



MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

www.mississauga.ca

TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2012 – 9 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBER

SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE

300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, L5B 3C1

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MEMBERS/AGENCY LIAISONS
PRESENT:

Councillor George Carlson, Ward 11 (CHAIR)
Michael DeWit, Citizen Member (VICE-CHAIR)
Councillor Jim Tovey, Ward 1
Dr. Brad Bass, Citizen Member
Stephanie Crocker, EcoSource
Elaine Hanson, Sheridan College, Office for Sustainability
Lea Ann Mallett, EcoSource
Val Otori, Citizen Member
Peter Orphanos, Citizen Member (arrival at 9:25 a.m. and departure at 10:34 a.m.)

MEMBERS/AGENCY LIAISONS
ABSENT:

Councillor Frank Dale, Ward 4 (Other Municipal Business)
Hassaan Basit, Citizen Member
Lucas Krist, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance
Maureen Ricker, Citizen Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Mary Bracken, Environmental Specialist
Mark Howard, Project Lead, Credit River Parks Strategy, and
Planner, Long Term Planning, Park Planning Section
Jessica McEachren, Forest Ecologist
Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Specialist
Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment
Lisa Urbani, Environmental Research Assistant

CONTACT PERSON: Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk, Telephone: 905-615-3200, ext. 5471; Fax 905-615-4181

Julie.Lavertu@mississauga.ca

NOTE: The Committee changed the order of the Agenda during the meeting. These Minutes reflect the order of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER – 9:12 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved (J. Tovey)

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

The Chair welcomed Ms. Ohori to her first meeting as an Environmental Advisory Committee Citizen Member.

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

- A. Item 2 Meaghan Eastwood, Terrestrial Ecologist, Research and Development Section, Ecology Division, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, with respect to the Peel Region Urban Forest Strategy.

Ms. McEachren introduced Ms. Eastwood and said that she could answer any questions from Committee members about her Corporate Report.

Ms. Eastwood presented a PowerPoint presentation dated June 5, 2012 and entitled “Peel Region Urban Forest Strategy” and discussed the definition of urban forests, the Strategy’s partners, study area, and methodology, the current urban forest and its distribution, structure, and function, the future urban forest and its vision/strategic goals, and the endorsement requested from the Committee.

Mr. Orphanos arrived at 9:25 a.m.

The Committee dealt with Item 2 at the same time as the above deputation.

2. Peel Region Urban Forest Strategy

Corporate Report dated May 22, 2012 from the Commissioner of Community Services with respect to the Peel Region Urban Forest Strategy.

Committee members discussed urban forest statistics for other municipalities, whether the Region has a long-term strategy to diversify the urban forest with various tree species, the economic benefits of trees and nature, the possibility of planting fruit-bearing trees and shrubs and working with non-governmental organizations on the production of food and energy vis-à-vis urban forests, the tree size statistic on page 9 of the PowerPoint presentation, the annual air

pollution removal by trees and shrubs in Mississauga on page 10 of the PowerPoint presentation, the differences between leaf area density and canopy cover, the effect of tree covers on stream flow, the Strategy's costs and proposed outreach to citizens, the importance of trees for removing pollution and reducing energy costs, whether the City has an integrated community sustainability plan, the importance of incorporating the environment as a pillar in the Mississauga Summit's Five Big Ideas, the need to maintain and monitor the health of current trees and educate residents about appropriate tree maintenance practices, the possibility of identifying and recognizing iconic trees, the importance of working with greenhouses and nurseries to ensure that citizens purchase appropriate tree and shrub species as per the Strategy's strategic goals, and the possibility of the City or Region partnering with Sheridan College on urban forest initiatives.

Ms. Eastwood and Ms. McEachren responded to the Committee's above-mentioned comments and questions. Ms. McEachren noted that the City has initiated its own Urban Forest Strategy which will be incorporated into the Region's Strategy and also discussed the Million Tree Program. Ms. Eastwood and Ms. McEachren discussed the importance of working with citizens to integrate new species, increase the canopy cover, and further the Strategy overall.

