



MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013 – 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
Lucas Krist, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance
Lea Ann Mallett, EcoSource
Rahul Mehta, EcoSource
Maureen Ricker, Citizen Member
Lucia Salvati, University of Toronto Mississauga
Diana Yoon, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance (arrived at 9:21 a.m.)

MEMBERS/AGENCY LIAISONS

ABSENT:

Hassaan Basit, Citizen Member
Elaine Hanson, Sheridan College, Office for Sustainability
Val Ohori, Citizen Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Ella Basic, Public Affairs Consultant
Mary Bracken, Environmental Specialist
Jessica Corkum-Gorrill, Natural Areas and One Million Trees
Project Coordinator
Julius Lindsay, Community Energy Specialist
Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Specialist
Brenda Osborne, Director, 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

CALL TO ORDER – 9:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved (F. Dale)

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

- A. Jessika Corkum-Gorrill, Natural Areas and One Million Trees Project Coordinator, with respect to the One Million Trees Mississauga Program Update.

Ms. Corkum-Gorrill gave a PowerPoint presentation dated March 5, 2013 and entitled “One Million Trees Mississauga Program Update” and discussed the Program’s support, goals, key partners, achievements to date, volunteer t-shirt for the 2013 launch, and next steps, including the launch event on April 20, 2013 at the Meadowvale Conservation Area and a Tree Planting Public Workshop with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) at the Burnhamthorpe Community Centre on May 14, 2013. She encouraged Committee members to participate and raise awareness about the Program.

Committee members raised various issues including:

- The possibility of the City partnering with Acer for tree plantings at schools and the City’s four horticultural societies to promote the overall Program;
- The types of trees that will be planted as part of the Program and whether they are native and hardy species that are suitable for the City’s current and future climate;
- The calculation of trees on private property into the one million trees calculation and the possibility of encouraging residents to plant one tree per property and/or per resident via the Program and associated advantages and disadvantages;
- Past tree planting events and programs at schools in partnership with the City;
- Whether the Program will target certain areas of the City for tree plantings;
- The City’s overall tree-related by-laws, policies, and mindset;
- The need to engage with businesses so that they plant trees on their properties;
- The Program’s website, logo, residential strategy, affiliated programs, and overall promotion and the 2013 launch event and its location, time, and importance;
- The need to plant trees away from sewer and water lines in order to avoid issues;
- Boulevard and sidewalk trees in the City and associated planting practices, health, and other challenges, the Program vis-à-vis the latter, and the issues with planting horse chestnut trees and Norway maples on boulevards and near sidewalks;
- Whether the City is still planting Norway maples in the City’s public spaces; and
- The need to make residents, businesses, nurseries, landscapers, and other stakeholders aware about the Program and its goals for its overall success.

Ms. Yoon arrived at 9:21 a.m.

Ms. Corkum-Gorrill answered the Committee's above-noted comments and questions. Of note, she said that the Program includes the planting of both trees and shrubs and that Credit Valley Conservation and the TRCA have existing programs regarding the planting of trees in corporate areas and that the Program will highlight these various programs.

Recommendation

EAC-0007-2013

That the PowerPoint presentation, dated March 5, 2013 and entitled "One Million Trees Mississauga Program Update," by Jessika Corkum-Gorrill, Natural Areas and One Million Trees Project Coordinator, to the Environmental Advisory Committee on March 5, 2013 be received.

Received (M. Ricker)

- B. Mary Bracken, Environmental Specialist, with respect to 2012 "Reporting Out" on Living Green.

Ms. Bracken presented a PowerPoint presentation dated March 5, 2013 and entitled "2013 Report on Living Green" and discussed the White Paper and Highlights Report and their purpose, content, and associated timelines. She said that the White Paper and Highlights Report will be released to Council at their meeting on April 10, 2013 and that staff will provide the Committee with the White Paper and Executive Summary on May 7, 2013 and make a deputation on this matter at the Committee's meeting in May 2013.

Dr. Bass discussed City initiatives that are not directly linked to Environment staff or the Living Green Master Plan (LGMP) (e.g., the Stormwater Financing Study) and how these matters will be captured in the 2012 "reporting out" process. Ms. Bracken responded that the process will focus on all of the City's environmental initiatives that contribute to the LGMP's goals and objectives, rather than only those that were included in the LGMP.

Recommendation

EAC-0008-2013

That the PowerPoint presentation, dated March 5, 2013 and entitled "2012 Report on Living Green," by Mary Bracken, Environmental Specialist, to the Environmental Advisory Committee on March 5, 2013 be received.

Received (Dr. B. Bass)

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held February 5, 2013.

Approved (J. Tovey)2. Let Your Green Show Awareness Campaign – Phase 2

Memorandum dated February 21, 2013 from Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Specialist, with respect to the Let Your Green Show awareness campaign – phase 2.

Ms. McLeod gave an overview of her Memorandum and discussed the campaign's second phase (which will focus on using less water), partners, and logistics, including actions and greenbacks for participants. She said that the Region's three municipalities will participate in the second phase and have their own Greenest Ward Awards and that volunteers will attend events across the Region to sign up participants. Ms. McLeod added that the second phase will be launched on March 22, 2013 and that Committee members have been invited to the launch which will coincide with the Ward 1 skating party at the Port Credit Memorial Arena to celebrate their Greenest Ward Award from the campaign's first phase. She added that marketing materials will be available soon and asked Committee members to suggest any events that their volunteers should attend.

