

Additions & Corrections to the Agenda

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Presentations & Deputations

1. Ms. Christine Glenn and Ms. Jen Turla, Blue Dot York Region (www.bluedot.ca) to address the Committee with a verbal presentation summarizing the work of the Blue Dot Movement.
2. Ms. Michelle Dudzik, Community Engagement Coordinator, Regional Municipality of York to provide a presentation on York Region's Environmental Programs and Campaigns.

Approval of Minutes

3. Newmarket Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes of December 9, 2015. p. 1

Correspondence

Items

4. Verbal Report from the Senior Environmental Coordinator regarding an environmental projects update.
5. NEAC Workplan p. 4
6. Update regarding Earth Hour events.
7. Committee and Working Group Updates
 - a) Municipal Energy Plan Stakeholder Advisory Group Update.

Addendum

8. Mr. John Blommestein to address the Committee regarding results of a Freedom of Information Request related to e-Bikes.

New Business

Adjournment

The meeting of the Newmarket Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 in Mulock Room, 395 Mulock Drive, Newmarket.

Members Present: John Birchall
Michelle Bourdeau
Cathie Ethier
Nicole Hamley
David Kempton
Jill King

Absent: Councillor Sponga
Petra Vollmerhausen

Staff Present: C. Schritt, Traffic Technician
J. Slykhuis, Senior Environmental Coordinator
C. Finnerty, Council/Committee Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

J. Birchall in the Chair.

Additions & Corrections to the Agenda

None.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None.

Approval of Minutes

1. Newmarket Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes of November 25, 2015.

Moved by: David Kempton
 Seconded by: Cathie Ethier

THAT the Newmarket Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes of November 25, 2015 be approved.

Carried

Items

2. Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair

The Chair opened the floor for nominations for Chair.

Moved by: Cathie Ethier
 Seconded by: Nicole Hamley

THAT a rotating Chair schedule for 2016 be established.

Carried

3. NEAC Workplan

The Senior Environmental Coordinator provided a verbal update on environmental projects being planned in the Town, including a retrofit project at the Ray Twinney Complex, stormwater management plans for the Regional Annex building, low impact development projects on Forest Glen to reduce impacts on the Western Creek. Discussion ensued regarding the role of the Senior Environmental Coordinator and integrating the Committee as an advisor into the role.

The Committee discussed its workplan for the current term of Council and determined priority level and milestones for items noted on the plan.

4. Committee and Working Group Updates

a) Municipal Energy Plan Stakeholder Advisory Group

J. Birchall advised that the meeting scheduled to take place on December 8, 2015 was cancelled due to illness and would be rescheduled.

5. Verbal Update regarding the York Region Environmental Advisory Committee meeting.

J. Birchall advised that the York Region Environmental Advisory Committee meeting met and provided an update on upcoming meeting locations. He anticipates that Newmarket will host in Spring, 2017 and that the meeting frequency will be increased from biannually to quarterly.

6. Comments regarding the Urban Hens Pilot Project

Discussion ensued regarding the outcome for chickens that pass their egg laying life cycle, disease and potential contamination, and property valuation impacts.

Correspondence

Moved by: Jill King
Seconded by: Michelle Bourdeau

THAT the correspondence items, previously distributed by e-mail, be received.

Carried

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Moved by: Nicole Hamley
Seconded by: David Kempton

THAT the meeting adjourn.

Carried

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Date

John Birchall, Chair

Project Description		Priority	Project Lead	Milestones	Deliverables	Deadline	Budget Impact	Link to Council's Strategic Priorities and/or Corporate Strategic Goals
1.	Municipal Energy Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy Conservation and Efficiency of Municipally Owned Properties 	2	Craig Schritt/ Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAG Next Steps Input into PIC Review of Consultant's recommendations Review of staff recommendations Provide comments to staff for inclusion in plan. 	Staff report before Council for approval and final adoption.		N/A	Well-planned and connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term strategy matched with a short-term action plan
2.	Municipal Storm Water Management Plan and Low Impact Development	1	Jen Slykhuis/ Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review LSRCA Document NEAC to review Staff comments and provide feedback 	Staff report before Council for approval and final adoption.	2016	N/A	Well-planned and connected Long-term strategy matched with a short-term action plan Living well <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental protection and natural heritage preservation
3.	Public Engagement and Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Public Forum Farmers Market Education at Schools/School Liaisons Ian Grey Award 		Michelle Bourdeau/ Nicole Hamley			Ongoing	Costs incurred to operate events and reserve spaces	Community Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging our changing resident demographics
4.	Environmental Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earth Hour Community Garage Sale e-Waste 		Michelle Bourdeau/ Nicole Hamley			Ongoing	Costs incurred to operate events and reserve spaces	Community Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging our changing resident demographics