Recommendation

EAC-0027-2012

1. That the PowerPoint presentation, dated June 5, 2012 and entitled "Peel Region Urban Forest Strategy," by Meaghan Eastwood, Terrestrial Ecologist, Research and Development Section, Ecology Division, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, to the Environmental Advisory Committee on June 5, 2012 be received; and
2. That the Environmental Advisory Committee endorses the Peel Region Urban Forest Strategy, allowing for the implementation of the actions outlined in the strategy, in support of developing urban forest targets for the Region of Peel.

Received/Approved (J. Tovey)

Email Message from Lucas Krist, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance and Environmental Advisory Committee Member

At this point, the Chair read out an email message dated June 1, 2012 from Mr. Krist as per his request to Ms. Lavertu:

I regretfully will not be able to attend Tuesday's EAC meeting. I have been tied up with school work and trips over the past two months and have certainly missed the committee involvement. Best of luck with the hefty but important agenda today. The Natural Areas Survey, Peel Urban Forest Strategy, and Credit River Parks Strategy are crucial to the preservation and expansion of natural areas in the region. I think it is important to emphasize that these improvements should always benefit residents first, as stated in the Urban Forest Strategy, "Residents not only are influential stewards but must benefit equally from the ecosystem service provided by the urban forest." The Urban Design awards are an excellent

idea and will ensure Mississauga makes the right choices in development today, so in the future residents will have a more sustainable city to live in. This July I will be working with Andrea and her team on the LGMP's Let Your Green Show campaign. So, I will not be far from the action. On that note, I wish everybody a fun and relaxing summer and will see you in September.

Recommendation

EAC-0028-2012

That the email message dated June 1, 2012 from Lucas Krist, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance and Environmental Advisory Committee Member, with respect to Mr. Krist's comments regarding the Environmental Advisory Committee's June 5, 2012 agenda be received.

Received (J. Tovey)

- B. Mark Howard, Project Lead, Credit River Parks Strategy, and Planner, Long Term Planning, Park Planning Section, and Mark Schollen, Schollen & Company Inc. Landscape Architects and Ecological Restoration Consultants, with respect to the Credit River Parks Strategy.

Mr. Howard and Mr. Schollen presented a PowerPoint presentation dated June 5, 2012 and entitled "Credit River Parks Strategy" and discussed the study's purpose, area, and process, existing conditions for land use, natural area significance, ecological land classification, floodplain within the study area, lands in private ownership, and various City parks, the consultation process and its key findings, the Strategy's vision statement, principles, and objectives, the structure of the Master Plan, the Credit Valley natural corridor, transitional beltlands, concept plans for seven feature sites, the Credit River Heritage Route, and the Strategy's next steps. Mr. Howard said that the Strategy will be presented to Council during the fall of 2012 and requested the Committee's feedback.

Committee members discussed the possibility of negotiating and partnering with private landowners to incorporate additional land in the Strategy, First Nations initiatives and involvement and the possibility of partnering with Trent University's faculty members on these matters, concept plan options for the seven feature sites, the possibility of partnering with the Mississauga Canoe Club on the proposed canoe and kayak initiatives, sustainability-related initiatives, the possibility of incorporating solar energy into buildings, the importance of incorporating recreational initiatives sustainably like Whistler, British Columbia, identifying the best places in the study area for agriculture, protecting the Credit River's ecosystem from the dominant urban hydrology, especially in transitional beltlands, the possibility of partnering with the Museums of Mississauga, public art, and incorporating Older Adults and accessibility issues into the Strategy.

Mr. Orphanos departed at 10:34 a.m.

Ms. Mallett said that EcoSource has expressed interest in partnering with the City on a Sustainability Centre. She also discussed organic farming and agriculture

opportunities and challenges at the former Pinchin and Harris lands.

Mr. Howard and Mr. Schollen responded to the Committee's above-mentioned comments and questions. Mr. Howard noted that staff has consulted with the Accessibility Advisory Committee, Museums of Mississauga staff, and Older Adult Plan representatives to obtain their feedback on the overall Strategy.

