



## **MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES March 15, 2012**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### Members

Christopher Sauer, Chair  
Kevin Boon  
Chuan Li  
Philip Ling  
Adam Poon  
Carrie Sally  
Mylene Batista Bezerra  
Marie Legrow  
Erica Tsang  
Tom Rado  
Regional Councillor Joe Li

##### Regrets

Erika Lontoc  
Elvis Nurse  
Phil Fung  
James Lin  
Salim Manji  
Rodney Yee  
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

##### Staff

Katie Burns, Sustainability Coordinator  
Carlie Turpin, Committee Secretary

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

The Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) was called to order at 7:18 PM with Chris presiding as Chair via teleconference.

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

The agenda was accepted as is.

#### **3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON FEBUARY 16, 2012**

It was

Moved by           Philip Ling  
Seconded by       Chuan Li

That the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meeting held on February 16, 2012 be adopted as is.

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

##### **A. UPDATE ON WASTE DIVERSION SUB-COMMITTEE**

No updates.

##### **B. COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE UPDATE**

A public meeting took place on February 23, 2012 to showcase the trail and the 7 sections were displayed and described. Meeting attendees discussed preferences and placed their preferences on the maps. The consultants did a presentation that walked through the whole process and the goals of the trail. A number of questions were raised from participants relating to the mill and conservation areas regarding bridge, road access etc. The next CLC meeting has not been scheduled yet.

Chris inquired what the representation was at the meeting from different areas of the town. Philip advised the majority of people who attended the meeting live on adjacent streets. Chris inquired if trail composition and trail width was discussed at the meeting with respect to environmental sustainability. Philip advised there is a commitment to multiple uses for the trail and it will not be a fixed width, as the width will vary at different places on the trail. With respect to materials there will be a mixture of different types of materials used depending on the environmental composition of specific areas. This discussion will happen at the next stage, following completion of the detailed design phase of the trails. The Committee will then be consulted and able to review the types of materials used for the different sections.

##### **C. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS**

###### **TRCA**

Chris left a message for the TRCA reps to invite them to attend a MEAC meeting. They had previously said they would be happy to do presentation on the regional report card at a committee meeting or at an Agriculture Subcommittee meeting. Ideally Chris would only like to have the TRCA representative come in once to Markham and combine the two meetings. James was consulted on when to place this presentation on the agenda and he advised with earth day and earth hour activities the agenda will be too heavy for the next meeting. The May meeting would be a better option for the presentation.

###### **Regional EAC forum**

Chris connected with staff in Aurora who walked him through the documentation they had put together. MEAC could invite them to attend a future meeting to discuss and review their studies and how they managed the process.

###### **Committee Membership**

Tom Rado advised he had received an email dated March 15, 2012 from Ericka Lontoc that contained her resignation from the Committee.

MEAC recommends that the resignations of Erika Lontoc & Elvis Nurse be accepted; and the positions be declared vacant and replacement members be appointed.

Moved by – Phillip Ling  
Second by – Erica Tsang

CARRIED

#### **D. UPDATE ON EARTH DAY SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

Katie advised everything on the form has been approved, 20 tables have been approved as well as two tents. Tents will need transportation to the site and Corporate Communications requested someone from MEAC to transport the tents. MEAC does not believe they should be responsible for delivering the tents and requested that the Town transport the tent.

Poster development from Corporate Communications has not been completed as of yet. MEAC would like to see the poster draft for their approval and then the poster can be mass printed and distributed. The target date to have a draft of the poster for MEAC to review is the end of next week. MEAC discussed what they would like featured on the poster and that it say “free”. MEAC would like to place the UBIA logo on the promotional poster, Carrie will speak with the UBIA to see if they are ok with this.

Chris provided a budget update to the group. Signing authority has been sorted out with Finance to allow for invoices for this event to be paid. MEAC reviewed the expenses associated with the event. MEAC discussed the costs associated with mobile sign rental to promote the event; MEAC views this as a good investment.

Chris discussed seedling prices, noting the prices were dependent on which seedling the Committee selects. The order must be submitted by March 19 to ensure delivery for the event. MEAC decided they would like seedlings as give-aways for the event and budgeted \$200 for this expenditure. The order will be a mix of bur oak and red oak seedlings.

MEAC questioned when the fiscal year ends and when they would need to put in a budget request to top up their funds. Chris will look into this.

There was a discussion about thank-you gifts to be provided to participants who are volunteering at the event. MEAC would like to see if the Town could provide these gifts. There is a need for approximately 20-25 gifts.

MEAC also needs a budget for lunch for members volunteering at the event during the day. Members are to keep their receipts and will be reimbursed later up to a maximum of \$10 per person.

MEAC discussed conducting their own survey at the event. They will work with Sustainability Office to establish the survey questions and then submit the survey to the

Clerk's Office for review. They would also like to have the MEAC banner displayed at the event. Chris will email Deputy Mayor Jack Heath to determine where the banner is.

#### **E. UPDATE EARTH HOUR SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

Katie Burns advised the event will be held at the Markham Museum which will feature tours from 12-5 p.m. of the new building that is LEED certified. During the actual earth hour facility staff will shut down as much power as possible while keeping in mind safety. The Town is compiling a list of activities residents can do at home with family and friends during earth hour. Katie will provide this list of activities to MEAC members who will distribute it to their contacts.

Carrie inquired what MEAC's role will be during this event. Phil advised they were there simply as a sounding board for ideas within the limited budget. Carrie would like to see a MEAC and Sustainability Office table at the Museum during this event.

Katie to determine if there will be an onsite presence from the Town and how many people would be required at the booth. The group would like to see Earth Day promoted at this event and utilize a survey component to learn more about the resident's knowledge of the Greenprint etc. MEAC would like to see if there could be a reduced admission cost for this event, Katie will inquire about this. MEAC would like to have some bags allocated for this event. Volunteers to provide Katie with their t-shirt sizes to ensure they are provided with a t-shirt to wear to the event. Four volunteers will split the day.

Power Stream will be onsite with an event team conducting surveys done onsite using tablets. MEAC would like to see SNAP at the event.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

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

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

Moved by Mylene Batista Bezerra  
Second by Carrie Sally

CARRIED

##### **Upcoming meeting agendas**

MEAC would like to arrange for guests speakers to come to future meetings. There was discussion about having the Mayor attend a meeting. Chris will arrange this with the Mayor's staff for the June meeting.

##### **Regional Environmental Advisory Committee**

The next meeting is March 27, 2012 in Newmarket. Chris is unable to attend; another MEAC member will attend in his place with James.

#### **6. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by           Chuan Lin  
Seconded by       Kevin Boon

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

**7. NEXT MEETING**

The next regular monthly meeting of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee has been scheduled for Thursday April 19, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the Ontario Room.