



## Gravenhurst Environmental Advisory Committee - Minutes September 22, 2017

Those in attendance were:

### Committee Members

Brenda Beatty  
Judy Campbell  
Bev Wicks  
Pete LeMoine

### Staff

K. Kirton	Manager of Planning Services
J. Montreuil	Deputy Clerk / Committee Coordinator

### Council Representatives

Sandy Cairns – arrived at 9:13 a.m.  
Randy Jorgensen , Vice Chair

### Regrets

Allyn Abbott, Chair  
Bill Allison

### I. Call to Order

The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

### II. Adoption of Agenda

Committee agreed to move item c) under Unfinished Business to a) to lift procedure to allow for Dr. Chris Brew to comment on Spraying for Mosquitos - impacts on aquatic and bird life.

B. Wicks requested that item a) Low Impact Development (LID) in Gravenhurst be added under New Business.

Moved by Bev Wicks

Seconded by Pete LeMoine

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Agenda of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting dated September 22, 2017, be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

### III. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None noted.

**IV. Adoption of Minutes**

a) Minutes - 25 August 2017

Moved by Judy Campbell

Seconded by Brenda Beatty

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting dated August 25, 2017 be adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**V. Deputations**

**VI. Correspondence**

**VII. Unfinished Business**

a) Updates: Spraying for Mosquitoes - impact on aquatic and bird life

- Risks & impacts research (B. Beatty & P. LeMoine)

Moved by Brenda Beatty

Seconded by Judy Campbell

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** procedure be lifted to permit public comments regarding spraying for Mosquitoes - impact on aquatic and bird life.

**CARRIED**

P. LeMoine noted that he brought the matter to the attention of the Muskoka Watershed Council.

Dr. Chris Brew provided members with a review of her extensive research and statistical information on spraying of mosquitoes and related health effects specifically to compound factors and impacts on mosquitos, adults, children and other species.

Committee received information on long term effects of synthetic and non-synthetic spraying practices, including public discussions, confirmation of governmental authorities, correlation studies, carcinogen relationships to spraying, levels of toxic concentrations, and resistance impacts.

Committee engaged in a lengthy discussion on legal uses, qualifications of sprayers, West Nile virus, government awareness of Round-up, public health involvement, non-toxic spray alternatives (home remedies).

Dr. Brew indicated that she will write a letter to the Gravenhurst Banner and MNRF surrounding education on spraying activities.

B. Wicks will assist in the review the letter specifically to the piece on the impacts to Species at Risk (SARs).

K. Orsan will circulate studies from Guelph for contribution to the drafting of the letter to the MNRF.

Dr. Brew also indicated contacting Laurentian University for an academic discussion in engaging graduates to conduct further research on the subject.

Committee requested and received clarifications on Freedom of Information access requests and FIPPA restrictions and process from the Deputy Clerk / Committee Coordinator, and subsequently engaged in a discussion on governance structures on remediation.

b) Updates: Zero Waste Community Initiative

Committee indicated a desire to support Reusable Revolution - D. Doolittle and C. Hunter via correspondence as follows:

*"We are pleased to announce that, following the Reusable Revolution presentation at the August Gravenhurst Environmental Advisory Committee meeting, we hereby fully send our endorsement to the work of Reusable Revolution community initiatives. As Reusable Revolution understands the importance of community awareness around environmental impacts in consumerism, they are educating and engaging the community on a positive initiative and have our full support."*

The members request that the Chair execute the letter on behalf of the Committee, as circulated.

c) Updates: Wildlife corridors - markings on the road - DEFERRED TO NEXT MEETING

- Data Collection (Staff)
- Sensitive Timeline Indicators (B. Wicks)

d) Updates: Passenger Train Service in Muskoka

Further to Ms. Campbell's request, the Committee indicated a desire to support the proposal to re-introduce the CN Passenger Train Service in Muskoka via correspondence as follows:

