



MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES
MAY 17, 2012

ATTENDANCE

Members

Christopher Sauer, Chair
Kevin Boon
Phil Fung
Chuan Li
Adam Poon
Carrie Sally
Rodney Yee
Mylene Batista Bezerra
Philip Ling
Sarah Ko
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Regional Councillor Joe Li

Regrets

Marie LeGrow
James Lin
Salim Manji
Erica Tsang

Staff

Katie Burns, Sustainability Coordinator
Darshika Patel, Committee Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:16 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 APRIL 19, 2012

It was

Moved by Phil Fung
Seconded by Kevin Boon

That the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meeting held on April 19, 2012 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A. WASTE DIVERSION SUB-COMMITTEE

The subcommittee meeting has been delayed and is anticipated to take place in the next two to three weeks. Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that the proposed concept will go to committee in late July and then to council.

The Chair will forward updates received from subcommittee members to MEAC via e-mail for feedback or comments.

B. COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE UPDATE

There has been no new meeting since the last meeting. The Town of Markham Council has approved to have the pathway follow the park along the road at Milne Park. There has been no appeal on this motion at this time.

C. AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Phil Fung attended the Markham Agricultural Advisory Committee as the representative for MEAC. The mandate for this committee focuses on communication, sustainability and policy. The five objectives are to create road signage to address speed and safety for road conflict with farm equipment; to promote local foods; to review the Town's food procurement policy; review the inventory of the farmer's market; and urban farming.

As a starting point, the committee has created communication materials providing basic information to community members. The committee has also discussed the possibility of putting a Markham food guide, holding agricultural tours for the community, and planning a pilot project to have an agency help community members grow their own gardens.

This committee is still in its early stages and as met two of the three items in their mandate. MEAC is interested in their mandate and would like look for opportunities to collaborate on various initiatives.

D. EARTH DAY

The Chair congratulated and thanked the committee for pulling this event together. Special mentions were given to Ms. Katie Burns and rest of the sub-committee members for their support for this well appreciated event.

There was not a large turnout for this event due to the cold weather. The interactive session with the animals was highly successful and engaged the public for a long time. Statistics were taken at this event where event goers and organizers provided their

feedback of the event. The final results of the survey are pending. Once completed, results will be placed on the website.

For next year's event, it will be important to finalize the venue and determine the effective marketing channels for this event and discuss activities that will retain people. The committee is interested in not only holding an Earth Day event but also Non-Earth Day event that will garner greater crowds. Possible venues for next year's event include Markham Fair Ground and Markville Mall. MEAC is also interested in coordinating with Sarah Ko to help promote this committee at different events happening in Markham.

E. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS

Ask Graham about the 2012 event – Katie Burns

Contact Markville Mall – Chris Sauer

Draft Feedback – Mylene Batista Bezerra

Events – Sarah Ko will inform MEAC of the events she will be in attending.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. TORONTO REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY REGIONAL REPORT CARD

Updates will be provided after a follow-up.

B. MARKHAM URBAN FOREST STUDY

Updates will be provided after a follow-up.

C. OUTREACH AT MARKHAM MARKETS

D. UPCOMING MEETING AGENDAS

The committee is interested in having Graham attend this meeting to further discuss solar panels on Markham Centre. Also, there will be a meeting with the Mayor in the future to further discuss and ask for feedback in regards to MEAC.

6. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Adam Poon

Seconded by Chuan Li

That the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 9:05 PM.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next regular monthly meeting of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee has been scheduled for Thursday June 21, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the Ontario Room.