Manji  
Adam Poon  
Carrie Sally  
Erica Tsang  
Rodney Yee  
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Regional Councillor Joe Li

##### Regrets

Mylene Batista Bezerra  
Philip Ling  
Tom Rado

##### Staff

Katie Burns, Sustainability Coordinator  
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Secretary

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:10 PM with Christopher Sauer presiding as Chair via teleconference.

#### **2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted as presented.

#### **3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 15, 2012**

It was

Moved by           Carrie Sally  
Seconded by       Erica Tsang

That the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meeting held on March 15, 2012 be adopted with the following changes *in italics*:

**Appointment of representative to Markham Agricultural Advisor Committee**

That the MEAC appoints Phil Fung as the representative to the Markham Agricultural Advisory Committee, with *Chuan Li* as the alternative.

Moved by Mylene Batista Bezerra

Second by Carrie Sally

CARRIED

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by Chuan *Li*

Seconded by Kevin Boon

That the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 9:09 PM.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**A. WASTE DIVERSION SUB-COMMITTEE**

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that this Committee is close to finalizing a new concept; the Sub-committee will meet soon to further review the concept.

**B. COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Philip Ling reported via email that Town of Markham Council has voted to approve an option where the pathway will follow outside the park along the road at Milne Park.

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that the Environmental Assessment has been filed and if there are no challenges filed within thirty days, then the budget will be developed for the project.

**C. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS**

MEAC Sign - Katie Burns will check with internal departments to locate the MEAC sign so it may be used at the Earth Day event.

Earth Day event gifts - Katie Burns advised that the Sustainability Office is able to provide USB keys as gifts for participants who are volunteering at the event.

**D. EARTH HOUR**

Katie Burns reported that Markham did not increase its total power reduction as a municipality during this event. In fact, participation in Earth Hour has decreased over the last two years and the Earth Hour event held at the Markham Museum did not attract as many as expected. As a result, the Sustainability Office will re-evaluate the viability of assigning resources to Earth Hour events. Committee discussion suggested that perhaps the office might prefer to focus on educational efforts, similar to those conducted by the City of Barrie.

#### **E. EARTH DAY**

Plans for the Earth Day event were reviewed:

- The event will be held from 10 am – 4 pm at the band shell on Main St., Unionville.
- Set up will be from 9 - 10 am; Katie Burns, Carrie Sally, Chuan Li, and others will gather at 9 am to collect the tents from the Varley Art Gallery and erect them at the band shell site.
- There will be 15-20 student volunteers for various periods throughout the day to help set up and to act as ambassadors to direct people into the event.
- There will be booths representing the Markham Sustainability Office, the Water for Tomorrow office, Waste Management office, Varley Art Gallery, Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), Rouge Park, the Youth Environment Network of York Region (YENR) and Muskoka Wildlife Centre.
- Promotional aspects include a live band that will play for a total of 4 hours, a face painter and a popcorn machine.
- Chris Sauer will develop a survey so MEAC is able to discover how people found out about the event, what suggestions they might have, etc. He will review the survey for the Deputy Mayor's Walks to see if it can be adapted. He will email the survey to Katie Burns, who will print it.
- Philip Ling will bring bur oak and red oak seedlings as promotional give-aways for those who complete the survey about the event.
- Chuan Li will email a schedule to all those involved in the event: Muskoka Wildlife show at 1 pm, Chuan Li and Carrie Sally will introduce Mayor Scarpitti at 2 pm; all Council members have also been invited to attend, and many have accepted.

Katie Burns distributed copies of the poster developed to promote the event. Carrie Sally reported that the poster had been distributed to stores and businesses on Main Street Unionville by the Unionville BIA. Other promotions include promotion on the Town of Markham website, an ad on the Town of Markham page in the Economist & Sun, electronic signage on Highway #7 and at Kennedy Road and Carlton Road, tweets, and posts on Facebook.

Katie Burns will

- make name tags
- bring fact sheets outlining environmental changes people can make, duct tape, extension cords, pens, copies of the survey
- confirm that the power source at the band shell will be on

Chair Chris Sauer congratulated Committee members for the excellent work in coordinating the planning for this event.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

It was

Moved by Carrie Sally  
Seconded by Erica Tsang

That the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) request Town of Markham Council to declare vacant the Committee positions of Erica Lontoc and Elvis Nurse, and to appoint replacement members to the Committee.

Carried

### **B. UPCOMING MEETING AGENDAS**

Discussion of this item identified the following as possible agenda items:

- Toronto Region Conservation Authority
- Markham Urban Forest Study
- GreenPrint gap analysis - fall 2012
- Educational outreach, perhaps at Markham`s markets
- Markham Food Charter - MEAC could provide an environmental focus

### **C. MARKHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Phil Fung reported that he had attended the first meeting of the Markham Agricultural Advisory Committee. He is also a member of the sub-committee charged with environmental matters. He will have more to report after the next meeting.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by James Lin  
Seconded by Adam Poon

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 May 17, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the Ontario Room.