



MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

www.mississauga.ca

TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2012 – 9 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBER

SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE

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

www.mississauga.ca

MEMBERS/AGENCY LIAISONS

PRESENT:

Councillor George Carlson, Ward 11 (CHAIR)
Michael DeWit, Citizen Member (VICE-CHAIR)
Councillor Jim Tovey, Ward 1
Councillor Frank Dale, Ward 4
Dr. Brad Bass, Citizen Member
Stephanie Crocker, EcoSource (arrival at 9:04 a.m.)
Elaine Hanson, Sheridan College, Office for Sustainability
Maureen Ricker, Citizen Member

MEMBERS/AGENCY LIAISONS

ABSENT:

Hassaan Basit, Citizen Member
Lucas Krist, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance
Lea Ann Mallett, EcoSource
Val Otori, Citizen Member
Peter Orphanos, Citizen Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Kevin Carr, Corporate Marketing Consultant
Jessica Corkum-Gorrill, Parks Natural Areas Coordinator
Jessica McEachren, Forest Ecologist
Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Coordinator
Sarah Jane Miller, Forest Ecologist Technician
Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment
Lisa Urbani, Environmental Research Assistant

CONTACT PERSON: Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator

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

CALL TO ORDER – 9:02 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved (J. Tovey)

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

- A. Item 2 Jessika Corkum-Gorrill, Parks Natural Areas Coordinator, Sarah Jane Miller, Forest Ecologist Technician, and Jessica McEachren, Forest Ecologist, with respect to Woodlands & Natural Areas Update.

Ms. Corkum-Gorrill, Ms. Miller, and Ms. McEachren presented a PowerPoint presentation dated May 1, 2012 and entitled “Woodlands & Natural Areas Update” and discussed the Natural Areas Program, the controlled burn in Jack Darling Memorial Park, significant trees of Mississauga, upcoming plans for the Significant Tree Program, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), urban forest strategies, woodlot management plan updates, and other forestry projects in the community and City. Of note, Ms. McEachren discussed upcoming chimney swift initiatives.

Ms. Crocker arrived at 9:04 a.m.

Committee members discussed the chimney swift project in Streetsville, the Significant Tree Program and significant trees on private lands, the City’s Urban Forest Management Plan, the types of trees affected by EAB, Peel Region’s Urban Forest Strategy, invasive species and management/public awareness strategies, the City’s focus on biodiversity, the possibility of City staff collaborating with Sheridan College students on the mapping of trees on public and private lands, and the City’s Urban Forest Management Plan and the possibility of interconnecting natural environments to the broader community.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. McEachren, Ms. Miller, and Ms. Corkum-Gorrill shared the information below:

- The City’s chimney swift initiatives will complement the current chimney swift initiatives in Streetsville;
- Significant trees on private lands will become part of the Significant Tree Program’s nomination process and overall workings in the future;
- The City’s Urban Forest Management Plan will include trees on public

- and private lands;
- In its native China and Russia, EAB eats more than just ash trees. In North America, EAB primarily eats ash trees, rather than all tree species. It is not known why EAB is attracted to ash trees, but research is ongoing;
 - Peel Region's Urban Forest Strategy is in place, ready for implementation, and received public input in 2010. However, the Region may ask the Committee for input on this matter in the future;
 - The City does not have an invasive species management plan or public awareness strategy, but may develop them in the future. The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) are involved in this area and, among other initiatives, educate nursery owners regarding invasive species. The Living Green Master Plan (LGMP) involves education and public awareness so public awareness initiatives regarding invasive species may be developed in the future;
 - The City is focused on the biodiversity of natural areas and built environments and various green initiatives as per the LGMP; and
 - Clarification on the City's Urban Forest Management Plan and the importance of linking programs, bridging gaps, and planning on a larger municipal scale. CVC has completed a Landscape Scale Analysis of green spaces so some information is already mapped out and ready for use.

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

2. Woodlands & Natural Areas Update

PowerPoint presentation dated May 1, 2012 from Jessica McEachren, Forest Ecologist, with respect to Woodlands & Natural Areas Update.

Recommendation

EAC-0023-2012

That the PowerPoint presentation, dated May 1, 2012 and entitled "Woodlands & Natural Areas Update," by Jessika Corkum-Gorrill, Parks Natural Areas Coordinator, Sarah Jane Miller, Forest Ecologist Assistant, and Jessica McEachren, Forest Ecologist, to the Environmental Advisory Committee on May 1, 2012 be received.