Recommendation

EAC-0029-2012

That the PowerPoint presentation, dated June 5, 2012 and entitled "Credit River Parks Strategy," by Mark Howard, Project Lead, Credit River Parks Strategy, and Planner, Long Term Planning, Park Planning Section, and Mark Schollen, Schollen & Company Inc. Landscape Architects and Ecological Restoration Consultants, to the Environmental Advisory Committee on June 5, 2012 be received.

Received (V. Ohori)

- C. Item 3 Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment, with respect to the Let Your Green Show awareness campaign.

Ms. Osborne presented a PowerPoint presentation dated June 5, 2012 and entitled "Let Your Green Show Awareness Campaign" and discussed the Campaign's collaboration between the City and the Region of Peel, the Campaign's objectives, the timing, themes, actions, and marketing tactics of the Campaign's three phases, the Campaign's key components, the Greenest Ward Award, the "Let Your Green Show.ca" website, the Campaign's launch, and EAC's role in the Campaign.

The Committee dealt with Item 3 at the same time as the above deputation.

3. Let Your Green Show Awareness Campaign

Corporate Report dated May 18, 2012 from the Commissioner of Community Services with respect to the Let Your Green Show awareness campaign.

Committee members discussed the Campaign and praised Environment staff for this initiative. The Chair encouraged Committee members to attend the launch.

Recommendation

EAC-0030-2012

1. That the PowerPoint presentation, dated June 5, 2012 and entitled "Let Your Green Show Awareness Campaign," by Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment, to the Environmental Advisory Committee on June 5, 2012 be received;
2. That the Environmental Advisory Committee endorses the new Living Green Master Plan awareness campaign outlined in the report dated May 18, 2012, from the Commissioner of Community Services, titled Let Your Green Show Awareness Campaign; and

3. That the Environmental Advisory Committee members help champion implementation of the awareness campaign by encouraging residents to help turn Mississauga green and their neighbourhood to win the Greenest Ward Award.

Approved (J. Tovey)

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held May 1, 2012.

Approved (Dr. B. Bass)

4. Mississauga Urban Design Awards Environmental Sustainability Judging Criteria

Corporate Report dated May 11, 2012 from the Commissioner of Community Services with respect to the Mississauga Urban Design Awards Environmental Sustainability Judging Criteria.

In response to Ms. Hanson's request for clarification about the judging criteria, Ms. Bracken discussed the revisions to the "Living Green" and "Innovation" criteria and directed Committee members to Appendix 1 of her Corporate Report.

Recommendation

EAC-0031-2012

That the report dated May 11, 2012, from the Commissioner of Community Services, titled Mississauga Urban Design Awards Environmental Sustainability Judging Criteria, be received.

Received (E. Hanson)

5. Natural Areas Survey 2011 Update

Memorandum dated May 7, 2012 from John Calvert, Director, Policy Planning Division, Planning and Building Department, with respect to the Natural Areas Survey 2011 update.

Recommendation

EAC-0032-2012

That the Memorandum dated May 7, 2012 from John Calvert, Director, Policy Planning Division, Planning and Building Department, with respect to the Natural Areas Survey 2011 update be received.

Received (J. Tovey)

6. Social Media Opportunity – Clean Air Partnership Blog

Memorandum dated May 17, 2012 from Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment, with respect to social media opportunity – Clean Air Partnership blog.

Councillor Tovey discussed the Greater Toronto Area Clean Air Council (GTA-CAC) and asked Environment staff if they had considered joining this group. Ms. Osborne said that Ms. McLeod and/or herself usually attend GTA-CAC meetings.

Recommendation

EAC-0033-2012

That the Memorandum dated May 17, 2012 from Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment, with respect to social media opportunity – Clean Air Partnership blog be received.

Received (J. Tovey)

7. October 2012 Off-Site Options

Memorandum dated May 17, 2012 from Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment, with respect to October 2012 off-site options.

