



MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 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
Elaine Hanson, Sheridan College, Office for Sustainability
Rahul Mehta, EcoSource
Val Otori, Citizen Member (arrival at 9:04 a.m.)
Peter Orphanos, Citizen Member (departure at 9:59 a.m.)
Maureen Ricker, Citizen Member
Diana Yoon, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance (arrival at 9:06 a.m.)

MEMBERS/AGENCY LIAISONS

ABSENT:

Hassaan Basit, Citizen Member
Lucas Krist, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance
Lea Ann Mallett, EcoSource
Lucia Salvati, University of Toronto at Mississauga

STAFF/OTHERS PRESENT:

Councillor Bonnie Crombie, Ward 5
Mary Bracken, Environmental Specialist
Mark Howard, Project Lead, Credit River Parks Strategy
Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Specialist
Brenda Osborne, Manager, Environment
Diana Rusnov, Manager of Legislative Services and Deputy Clerk
Karen Spencer, Advisor, City Strategy and Innovations, City
Manager's Office
Lisa Urbani, Environmental Research Assistant

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 – 9:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved (F. Dale)

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

- A. Peter Orphanos, Chair, Sierra Club Canada, Peel Region Group, and Environmental Advisory Committee Citizen Member, with respect to Credit Forever.

Mr. Orphanos presented a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Credit Forever” and discussed Credit Forever and its funding, target groups, community involvement, four layers of prominent protection and plans for 500,000 new trees for the Credit River area, the Credit River Ecosystem, the Credit River forests, the Culham Trail, the Credit River overall, the Kraft mill in Streetsville, and the Inspiration Lakeview Project.

Ms. Ohori arrived at 9:04 a.m. and Ms. Yoon arrived at 9:06 a.m.

Ms. Hanson suggested that academic institutions be added to the community involvement slide, stating that Sheridan College would be pleased to work on this matter.

Later in the meeting (refer to page 2), the Committee further discussed and revised its recommendation regarding Item A (the revised recommendation is included below).

Recommendation

EAC-0046-2012

1. That the PowerPoint presentation entitled “Credit Forever” by Peter Orphanos, Chair, Sierra Club Canada, Peel Region Group, and Environmental Advisory Committee Citizen Member, to the Environmental Advisory Committee on October 2, 2012 be received; and
2. That the Environmental Advisory Committee supports in principle the Credit Forever vision presented by Peter Orphanos, Chair, Sierra Club Canada, Peel Region Group, and Environmental Advisory Committee Citizen Member, to the Committee on October 2, 2012 and that this matter be referred to staff for further review and consideration, as appropriate, through the City of Mississauga’s Credit River Parks Strategy.

Received/Referred (P. Orphanos)

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- B. Item 2 Karen Spencer, Advisor, City Strategy and Innovations, City Manager's Office, with respect to the City Committees of Council Structure Review.

Ms. Spencer discussed the background, goals, and timelines of the Review. She said that 23 Committees are being reviewed, that she was working closely with the Office of the City Clerk, that all facets of Committee operations would be reviewed (e.g., budgets, subcommittees, terms of reference, etc), and that the Review was expected to take 6-8 months and would report to the Governance Committee with its recommendations. She added that public input was being done by canvassing current Committee Members via an online survey and encouraged Committee Members to share their comments and ideas. Ms. Spencer said that she and Ms. Rusnov would observe today's meeting for context.

The Committee dealt with Item 2 at this time.

2. City Committees of Council Structure Review

Overview from Karen Spencer, Advisor, City Strategy and Innovations, City Manager's Office, with respect to the City Committees of Council Structure Review.

The Chair thanked Ms. Spencer for her deputation and encouraged Committee members to complete the online survey that will be sent to them shortly and to share their feedback.

Recommendation

EAC-0047-2012

That the overview from Karen Spencer, Advisor, City Strategy and Innovations, City Manager's Office, entitled "City Committees of Council Structure Review," be received.

Received (P. Orphanos)

- A. Peter Orphanos, Chair, Sierra Club Canada, Peel Region Group, and Environmental Advisory Committee Citizen Member, with respect to Credit Forever.

At this point, Mr. Orphanos requested that the recommendation regarding Item A be revised (refer to page 1 for the revised recommendation) and discussed Credit Forever and the need to protect the Credit River now and into the future. Committee members discussed Mr. Orphanos's deputation and the recommendation regarding the latter.

