



**A meeting of the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee
was held on October 3, 2019 - 4:00 p.m.
Rotary Complex, 353 McCarthy Road W., Stratford ON – Mansbridge Room**

Members Present: Emily Chandler –Chair Presiding, Dave Hanly, *Craig Merkley, Sammie Orr, Matthew Orchard, Anna Stratton, Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach, Marianne Hawley, Vanni Azzano, Dave Mabee

Staff Present: Tatiana Dafoe – Acting Clerk, Rebecca Garlick – Climate Change Co-ordinator, Casey Riehl – Recording Secretary

Also Present: Anne Carbert

Absent: Councillor Bonnie Henderson, Mike Jorna, Kate Simpson – Waste Reduction Coordinator

MINUTES

1.0 Call to Order

Emily Chandler called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

2.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof.

None declared.

3.0 Adoption of the Previous Minutes – September 5, 2019

Motion by Marianne Hawley, seconded by Anna Stratton that the minutes dated September 5, 2019 are adopted as printed. Carried.

4.0 Delegate: Rebecca Garlick – Community & Corporate Climate Change Plan

Rebecca Garlick presented an overview of the climate change project she is working on for Stratford. Ms. Garlick is reviewing historical temperatures and precipitation, residential/commercial/manufacturing/transportation emissions, reviewing building and land use, reviewing waste data, reviewing natural environment. She is mainly focusing her research on creating a community plan and recently attended a conference and

participated in climate mitigation, resilience strategies and adaptation. Ms. Garlick plans on holding stakeholder consultations, meeting with local conservation authorities and completing a survey.

Dave Hanly inquired if Ms. Garlick is collecting the same sort of data for the County and St. Marys as she is for Stratford. She reported that she is collecting similar data, focusing on some additional agriculture aspects for the County. Mr. Hanly also inquired if there is a tree-planting initiative between the three municipalities that is incorporated into the plan. Ms. Garlick advised a green partnership will be incorporated as part of the plan.

*Craig Merkley now present (4:25 p.m.)

Anna Stratton inquired if a transportation plan will be incorporated into the climate change plan. Ms. Garlick explained that it will not be included, as the transportation study has been started separately, prior to Ms. Garlick starting the climate change plan. She does agree that increasing public transportation and making it more accessible to everyone is a good plan.

Emily Chandler inquired what kind of information Ms. Garlick is gathering and does she have a goal of how many people she is hoping to hear back from. Ms. Garlick is trying to get a sense of what citizens in Stratford understand about climate change in this area and their personal impact. She would like to aim for feedback from approximately 10% of the total population of Stratford.

Matt Orchard inquired about how Ms. Garlick calculates the emissions figures. Ms. Garlick explained she uses a PCP tool that calculates emissions. She inputs in the electricity for Ontario and it understands the emission factor associated with electricity. Mr. Orchard also inquired if Ms. Garlick will submit a formal plan at the end of her contract. Ms. Garlick will present a community plan; however will not see it through to implementation, due to the scope of the project before her contract is over.

Councillor Burbach inquired if the City will receive specifics, such as a greenhouse gas inventory of municipal buildings. Ms. Garlick explained that if time permits, she will do a separate report for corporate building calculations. She has already calculated emissions for the municipal buildings in Stratford.

Ms. Garlick reported that each of the municipalities has already made a commitment through the Partners for Climate Protection, committing to reporting milestones completed within ten years of joining the resolution. Communities commit to future data collection and reporting on their community plan.

5.0 Updates from Working Groups – Carbon Reduction & Ecological

Carbon Reduction

Anna Stratton updated the Committee on the recent Climate Momentum Event held in Market Square. The E&E Committee had a display set up about the green cones in conjunction with the City's Waste Co-ordinator. She reported that almost every visitor to the display was asking about an organics program and the new recycling guidelines. The Committee gave away a green cone digester as part of the event.

Ms. Stratton reported that the art supplies terra-cycle box is now located downstairs at the Stratford Library in the children's section; the large plastics box has arrived and will be placed at the Stratford Landfill. The group is still working on placing snack boxes at Stratford Secondary. These locations will act as a pilot project for the terra-cycle boxes, with the hope that these and additional locations will purchase more boxes in the future.

Dave Hanly inquired, with all the recent news reports about recyclables being shipped overseas, is there a known end-market for Stratfords' recyclables? Emily Chandler stated that it goes from Stratford to Exeter to the Bluewater Recycling station. It is her understanding that the new updates and changes to what is accepted in Stratford for the recycling program, is due to the fact that Bluewater does not have an end-market to send some items to be repurposed. Dave Hanly suggested another tour of the Bluewater facility would be interesting for Committee members. Members suggested working on a simplified recycling chart with the Waste Co-ordinator, which may be beneficial for citizens. Emily Chandler noted that the app the City has on their website is very helpful.

