



Town of Aurora
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 22, 2021
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Video Conference

Committee Members: Councillor Wendy Gaertner (Vice Chair)
Margaret Baker
Barry Bridgeford
Colin Brown
Ashley Gatto Cassagrande
Ryan Hamid

Members Absent: Sam Cunningham
Sandy Hudson
Crystal Robertson
Councillor Rachel Gilliland (Chair)

Other Attendees: Natalie Kehle, Analyst, Energy and Climate Change
Sara Tienkamp, Manager, Parks and Fleet
Ishita Soneji, Council/Committee Coordinator

1. Procedural Notes

This meeting was held electronically as per Section 19. i) of the Town's Procedure By-law No. 6228-19, as amended, due to the COVID-19 situation.

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Barry Bridgeford
Seconded by Ryan Hamid

The agenda as circulated by Legislative Services, be approved.

Carried

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50*.

4. Receipt of the Minutes

4.1 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2021

Moved by Margaret Baker

Seconded by Ryan Hamid

That the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting minutes of June 23, 2021, be received for information.

Carried

5. Delegations

None.

6. Matters for Consideration

6.1 Memorandum from Energy and Climate Change Analyst, Re: Corporate Environmental Action Plan 2020 Progress Report

Natalie Kehle, Energy and Climate Change Analyst provided an overview of on the background and purpose of the Corporate Environmental Action Plan (CEAP) and highlighted the details of the 2020 progress report including the various action items and challenges. Sara Tienkamp, Manager, Parks and Fleet, provided further details on the action items regarding parks, biodiversity, and natural heritage. Staff sought the Committee's feedback and suggestions regarding the progress report and the associated tracking sheet.

The Committee sought clarification regarding incorporating ecological design in landscaping of parks, and staff advised that ecological park designs is the target for all new park designs and retrofits.

The Committee and staff discussed about means of mitigating invasive species and access to information for residents and business owners regarding environmental initiatives. Staff advised that informational booths to increase awareness regarding invasive species will be held at the Aurora Farmer's Market beginning in 2022 and other environmental public engagement initiatives are being explored. The Committee provided further suggestions such as: developing educational videos on means to manage invasive species to be posted on the Town website and other social media platforms, information pamphlets for business owners, and installing signage to encourage people to be more environmentally aware.

The Committee and staff further discussed about the anti-idling initiatives, the associated anti-idling policy, and its parameters and effectiveness. Staff advised that the public education campaign is ongoing which includes installation of mobile signs, providing resources and tips through social media, and the involvement of the By-law Department to educate residents and business owners where necessary.

The Committee referred to the various community campaigns and sought clarification on tracking the response metrics and effectiveness of the initiatives, and staff provided clarification. The Committee suggested that successes of the initiatives, campaigns, and various action items should be including in future progress reports and be made available for members of public.

Staff advised that the Committee will be discussing the Green Development Standard project at the next meeting.

Moved by Colin Brown

Seconded by Ryan Hamid

1. That the memorandum regarding Corporate Environmental Action Plan 2020 Progress Report be received; and
2. That the Environmental Advisory Committee comments regarding the Corporate Environmental Action Plan 2020 Progress Report be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

7. Informational Items

None.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Barry Bridgeford

Seconded by Ashley Gatto Cassagrande

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Carried