Councillor Tovey discussed the campaign's second phase and its overall importance. He spoke about the campaign's upcoming launch event and Ward 1 skating party and encouraged Committee members and others to attend and participate in the campaign.

Recommendation

EAC-0009-2013

That the Memorandum, dated February 21, 2013 and entitled "Let Your Green Show Awareness Campaign – Phase 2," from Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Specialist, be received.

Received (J. Tovey)3. Earth Hour 2013

Memorandum dated February 22, 2013 from Julius Lindsay, Community Energy Specialist, with respect to Earth Hour 2013.

Mr. Lindsay gave an overview of his Memorandum and discussed the City's involvement in Earth Hour, including goals, partners, sponsors, lighting and energy reduction at City facilities, promotion, and the "I Will If You Will" (IWIYW) campaign. He noted that the Earth Hour movement has shifted its focus from a one-hour event to encouraging people to go beyond the hour and to live more sustainably every day. Mr. Lindsay said that the Mayor has agreed to participate in the IWIYW campaign which will be launched on March 22, 2013 as part of the Let Your Green Show (LYGS) campaign's second phase.

Committee members discussed the City's Earth Hour events in 2012 versus 2013, the IWIYW campaign and its timelines, logistics, and Mayor's pledge, and the Peel Environmental Youth Alliance's Earth Hour 2013 event at Whole Foods Mississauga.

Mr. Lindsay answered the Committee's above-noted comments and questions.

Recommendation

EAC-0010-2013

That the Memorandum, dated February 22, 2013 and entitled "Earth Hour 2013," from Julius Lindsay, Community Energy Specialist, be received.

Received (F. Dale)

4. Living Green Earth Days 2013

Ms. Basic gave a verbal update and noted that the month-long event begins in April 2013 and includes various events, including a Cooksville Creek Trail clean-up, tree planting at the Meadowvale Conservation Area on April 20, 2013, and a 20-minute makeover on April 22, 2013. She said that Glad is donating garbage and recycling bags, discussed the City's promotion of the events, and encouraged residents and businesses to register and obtain more information online starting April 18, 2013 at www.mississauga.ca/earthdays.

The Chair said that he will be handing out promotional items from past environmental events at Streetsville's clean-up event and asked whether new branded t-shirts will be available for distribution to participants. Ms. Basic responded that t-shirts will not be distributed at the Living Green Earth Days 2013 events, but that she would follow up with Ms. Corkum-Gorrill regarding the types and distribution of t-shirts for the One Million Trees Mississauga Program. Ms. Osborne suggested that Committee members wear their LYGS organic cotton t-shirts to Living Green Earth Days 2013 events.

Committee members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of distributing t-shirts as promotional items, the possibility of using organic cotton or other sustainable materials for the City's t-shirts, and events targeting rivers and streams which often have garbage.

Ms. Basic answered the Committee's above-noted comments and questions. Ms. Osborne invited Committee members to sign an Earth Hour pledge board after the meeting.

5. Our Municipality Can Help Stop Climate Change

Email message dated February 1, 2013 from Danish Sarwar, Ward 5 resident, with respect to how our municipality can help stop climate change.

Ms. Osborne discussed Mr. Sarwar's email message and noted that it had been emailed to various Members of Council. She suggested that this matter be referred to staff so that they could review whether municipalities have the legal authority to pass a by-law that would require gasoline retailers to place warning labels on their gas pump nozzles regarding the harms associated with the consumption of fossil fuels.

Committee members discussed Mr. Sarwar's suggestion and the possibility of using stickers at gasoline stations and other venues to highlight various environmental issues,

the disadvantages of using such stickers solely at gasoline stations, and the need to effectively inform the public regarding the City's environmental issues and campaigns.

Recommendation

EAC-0011-2013

That the email message dated February 1, 2013 from Danish Sarwar, Ward 5 resident, with respect to how our municipality can help stop climate change, be received and referred to staff for further review and returned to a future Environmental Advisory Committee meeting for consideration.

Received/Referred (F. Dale)

6. Resignation Email Message from Hassaan Basit, Environmental Advisory Committee Citizen Member

Resignation email message dated January 17, 2013 from Hassaan Basit, Environmental Advisory Committee Citizen Member, advising Councillor George Carlson, Environmental Advisory Committee Chair, of his resignation from the Environmental Advisory Committee.

In response to the Chair, Ms. Lavertu discussed the process for filling Citizen Member vacancies and said that all vacancies on the City's Advisory Committees will be filled in late March/early April 2013 which also coincides with the mid-term point in the citizen appointment terms of Citizen Members at which time they will be asked whether or not they wish to complete their terms. The Chair thanked Mr. Basit for his years of service and contributions to the Committee and noted that work obligations led to his resignation.

Recommendation

EAC-0012-2013

That the resignation email message dated January 17, 2013 from Hassaan Basit, Environmental Advisory Committee Citizen Member, advising Councillor George Carlson, Environmental Advisory Committee Chair, of his resignation from the Environmental Advisory Committee, be received.

Received (L. Krist)

7. 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-0013-2013

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

Received (M. Ricker)

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

Chart dated March 5, 2013 from Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator, Environmental Advisory Committee, with respect to the status of outstanding issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Recommendation

EAC-0014-2013

That the chart dated March 5, 2013 from Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator, Environmental Advisory Committee, with respect to the status of outstanding issues from the Environmental Advisory Committee be received.

Received (F. Dale)INFORMATION ITEMS – NilDATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 9 a.m., Council ChamberOTHER BUSINESS – NilADJOURNMENT – 10:05 a.m. (Dr. B. Bass)