Ecological

Craig Merkley updated the Committee that the native plants for the new crib wall on the north shore will be planted in the next couple of weeks. He noted that current plantings along the shore are doing well.

UTRCA will do an inventory of invasive plants in the fall after the leaves drop. They will target the buckthorn at this time too.

The working group has decided to defer the bus tour of local sites until the spring, when leaves are still off and you can see the sites well.

Mr. Merkley has met with the Parks Manager to discuss the south shore crib wall plantings. The City is committed to getting the shore project near the Tom Patterson Theatre completed early in 2020; UTRCA will assist with the design and implementation.

Councillor Burbach discussed a possible tree-planting partnership with Hydro. Trees would be funded and homeowners could in turn purchase one at a reduced rate. The working group has sent some initial information to Festival Hydro to inquire if they would be interested in a project such as this. They have requested information outlining the

program for further discussion with their board members at an upcoming meeting. The Acting Clerk suggested the committee draft a plan for the program and make a recommendation to Council for approval prior to moving ahead with a program. The plan should include all parties involved and a detailed implementation plan. Further discussion to be held at the next E&E meeting. Dave Hanly suggested reaching out to all potential parties involved prior to drafting a plan to ensure that they are at least interested in moving ahead.

6.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

(a) Update on Roundtable & Next Steps – Emily Chandler

No new updates.

(b) Update on Climate Momentum Event

Sammie Orr thanked Anne Carbert for her work organizing such a great event.

(c) Letter of Support & Resolution for Conservation Authority – E. Chandler

Emily Chandler reported that a letter of support from E&E was sent to Council. The resolution coming from City Council in terms of supporting the Conservation Authorities is still being worked on. An example resolution from Zorra has been forwarded to Council. The Acting Clerk reported that at the recent Council meeting, it was recommended that a Councillor bring forward a resolution. There is a draft management report prepared for E&E Committee's request to support conservation authorities. Emily Chandler and Councillor Burbach to follow up with Councillor Henderson.

(d) 2019 Project Plan and Budget Update

Councillor Burbach has suggested that E&E could partner with the Active Transportation Advisory Committee to support an upcoming Share the Road presentation. A public presentation would be held and a report on the City would be provided. With the bus tour being deferred, there are funds available to re-allocate.

Motion by Vanni Azzano, seconded by Dave Hanly that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$500.00 to support a Share the Road Presentation in Stratford. Carried.

Vanni Azzano updated the committee that the \$750.00 previously allocated for a fall tree planting will be put towards trees in an area behind Stratford Secondary.

7.0 Upcoming Events

Transportation Open House – October 8, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m.

Stratford Water Day – April 22, 2020

Perth Children's Water Festival – June 2-3, 2020

8.0 New Business

(a) City of Stratford Declaration of Climate Emergency – Emily Chandler

Emily Chandler reported that there has been initial interest from the City of Stratford to support a climate emergency declaration. Council was presented with a petition on the day of the Climate Momentum rally. Sammie Orr reviewed some examples of wording that other municipalities have used in their declarations. Members noted that Kingston, Sudbury, Toronto and Hamilton are all good examples of declarations to pull information from. Ms. Orr noted that timelines, facts, projects and commitments are important factors to include in the declaration. The Acting Clerk has been tasked with preparing the declaration and is currently looking at samples of other municipal declarations and agrees that details will be key. Matt Orchard noted that Vancouver has a great example of including targets and annual reports to Council on meeting targets/goals to continue monitoring progress. He also added that making a case for why it is a climate emergency will be key. Ms. Dafoe will return to an upcoming E&E Committee meeting to discuss the draft declaration prior to taking it to Council.

(b) Grand Trunk Community Hub – Grant Application Notice (Memo)

Staff forwarded the committee a memo from the Acting Clerk regarding approval for all future grant applications.

(c) Terms Ending November 30, 2019

Staff reminded Dave Mabee, Dave Hanly, Anna Stratton and Emily Chandler that their current terms will be ending November 30, 2019. An application form has been forwarded should they wish to re-apply by the November 12, 2019 deadline.

(d) Green Bin Program for Restaurants – Sammie Orr

Sammie Orr inquired if there is a future plan for an organics program in Stratford for local restaurants. Councillor Burbach reported that it is her understanding that restaurants will be included in the City's new proposed organics program.

9.0 Next Meeting Date – November 7, 2019 – 4:00 pm– Rotary Complex (Mansbridge Rm.)

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vanni Azzano, seconded by Marianne Hawley that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

Time: 5:40 p.m.