Project Description		Priority	Project Lead	Milestones	Deliverables	Deadline	Budget Impact	Link to Council's Strategic Priorities and/or Corporate Strategic Goals
5.	Climate Change Response	3	Jen Slykhuis/ Staff					Well-planned and connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term strategy matched with a short-term action plan
6.	Urban Canopy and Sustainable Tree Plantings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Preservation By-law or policy 	3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find out what plans are in place/what recommendations are being put forward by the LSRCA 		January, 2016		Living well <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental protection and natural heritage preservation
7.	Community Gardens		David Kempton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine where the Town is in response to NEAC's recommendation for a Community Garden in each ward. 				Enhanced Recreational Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Community and Neighbourhood Projects
8.	Waste Management		Craig Schritt/ PWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide information on the Waste Management Report (2015-58) to the Committee 				Well-planned and connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term strategy matched with a short-term action plan
9.	Commuter Cycling Opportunities		David Kempton/ Petra Vollmerhausen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incentives to improved bike lane infrastructure in Newmarket Educational initiatives 				Well-planned and connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied transit options Walking and biking trails, paths and lanes

Project Description		Priority	Project Lead	Milestones	Deliverables	Deadline	Budget Impact	Link to Council's Strategic Priorities and/or Corporate Strategic Goals
10.	Drinking/Tap Water Quality		Jill King	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation from Manager, Water/Wastewater to understand system, issues and what can be done • Issues include impacts on plants, palatability and humans • Revisit plastic water bottle ban 				Well-planned and connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term strategy matched with a short-term action plan
11.	Pedestrian Connectivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways and Lighting 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine status of trail plans • Determine next steps and timing for new trail map 				Well-planned and connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved inter-connectivity and interaction amongst neighbours and neighbourhoods • Walking and biking trails, paths and lanes
12.	Soil Quality		Michelle Bourdeau /Jen Slykhuis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Markham's Site Alteration By-law/Fill By-laws 				Well-planned and connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term strategy matched with a short-term action plan

Project Description		Priority	Project Lead	Milestones	Deliverables	Deadline	Budget Impact	Link to Council's Strategic Priorities and/or Corporate Strategic Goals
13.	Lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lighting Standards and By-laws 		John Birchall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine means to conserve energy/public awareness campaigns and mitigating measures Development/Site Plan – energy reductions through good practices 				Well-planned and connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term strategy matched with a short-term action plan

NEAC Homework from Dec meeting, Dave Kempton, Jan 3, 2016

Project Description		Link	Comments
5	Environmental Events • Earth Hour	Community Engagement	Involve restaurants along Main St South. Improve on 2015 by promoting all-day involvement
8	Community Gardens	Enhanced Recreational Opportunities • Supporting Community and Neighbourhood Projects	<p>Improved communication between YRFN and ToN would help. According to Joan Stonehocker, Executive Director of YRFN, "The first we heard about the new garden was in the local paper. According to the report to Committee of the Whole from Public Works, the Town is going to work with YRFN but we have not discussed anything yet."</p> <p>YRFN believes that the water installation at the new garden will be in the 2017 budget.</p> <p>Further comments from Joan Stonehocker:</p> <p>"Sometimes I think the Public Works people don't understand that we survive on project funding and don't have a lot of spare funds. That being said, with enough lead time we can apply for grants to help the project along, and it sounds like a great idea. We worked with SM4RT Living to install a 3-stage demonstration composter at our Aurora. We could also consider a communal rather than allotment style garden.</p> <p>Gardens can take a long time to get up and running so starting the planning in early 2016 would be a great idea."</p>
12	Pedestrian Connectivity • Pathways and Lighting	Well-planned and connected • Improved inter-connectivity and interaction amongst neighbours and neighbourhoods • Walking and biking trails, paths and lanes	<p>Nokiidaa/Tom Taylor trail north of GO train station is un-lighted on the west side, between the parking lot and the pedestrian rail crossing.</p> <p>Pedestrians using the trail must share the bridge over the creek with cars moving in the GO parking lot. As well, the trail ends abruptly at the creek, which is hard to see in the dark; it should have a barrier until there is a separate pedestrian bridge.</p>

14	<p>Lighting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting Standards and Bylaws 	<p>Well-planned and connected</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term strategy matched with a short-term action plan 	<p>Light pollution has a number of negative effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces ability to appreciate night sky, a part of our natural heritage • Can be blinding to drivers, cyclists and pedestrians – see comment on contrast below • Caused by light shining upward, which is totally wasted energy • Disrupts diurnal cycles of residents, animals and plants, particularly trees • Security: Studies have shown little to no security benefit from light pollution. Criminals need light, and will avoid dark places since any light they bring in will be noticeable. As well, glare from poorly designed light can create deep shadows that cannot be seen into. “LEDs have the potential to decrease safety because they create much greater contrasts, which increases harsh shadows. Couple this with overlighting, and LED lighting has the potential to be detrimental to our security, regardless of its color.” (International Dark-Sky Association)
----	---	--	---