



## **MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES February 16, 2012**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### Members

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

##### Regrets

Mylene Batista Bezerra  
Marie Legrow  
Erika Lontoc  
Elvis Nurse  
Erica Tsang  
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 with one addition:  
- Motion regarding Signing Authority

#### **3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 19, 2012**

It was

Moved by           Carrie Sally  
Seconded by       Chuan Li

That the minutes of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) meeting held on January 19, 2012 be adopted with the following change *in italics*:

**4. UPDATE OF THE MARKHAM SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE**

Graham Seaman, Manager Climate Change and Energy, reported that MECO has developed an action plan for 2012 with the following objectives:

- Governance Process integration
- Priority setting as a result of a more robust budget, e.g. reducing carbon emissions
- Support from MEAC for MECO initiatives to increase community involvement
- Promote and track Governance Process initiatives, e.g. complete a gap analysis by year end

Carried

**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 which might be introduced in January 2013. The Sub-committee is planning to recommend that garbage be placed in clear plastic bags so that waste collectors can identify contents as garbage rather than recycling. It may be the sub-committee will recommend that there be no limit on garbage bags placed at the curb because, if residents correctly separate out items for blue bins and green bins, the amount of garbage will be reduced and there will be no need to limit the number of garbage bags.

MEAC played an important role in the implementation of the Green Bin in Markham and MEAC could be helpful again as ambassadors to make the newest change successful.

**B. COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath reported that a public meeting has been scheduled for February 23, 2012 to present and discuss the pathway route options.

**C. FOLLOW UP ON ACTION ITEMS**

Letter from Joan Jenkyn re: East Don River

Chris Sauer reported that he has left a message for Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) to invite representatives to a future MEAC meeting to discuss the report card; he will follow up again with TRCA.

Regional EAC Forum

Chris Sauer advised he has contacted Aurora representatives regarding their mapping capabilities with respect to wildlife and watersheds, and has posted the documents on the MEAC website. MEAC might be able to adapt the documents for its own use.

Outreach

No report was available.

#### **D. EARTH DAY**

On behalf of the Earth Day sub-committee, Carrie Sally and Chuan Li reported that the application to hold the event has been completed and submitted to the Town for review. The event will be held from 10 am – 4 pm at the band shell on Main St., Unionville. It is anticipated that there will be booths representing the Markham Sustainability Office, the Water for Tomorrow office, Waste Management office, Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund (MESF), TRCA, the Youth Environment Network of York Region (YENR), and Unionville Business Improvement Association (BIA). Carrie will attend the next meeting of the Unionville BIA to discuss its participation e.g. posters, discounts on the day of the event, etc. The draft of the poster will need to be ready for March 14 for Carrie to take to the Unionville BIA meeting.

Chris Sauer will follow up with TRCA to confirm its participation and what they will feature.

Katie Burns will confirm when the application has been approved and when items will be delivered.

Volunteers from MEAC and from high schools will be needed to act as ambassadors to direct people into the event.

The event could be promoted on the Town of Markham website, the Town of Markham page in the Economist & Sun, electronic signage on Highway #7, reusable posters, and by inviting Town of Markham Council members.

#### **E. EARTH HOUR**

Earth Hour is scheduled to take place on March 31st from 8:30 - 9:30 pm. Graham Seaman and the MECO office staff are hoping to convince Markham residents to delay turning the power back on so that Markham might increase its total power reduction as a municipality during this event.

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. MOTION REGARDING SIGNING AUTHORITY**

It was

Moved by	James Lin
Seconded by	Kevin Boon

That the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) agrees to delegate signing authority for its trust fund (Account No. 016-599-9011) to Graham Seaman, Manager Climate Change and Energy.

Carried

**B. MEAC GOALS for 2012**

Discussion of this item identified as possible goals acting as ambassadors for new Waste Management proposals and the Solar panel community project for the roof of the Markham Theatre, in addition to plans for Earth Hour and Earth Day. It was noted that there may not be a Deputy Mayor's Walk this year.

**C. MARKHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Clerk's Office has advised that MEAC is able to appoint a representative to the Markham Agricultural Advisory Committee. The Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m., but not every month. James Lin will send an email to Committee members asking for expressions of interest in co-serving on this new committee.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by	James Lin
Seconded by	Adam Poon

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 March 15, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the Ontario Room.