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**1. Call to Order**

**2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**3.1 April 2, 2015** .....Page 2

**4. Presentation/Discussion Items**

**4.1 Planning and Development Updates (6:00 – 6:30 p.m.)**  
Geoff Romanowski, *Development Approvals Coordinator*

**4.2 Ajax Green Living Days 2015 & Forecasted Events Update (6:30 – 6:45 p.m.)** (J. Schofield)

**4.3 Committee Participation at Upcoming Community Event May 23, 2015 (6:45 – 7:00 p.m.)**  
(J. Hill)

**5. Correspondence**

**6. Update from Council**

**7. Standing Items**

**7.1 Work Plan** .....Page 6

**7.2 Pan Am 2015 Local Host Committee Update** (V. Silveira)

**8. New Business**

**9. Adjournment**



**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**Environmental Advisory Committee**  
April 2, 2015  
*River Plate Room, Town Hall*  
*Meeting No. 2*

**Alternative formats available upon request by contacting:**  
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Committee Members:	Councillor Joanne Dies Neil Burnett Kayla Ginter Jeff Hammond Jeff Hill David Hogg Lesia Lapointe Valerie Silveira (exited 7:15 p.m.) Scott Slack
Staff:	Jade Schofield, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator Sarah Moore, Committee Coordinator
Guests:	Stev Andis, Senior Policy Planner Alyssa Beurling, Sierra Club of Canada
Regrets:	Melissa Beynon, Geoff Carpentier, Kim Sellers

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## 1. Call to Order

### 1.1 Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair

S. Moore reviewed the role and responsibilities of the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions and called for nominations.

Moved By: V. Silveira  
Seconded By: D. Hogg

That Neil Burnett be appointed Chair and Scott Slack be appointed Vice-Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee, until January 7, 2016, at which time the appointments will be reviewed by the Committee.

CARRIED

## 2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

None

## 3. Approval of Minutes

Moved By: D. Hammond  
Seconded By: S. Slack

That the March 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee be approved.

CARRIED

#### **4. Presentation/Discussion**

##### **4.1 Blue Dot Declaration**

Stev Andis, Senior Policy Planner, presented information relative to the proposed delegation of the Blue Dot Program. In 2014 David Suzuki and the David Suzuki Foundation crossed Canada on a tour to ignite a movement that would see environmental rights enshrined in the Canadian constitution. The movement is underway and individuals, groups, and municipalities are standing up for the right to a healthy environment. The Blue Dot movement is a grassroots movement that aims to see the right to a healthy environment, including the rights to fresh air, clean water, and safe food, enshrined in our Canadian constitution.

Ajax resident Tom Shea contacted submitted correspondence to Council including a model declaration for consideration of Ajax taking on the program. Currently 104 signatories have pledged support for the program in Ajax alone. S. Andis presented a draft declaration for the Committee's review, included in the agenda package. The draft declaration included seven points of consideration and commitment affecting all levels of government in the pursuit of recognizing environmental rights for all. She shared details of a forthcoming National Day of Action event taking place in Pickering on Sunday April 19, 2015.

Members posed several questions relating to the difference between an Environmental Bill of Rights and the Environmental Assessment Act, which were distinguished by being rights to live in a healthy environment as opposed to procedural rights. Members inquired how successful implementation of the program has been in other municipalities to date. Councillor Dies clarified the difference between a Blue Community designation and the Blue Dot Program. The Committee encouraged staff to look at a pared-down communications piece that would summarize the content of the declaration in a lighter format.

S. Andis noted next steps included presenting a staff report to the General Government Committee and Council before the Town could officially be recognized as part of the movement.

Moved By: J. Hill  
Seconded By: D. Hogg

That the Town of Ajax Environmental Advisory Committee support the recognition and implementation of the Blue Dot Program in Ajax.

CARRIED

##### **4.2 RBC Blue Water Project "Pickering Beach Bioswales"**

J. Schofield introduced Alyssa Beurling of the Sierra Club of Canada, who was in attendance to present information on the Pickering Beach Bioswales RBC Blue Water Project. She provided a brief history of the Sierra Club and its natural capital focus. A. Beurling shared statistics and discussed the significance of placing monetary value on nature in order to frame

its value as a natural resource and environmental asset. An overview of the RBC Blue Water Pickering Beach Bioswale project was presented, noting partnership and grant funding with the Toronto Region Conservation Authority. Through photos and diagrams she explained the construction of a bioswale (man-made wetland) and its purpose to filter rainwater and runoff before it reaches Lake Ontario. The Pickering Beach Bioswale project began construction in fall of 2014 with installation of 2 bioswales and a sand dune. In addition to participating in partnership projects, A. Beurling shared information regarding involvement in engagement opportunities such as plantings, film screenings and a Greenbelt Coordinated Land Use Planning Review on April 20, 2014, to which members were invited.

