



GREENPRINT STEERING COMMITTEE
Canada Room, Markham Civic Centre
May 25, 2012, 3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Attendance

Members of Council

Councillor Valerie Burke
Councillor Howard Shore
Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Regrets

Mayor Frank Scarpitti

Staff

Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services
Katie Burns, Sustainability Coordinator
Colleen Kaiser, Contract Staff
Sara Ko, Summer Student
Shirley Marsh, Project Manager, Sustainability Office
Warren Rupnarian, Accessibility Coordinator
Graham Seaman, Sustainability Office Lead & Manager of Climate Change & Energy
Rachel Woodroffe, Contract Staff
Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator

The Greenprint Steering Committee convened at 3:40 pm **without quorum** with Councillor Valerie Burke presiding as Chair. A quorum was achieved at 4:15.

New members of the staff team were introduced: Warren Rupnarian, Sara Ko, Colleen Kaiser, and Rachel Woodroffe.

1. Sustainability Office Strategy Review

Graham Seaman gave a presentation to review Markham's Sustainability Strategy, developed through consultation with senior staff and Committee members. The strategy is identified as: governance, integration, coordination, and reporting; Greenprint promotion; sustainability services; and priority focus. Each of these topics was discussed in detail.

The Committee discussed several issues, including cultural identity as a sustainability issue.

2. Proposed Updated Committee Terms of Reference

The original mandate of the Greenprint Steering Committee was to oversee the establishment of the Greenprint: a Community Sustainability Plan. Staff recommend that the mandate be updated to coordinate with the strategies, and to include setting milestones and targets. Meetings are anticipated to be held twice yearly or at the call of the Chair.

The Committee discussed:

- the essential objective of creating a sustainability lens for Council use in decision making. Staff requested Committee volunteers for this project.
- promotional initiatives will be a joint responsibility with Corporate Communications
- the Greenprint document is a living document and will be amended as necessary

Moved by: Councillor Howard Shore

Seconded by: Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That Council be requested to amend the Terms of Reference for the Greenprint Steering Committee to reflect the following Sustainability Office Strategies:

- a) **Sustainability governance, integration, coordination and reporting**
 - Set milestones and targets for Markham to achieve
 - Meet at minimum twice yearly; mid-year to receive an update and end of year to receive annual implementation report and at the Chair's call
 - Advise on recommended updates as the Greenprint is a living document
 - Advise on priority indicator reporting
 - Work with staff to develop sustainability lens for Council use in decision making;
- b) **Greenprint promotion**
 - Be Greenprint champion
 - Recognize and celebrate accomplishments
 - Advise on communications strategy;
- c) **Sustainability services**
 - Provide guidance on Councillor sustainability information needs
 - Advise on opportunities for funding partnerships
 - Advocate externally as needed;
- d) **Priority focus**
 - Advise and support three focused priorities of: Energy and Climate; Food Security; and, Access and Mobility.

CARRIED

3. Markham Sustainability Activity Inventory

Shirley Marsh made a presentation on the activity matrix, used to compile, track, monitor and report on sustainability activities. The presentation gave an overview of a sample of accomplishments and planned activities. Nearly 525 activities have been inventoried to date, some pre-existing prior to establishment of the Greenprint initiative.

The Committee had several questions and made suggestions for additional activities such as self-education opportunities. The Committee noted the summary of accomplishments and planned departmental activities was very helpful to understand Markham's on-going sustainability initiatives. It was suggested that the ongoing Sabiston Landfill issue in Thornhill may be a good opportunity for Sustainability Office involvement.

4. Focused Priority Update

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

5. Next Steps

Due to the shortness of the meeting, the Committee directed that a follow-up meeting be scheduled as soon as possible.

Staff will be making a presentation to General Committee in June regarding retrofit, and the proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference will be presented to General Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.