Received (F. Dale)

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held April 10, 2012.

Approved (J. Tovey)

3. Living Green Master Plan and Regional Climate Change Strategy Public Awareness Campaign

Ms. Osborne provided a verbal update. She noted that the development of this campaign involves City and Region of Peel staff and will be called “Let Your Green Show,” will further the goals of both the LGMP and the Regional Climate Change Strategy, and will involve three separate phases. Ms. Osborne said that residents will be able to participate and register for specific “green” actions via a website and obtain rewards in the form of coupons for taking action.

Ms. Osborne said that residents’ participation will be tracked by postal code, ward, and the overall City and discussed the timelines, initiatives, and themes for the phases. She displayed the draft landing page for “Let Your Green Show” and discussed its features. Ms. Osborne noted that the Committee would receive an overview of the campaign at its June 2012 meeting and that the campaign would be presented to Council in June and officially launched on Canada Day. She said that she would like to meet with Committee members to discuss the campaign.

Committee members expressed their support of the campaign and discussed the campaign’s social media tools, local food/local markets/community gardens and the possibility of instituting a community garden on Sheridan College’s Hazel McCallion Campus, and the importance of educating residents about the sale of imported, non-local produce at local farmers’ markets.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Carr noted that the campaign may be linked to Pinterest, a social media site, but that this was still undecided. Ms. Osborne discussed community gardens and garden programs by EcoSource and other organizations. She added that the campaign does not create new programs, but links residents with current programs. Ms. Osborne spoke about the value of educating residents about the sale of imported, non-local produce at local farmers’ markets and said that the campaign will highlight the benefits of shopping locally.

4. 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.

Ms. Osborne said that the Committee could establish a Subcommittee to plan the Committee’s off-site meeting in October 2012. The Chair suggested that Ms. Osborne meet with him to discuss potential options for the off-site meeting and that this matter be returned to the Committee’s June or September 2012 meetings.

Recommendation

EAC-0024-2012

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

Received (E. Hanson)

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

Chart dated May 1, 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 noted that the use of cosmetic fertilizers for residential/commercial lawns would likely be considered at the Committee's June 2012 meeting, as staff is waiting to hear back from Legal staff, that staff is working with Legal staff on the smoke from home wood stoves issue and that this matter is being targeted for the Committee's September or October 2012 meetings, that she hoped to have an update on the Oakville-Clarkson Air Quality Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at the Committee's June 2012 meeting. Ms. Osborne added that she did not have a specific timeline for the transportation strategy at this time.

Recommendation

EAC-0025-2012

That the chart dated May 1, 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.

Received (M. DeWit)

INFORMATION ITEMS6. Region of Peel's Outdoor Special Event Recycling Service – Proposed Enhancements and City of Mississauga Involvement

Memorandum dated April 12, 2012 from Brenda E. Osborne, Manager, Environment, with respect to the Region of Peel's outdoor special event recycling service – proposed enhancements and City of Mississauga involvement.

This Memorandum was distributed to Members of Council in mid-April 2012 and is included on the Environmental Advisory Committee's agenda for information.

Recommendation

EAC-0026-2012

That the Memorandum dated April 12, 2012 from Brenda E. Osborne, Manager, Environment, with respect to the Region of Peel's outdoor special event recycling service – proposed enhancements and City of Mississauga involvement be received.

Received (F. Dale)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at 9 a.m., Council Chamber

OTHER BUSINESSPublic Information Centre for Lakeview Waterfront Connection

Councillor Tovey discussed a Public Information Centre on May 1, 2012 at the Mississauga Seniors' Centre regarding the Lakeview Waterfront Connection project and discussed the overall status and importance of the project.

Bioswales in Ward 1

Councillor Tovey discussed the construction of bioswales on Third Street in Ward 1 and encouraged Committee members to visit the site for their information.

Upcoming Events in Streetsville

The Chair discussed upcoming events in Streetsville, including a village clean-up event on May 6, 2012, the official opening of Habitat for Humanity Mississauga's ReStore, and various Earth Day- and Earth Week-related events.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:56 a.m. (Dr. B. Bass)