*" To Whom It May Concern:*

*The Gravenhurst Environmental Advisory Committee promotes actions which protect the natural resources of our region. The cancellation of the Ontario Northland passenger train in 2012 was a devastating blow to green infrastructure and economic development in Gravenhurst and the North. The passenger train which ran from Union Station to North Bay served commuters, visitors and residents who travelled for work, medical appointments, tourism and family visits. Rail travel provided a way to get cars off of the busy highway. Passengers had the comfort of having washrooms, snack facilities and entertainment options on board.*

*We ask you to consider an equitable passenger rail service. As millions are spent on the Windsor – Montreal corridor, where is the comparable spending on the north? The need for passenger rail is greater now than ever, with an aging demographic, increased severe weather incidents and the need for environmental protection.*

*Bring back the passenger rail service from Toronto to North Bay!*

*cc: Norm Miller, MPP - Parry Sound-Muskoka, Tony Clement, MP - Parry Sound-Muskoka , Kathleen Wynne, Premier & Liberal Leader, Patrick Brown, PC Leader & MPP - Simcoe North, Andrea Horwath, NDP Leader, Michael Gravelle Minister of Northern Development, Michael Mantha, NDP Northern Development Critic, Stephen Del Duca, Minister of Transportation, Michael Harris, PC Transportation Critic, Wayne Gates, NDP Transportation Critic"*

The members request that the Chair execute the letter on behalf of the Committee, as circulated.

Committee requested clarification on the appropriate authority in using the corporate letterhead and the Town's policy thereto.

**ACTION:**

- Staff to verify Town Letterhead procedures sent by Committees of Council and report back to the members at the next meeting.

**VIII. Items for Discussion**

a) Follow Up: Renewal dates to the Waste Management Services Agreement- DEFERRED TO NEXT MEETING

b) Follow Up: Pineridge Storm Water Management Pond Tour - DEFERRED TO NEXT MEETING

Committee received information on a presentation conducted at the District of Muskoka surrounding Storm Water Management Ponds.

Committee engaged in a discussion surrounding impacts to Storm Water Management Ponds.

Councillor Cairns indicated that the judges from the Communities in Bloom Canada 150 event toured the site and provided good comments.

c) Follow Up: Safe Quiet Lakes Delegation (Staff)

Committee were notified that a delegation to Council was not yet received from the Safe Quiet Lakes Association.

Committee received information surrounding a survey on shoreline erosion conducted by the

Muskoka Lakes Association.

**ACTIONS:**

- B. Beatty to circulate the link to the survey to all Committee members.
- Staff to add Muskoka Lakes Association Survey on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

d) Follow Up: Active Transportation Plan (ATP) Bike Lanes (Staff)

Committee received confirmation that bike lanes are included in the plans for James Street reconstruction project.

Staff advised they will forward the ATP correspondence to the District. Councillor Cairns advised she will follow-up.

Committee engaged in a discussion surrounding the workplan and initiatives to be reviewed.

**ACTIONS:**

- Staff to circulate the workplan for review by Committee and add Workplan Review on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting.
- Staff to invite Jason Harnett, Communications Coordinator, to attend the November Meeting to discuss the Committee' Webpage options after the workplan discussion has taken place.

**IX. New Business**

a) Low Impact Development (LID) in Gravenhurst

Committee received information from Ms. Wicks surrounding yard redevelopment and low impact recommendations within retrofitting a property and indicated that Riverstone now has a showplace within the urban community of Gravenhurst (The Corner Garden).

Committee engaged in a discussion surrounding their interest in developing a letter of advice for Council incorporating a checklist that the Town could potentially adopt as approved alternative methods/products affecting retrofitting or new developments.

**ACTION:**

- Staff to add Low Impact Development (LID) Checklist to the Workplan Review discussion at the next meeting.

**X. Next Meeting Date**

Friday, October 27, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers

**XI. Adjournment**

Moved by Pete LeMoine

Town of Gravenhurst - Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: September 22, 2017

Seconded by Bev Wicks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Gravenhurst Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

**CARRIED**

"Original Signed"

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Vice Chair

"Original Signed"

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Committee Coordinator