Mr. Howard discussed Item A and emphasized the importance of distinguishing between Mr. Orphanos's Credit Forever deputation and the City's Credit River Parks Strategy, as the latter is an initiative by the City that has been ongoing for eighteen months.

Mr. Orphanos discussed an event at the Streetsville fish ladders on April 7th to celebrate the Credit River and noted that prominent and community individuals would be present.

- C. Item 3 Rahul Mehta, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance (PEYA) Facilitator, EcoSource, Stephanie Crocker, Associate Director, EcoSource, and Elaine Hanson, Sheridan College, Office for Sustainability, and Environmental

Advisory Committee Member, with respect to the 10th Annual EcoBuzz Conference for secondary school students in the Peel Region at the Sheridan Hazel McCallion Campus on October 24, 2012.

Mr. Mehta, Ms. Crocker, and Ms. Hanson presented a PowerPoint presentation dated October 2, 2012 and entitled “10th Annual EcoBuzz Conference!” and discussed PEYA, EcoSource, and Sheridan College and their respective sustainability initiatives, the Conference’s background, theme, history, logo, purpose, features, and value to the City.

The Committee dealt with Item 3 at this time.

3. PEYA EcoBuzz 2012 Backgrounder

Overview from Rahul Mehta, PEYA Facilitator, EcoSource, with respect to the PEYA EcoBuzz 2012 Backgrounder.

The Chair suggested that the Committee be invited to the Conference, given its close proximity to the Civic Centre and its overall educational value for Committee members.

Committee members discussed the importance of EcoSource’s various environmental initiatives, the possibility of holding a future EcoBuzz Conference at the Riverwood Conservancy, the possibility of Mr. Mehta, Ms. Crocker, and Ms. Hanson making a deputation to Council to advise them of this event, the possibility of focusing on energy capture and cogeneration initiatives during a future EcoBuzz Conference, and whether the organizers will share post-conference feedback from attendees with the larger community.

Mr. Mehta and Ms. Crocker responded to the Committee’s above-mentioned questions and comments and encouraged Committee members to attend the Conference, if possible.

Recommendation

EAC-0048-2012

1. That the PowerPoint presentation, dated October 2, 2012 and entitled “10th Annual EcoBuzz Conference,” by Stephanie Crocker, Associate Director, EcoSource, Rahul Mehta, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance (PEYA) Facilitator, EcoSource, and Elaine Hanson, Sheridan College, Office for Sustainability, and Environmental Advisory Committee Member, to the Environmental Advisory Committee on October 2, 2012 be received; and
2. That the overview from Rahul Mehta, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance (PEYA) Facilitator, EcoSource, entitled “PEYA EcoBuzz 2012 Backgrounder,” be received.

Received (V. Ohori)

- D. Jessie MacAlpine, five-time Canada-Wide Science Fair Alumnus, and Founder and President, Oxford County Science and Technology Fair, with respect to using garlic mustard and used coffee grounds as a natural herbicide.

Ms. MacAlpine, a Grade 12 student in Woodstock, Ontario, presented a PowerPoint

presentation entitled “Callelo: A Novel Bioherbicide” and discussed her research on the use of garlic mustard and used coffee grounds as a natural and environmentally-friendly herbicide. She noted that, despite of the use of herbicides, 30 percent of the world’s food supply is destroyed by insects, weeds, rodents, and disease each year, discussed the many drawbacks of herbicide use, and added that she plans to obtain a patent for her research. Ms. MacAlpine stated that she had obtained a research position at the University of Adelaide in Australia next summer and that she plans to study biochemistry in university.

Mr. Orphanos departed at 9:59 a.m.

Committee members discussed Ms. MacAlpine’s research, the effects of callelo on fertilizer, the possibility and advantages of using callelo as fertilizer, whether callelo contains phosphorous, the possibility of using callelo for lawns and ornamental and residential gardens, the benefits of using an invasive species (garlic mustard) as a natural herbicide, the advantages and disadvantages of corn gluten as a natural herbicide, and the possibility of donating garlic mustard to Ms. MacAlpine for her research purposes.

Ms. MacAlpine responded to the Committee’s above-mentioned questions and comments. The Chair thanked Ms. MacAlpine for her deputation and congratulated her on her research and asked her to keep the Committee apprised about her future pursuits.

