



Town of Aurora
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 24, 2016

Time and Location: 7 p.m., Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

Committee Members: Councillor Tom Mrakas (Chair), Irene Clement, Larry Fedec, Jennifer Sault, Melville James, Sara Varty, and Nancy Webb

Member(s) Absent: Councillor Paul Pirri (Vice Chair), and Dr. Kristina Zeromskiene

Other Attendees: Christina Nagy-Oh, Program Manager, Environmental Initiatives, Jim Tree, Manager, Parks, and Samantha Kong, Council/Committee Secretary

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

1. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Irene Clement
Seconded by Larry Fedec

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

Carried

3. Receipt of the Minutes

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2016

Moved by Nancee Webb

Seconded by Jennifer Sault

That the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting minutes of June 2, 2016, be received for information.

Carried

4. Delegations

(a) Fausto Filipetto, Senior Policy Planner, Town of Aurora
Re: Library Square and Town Park

Mr. Filipetto presented an overview of the Library Square and Town Park conceptual plans, and provided background, public survey results/feedback, and next steps.

Moved by Jennifer Sault

Seconded by Irene Clement

That the comments of the delegation be received for information.

Carried

(b) Iris Tufa and John McNally, Windfall Ecology Centre
Re: Introduction to the ClimateWise Business Network

Ms. Tufa and Mr. McNally presented an overview of the ClimateWise Business Network and explained the benefits it provides to businesses in regards to sustainability. The Committee suggested that this information could be presented to the Economic Development Advisory Committee, as there is a strong link with local businesses.

Moved by Irene Clement
Seconded by Larry Fedec

That the comments of the delegation be received for information.

Carried

(c) Barry Bridgeford, Resident

Re: Invasive Plant Species, Invasive Species Act, Funding for Control

Mr. Bridgeford provided an overview of invasive plant species in Aurora, specifically phragmites, dog-strangling vine, and Japanese knotweed. He noted that there is no funding for the control and/or eradication of these species and is requesting that Council authorize such funding for 2017. The Committee expressed support for the request.

Moved by Nancee Webb
Seconded by Sara Varty

That the comments of the delegation be received for information.

Carried

5. Matters for Consideration

None

6. Informational Items

1. Memorandum from Program Manager, Environmental Initiatives
Re: Environmental Programs New Priority Actions

Staff provided a brief overview of the environmental programs new priority actions, and the Committee expressed interest in assisting the Program Manager with projects.

Moved by Larry Fedec
Seconded by Melville James

1. That the memorandum regarding Environmental Programs New Priority Actions be received for information.

Carried

2. Extract from Council Meeting of June 28, 2016
Re: Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of
June 2, 2016

The Committee inquired whether Council provided input to the objectives of a Community Earth Week Fair. Staff recommended that the Committee discuss objectives at a future meeting and bring them forward to Council for consideration.

Moved by Irene Clement
Seconded by Jennifer Sault

1. That the Extract from Council Meeting of June 28, 2016, regarding the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting minutes of June 2, 2016, be received for information.

Carried

7. New Business

New Business Motion No. 1
Moved by Nancee Webb
Seconded by Jennifer Sault

1. That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommend to Council:
 - (a) That staff be directed to investigate the feasibility of eliminating single-use plastic bottles at all Town facilities, and report back; and
 - (b) That a “bring your own bottle” initiative be implemented at all Town facilities.

Carried

New Business Motion No. 2
Moved by Irene Clement
Seconded by Larry Fedec

1. That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommend to Council:
 - (a) That the concept plans for Library Square and Town Park, and removal of the former library and seniors centre, be endorsed; and
 - (b) That green and sustainable development aspects be incorporated in the final designs.

Carried

New Business Motion No. 3
Moved by Irene Clement
Seconded by Melville James

1. That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommend to Council:
 - (a) That staff be directed to investigate the feasibility of containment or removal of phragmites, and report back to Council within the first quarter of 2017; and
 - (b) That a public education strategy be developed regarding phragmites, dog-strangling vine, and Japanese knotweed.

Carried

New Business Motion No. 4
Moved by Jennifer Sault
Seconded by Larry Fedec

1. That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommend to Council:
 - (a) That staff be directed to investigate the feasibility of joining the ClimateWise Business Network.

Carried

8. Adjournment

Moved by Melville James

Seconded by Sara Varty

That the meeting be adjourned at 9 p.m.

Carried

Committee recommendations are not binding on the Town unless adopted by Council at a later meeting.