The Committee posed questions relative to the duration of time before water quality improvements could be acknowledged through the bioswale construction, why the Pickering Beach Area was selected for implementation. Members inquired about the difference between bioswales and culverts and discussed potential locations for additional bioswale construction.

#### **4.3 Pan Am Local Host Committee Update**

V. Silveira provided an overview of the Pan Am residents' Open House, wherein information relative to transportation, parking safety and security were presented. She explained how parking would be restricted and patrolled in various locations adjacent to the President's Choice Ajax Pan Am Ballpark. Suggestions for implementation of a bike-share program were shared. V. Silveira also provided details of an upcoming informational activation to promote the Pan Am Games in Ajax being held at the Pickering Town Centre on April 11, 2015. Members were again encouraged to sign up at [www.panamajax.ca](http://www.panamajax.ca) to volunteer for the Games and to encourage others who may be interested.

#### **4.4 Participation in Upcoming Environmental Events**

J. Schofield reviewed several upcoming environmental events and solicited the Committee's involvement:

- Saturday April 18 – Compost Giveaway
- Friday April 24 – Mayor's 20 Minute Makeover
- Saturday April 25 – tree planting and shoreline clean-up

J. Schofield summarized the Earth Hour EnviroDrum event noting it was well attended and that further information on kilowatt savings will be shared once available.

### **5. Correspondence**

None.

### **6. Update from Council**

Councillor Dies provided a summary of recent community events including EnviroDrum, Pan Am Games Open House at the Audley Recreation Centre, and a meeting with the Regional Chair relative to the Greenbelt and Pickering Airport Lands. Members posed questions regarding the proposed entertainment node development project in Pickering and the

Provincial decision on casino allocation. The Committee briefly discussed the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant matter and carbon taxing.

*V. Silveira exited the Meeting (7:15 p.m.)*

## **7. Standing Items**

### **7.1 Work Plan**

This item was not reviewed in detail.

## **8. New Business**

Chair Burnett provided Members with an update on the Energy-from-Waste Plant in Clarington, which was noted to be undergoing testing. The future opportunity for facility tours was noted.

Staff noted that the Ajax Steam Plant will be re-opening in the coming weeks and indicated that further details would be forwarded for the Committee's interest.

## **9. Adjournment**

Moved By: J. Hammond  
Seconded By: J. Hill

That the April 2, 2015 Meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee be adjourned. (7:35 p.m.)

CARRIED

## ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2014-2018 WORK PLAN

PROJECT ITEM		OBJECTIVES & SUMMARY	LEAD	TIMELINE	STATUS / NOTES
1	Ajax Waterfront Management & Shoreline Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trail improvements</li> <li>Carruthers Marsh rehabilitation</li> <li>Pickering Beach Bioswales</li> <li>Algae growth</li> <li>Water quality testing</li> <li>Interpretive signage</li> </ul>	Catherine Bridgeman, Kevin Tryon, Tim Field	Annual: Spring	
2	Environmental Education & Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canada Water Week</li> <li>Earth Hour</li> <li>Green Living Days</li> <li>Pollinator workshops</li> <li>Ajax in Bloom</li> <li>Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup</li> <li>Community cleanups</li> <li>Bring Back the Salmon event</li> </ul>	Jade Schofield, Vanessa Lorrain, TRCA	Annual: Spring	
3	Stormwater Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stormwater pond rehabilitation projects</li> <li>Low impact development projects (rain gardens, bioswales)</li> </ul>	Kevin Tryon. Catherine Bridgeman	Annual	
4	Planning & Development Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed development update</li> <li>Active transportation update</li> <li>Engineering update</li> </ul>	Planning & Development	Twice Annually	
5	Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Regional Update- residential waste? (tbd)</i></li> <li>Annual facility waste audits</li> <li>Green event policy comments</li> <li>Public space litter control education campaign,</li> </ul>	Jade Schofield	Fall 2015	

## ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### 2014-2018 WORK PLAN

<b>6</b>	Urban Forest Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EAB &amp; Ice Storm Damage update</li> <li>LEAF program</li> <li>Educational program update</li> <li>Urban Forest Management Plan consultation</li> </ul>	Tim Field, Craig Blencowe, Jade Schofield	Annual: Spring	
<b>7</b>	Capital Projects- Operations Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	Catherine Bridgeman	Annual/ as needed update	
<b>8</b>	Integrated Community Sustainability Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2015 Action Items</li> <li>2016 workplan consultation</li> </ul>	Jade Schofield	Annual: Fall	
<b>9</b>	Energy Conservation Demand Management Plan Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comments on plan</li> <li>Green fleet initiative</li> <li>LED conversion strategy</li> </ul>	Jade Schofield, Ray Ford, Chris Addley, Rick Chalmers	Spring 2015 & update annually	
<b>10</b>	Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update from Region of Durham's Climate Adaptation Strategy</li> </ul>	Brian Kelly, Region of Durham	Spring/ Fall 2015.	