Recommendation

EAC-0049-2012

That the PowerPoint presentation entitled “Callelo: A Novel Bioherbicide” by Jessie MacAlpine, five-time Canada-Wide Science Fair Alumnus, and Founder and President, Oxford County Science and Technology Fair, to the Environmental Advisory Committee on October 2, 2012 be received.

Received (Dr. B. Bass)

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held September 4, 2012.

Approved (J. Tovey)

4. Revised Council Support Resolution for Rooftop Solar Applications Under the Provincial Feed-in Tariff (FIT) Program

Memorandum dated September 20, 2012 from Mary Bracken, Environmental Specialist, Environmental Management Section, Community Services Department, with respect to revised Council support resolution for rooftop solar applications under the provincial Feed-in Tariff (FIT) program.

Ms. Bracken gave an overview of her Memorandum and explained that the Council supported Resolution adopted on July 4, 2012 was being revised due to new FIT 2.0 program requirements released by the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) in August 2012. She noted that Council considered this matter at its meeting on September 26, 2012.

Committee members discussed the original and revised Resolutions and the importance of staff regularly liaising with the OPA and Ministry of Energy staff on this matter and requested clarification on whether this Resolution was only for rooftop solar installations. Ms. Bracken responded to the Committee's above-mentioned questions and comments.

Recommendation

EAC-0050-2012

That the Memorandum dated September 20, 2012 from Mary Bracken, Environmental Specialist, Environmental Management Section, Community Services Department, entitled "Revised Council Support Resolution for Rooftop Solar Applications Under the Provincial Feed-in Tariff (FIT) Program" be received.

Received (E. Hanson)

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

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

Recommendation

EAC-0051-2012

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

Received (F. Dale)

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

Chart dated October 2, 2012 from Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator, Environmental Advisory Committee, with respect to the status of outstanding issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Ms. Osborne gave an update on Let Your Green Show and said that Ward 1 is leading for Mississauga's Greenest Ward, but that other wards are close behind and that the Greenest Ward Award would be chosen in late October. Dr. Bass noted that he redeemed his green back at a farmers' market, but that the farmer was unaware of Let Your Green Show.

Dr. Bass requested an update regarding the Committee's off-site meeting in October 2012. Ms. Osborne said that she had discussed this matter with the Chair and that it was determined that this meeting should be set aside until there was an opportunity for the Committee to host an outreach event, like they did with the Living Green Master Plan (LGMP), that would engage the public, but added that she was open to any suggestions.

The Chair stated that it would be useful for the Committee to sponsor or organize a long-term outreach or stewardship event/issue and partner with various groups such as Credit Valley Conservation, the University of Toronto at Mississauga, and the City's other Committees. He also welcomed any feedback on this matter from Committee members.

Committee members discussed the value of organizing a collaborative outreach or stewardship event/issue/project with various stakeholders and/or the City's other Committees to ensure a consistent message, the possibility of focusing on one of the City's upcoming challenges in the next decade in any Committee-driven event/issue/project, the importance of connecting any event/issue/project with the LGMP, the types of groups and community partners that could be approached to partner with the Committee, and the kinds of issues that could be examined and pursued in-depth by the Committee.

In response to a question from the Chair, Ms. Spencer discussed the City Committees of Council Structure Review and the need to examine the overlap, collaboration, and mandates of Committees. She said that there needs to be more communication between Committees and that there may be a need to merge or retire existing Committees and/or add new Committees based on the Review.

The Chair discussed the value of an off-site meeting for the Committee and asked that staff prepare a short agenda that would provide focus and ideas about how the Committee could assume a leadership role and pursue a tangible event/issue/project in the near future. Ms. Osborne said that she would prepare a Memorandum regarding an off-site meeting for consideration at the next Committee meeting in November 2012.

Recommendation

EAC-0052-2012

1. That the chart dated October 2, 2012 from Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator, Environmental Advisory Committee, with respect to the status of outstanding issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee be received; and
2. That the matter of organizing a future off-site educational or training session for the Environmental Advisory Committee be referred to Environment staff for further review and consideration at a future Environmental Advisory Committee meeting.

Received/Referred (Dr. B. Bass)

INFORMATION ITEMS – Nil

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, November 6, 2012 at 9 a.m., Council Chamber

OTHER BUSINESS – Nil

ADJOURNMENT – 10:30 a.m. (M. DeWit)