Committee members discussed the Committee's off-site meeting and the purpose, topics, and various possible venues for the meeting.

Ms. Osborne said that Environment staff would continue to work on this matter and had not chosen a venue. She noted that Mr. Basit and Dr. Bass had suggested educational workshops for social media tools and innovative technologies and that Environment staff could pursue a combination of the potential topics. In response to a question from Ms. Ohori, Ms. Osborne discussed the purpose of this meeting and explained that it would occur for a half-day on a Saturday in October 2012.

Recommendation

EAC-0034-2012

That the Memorandum dated May 17, 2012 from Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment, with respect to October 2012 off-site options be received.

Received (Dr. B. Bass)

8. Toronto District School Board's Green Solar Energy Arrangement with AMP Solar Limited Partnership

Email message dated May 22, 2012 from Councillor Pat Mullin, Ward 2, with respect to the Toronto District School Board's green solar energy arrangement with AMP Solar Limited Partnership.

Committee members discussed the email message, the possibility of integrating solar panels with green roofs on schools, communicating the email message to

local school boards, and installing solar panels and green roofs on City properties.

Ms. Osborne said that the Peel District School Board is aware of these solar energy options and are considering leasing their rooftops to support programs. The Chair asked Environment staff to liaise with local school boards, as required.

Recommendation

EAC-0035-2012

That the email message dated May 22, 2012 from Councillor Pat Mullin, Ward 2, with respect to the Toronto District School Board's green solar energy arrangement with AMP Solar Limited Partnership be received.

Received (J. Tovey)

9. Request for Municipal Council Support Resolution from Feed-In Tariff (FIT) Program Applicants

Ms. Osborne provided a verbal update with respect to a request for a municipal Council support resolution from Feed-In Tariff (FIT) Program applicants. She said that two resolutions are being considered and that inquiries about this matter should be forwarded to Environment staff so that the City's response is consistent.

Committee members discussed the resolutions being sought by applicants and the problems with recommending and endorsing individual projects and concepts.

Ms. Bracken discussed the *Green Energy Act* and *Planning Act* in the context of the FIT Program. She added that she would draft a Corporate Report on this matter in the near future which would be considered by General Committee.

10. Upcoming Agenda Items and Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) Role

Chart from Environmental Management staff with respect to upcoming agenda items and Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) role.

Recommendation

EAC-0036-2012

That the chart from Environmental Management staff with respect to upcoming agenda items and Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) role be received.

Received (J. Tovey)

11. Status of Outstanding Issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)

Chart dated June 5, 2012 from Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator, Environmental Advisory Committee, with respect to the status of outstanding issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC).

Ms. Osborne said that staff did not receive the Oakville-Clarkson Air Zone

Management Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference in time for the Committee's agenda, that a Corporate Report regarding this matter would be considered by General Committee on June 13, 2012, and that she was requesting that Council appoint her to the Advisory Committee. Councillor Tovey suggested that the Committee pass a recommendation supporting her appointment.

Recommendations

EAC-0037-2012

That the Environmental Advisory Committee supports the appointment of Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment, to the Oakville-Clarkson Air Zone Management Advisory Committee.

EAC-0038-2012

That the chart dated June 5, 2012 from Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator, Environmental Advisory Committee, with respect to the status of outstanding issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) be received.

Direction/Received (J. Tovey)

INFORMATION ITEMS – Nil

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at 9 a.m., Council Chamber

OTHER BUSINESS

Summer Student in Councillor Jim Tovey's Office

Councillor Tovey introduced Eric Madan, his summer student who was sitting in the audience rows in the Council Chamber, to Committee members.

Peel Environmental Youth Alliance Annual General Meeting

Councillor Tovey thanked Ms. Crocker for inviting him to the recent Peel Environmental Youth Alliance Annual General Meeting and said that it was wonderful to interact with some of the City's inspiring and enthusiastic youth.

ADJOURNMENT – 11:28 a.m. (V. Ohori)