

Date: 28 October 2024
Time: 10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m.
Location: Council Chambers – Meeting Room

Attendance: Wayne Olson, Ward One Councillor
Jackie Oblak, Committee Chair
Pam Duesling, Director of Com-Planning & Development
Mike Jones, Committee Member
Ryan Taylor, Committee Member
Sydney Van Leeuwen, Evn. Compliance Analyst
Gimuel Ledesma, Engineering Technologist
Jason Marr, Director of Public Works
Samantha Witkowski, Environmental Coordinator
Mike Hoch, Committee Member
Jordan Wilton, Committee Member
Natalie Seniuk, Committee Member

Regrets: N/A

1. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum

Noting that quorum was present, Chair Jackie Oblak called the meeting to order at approximately 10:03 a.m.

2. Land Recognition Statement

Chair Jackie Oblak recited the land recognition statement.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Mike Jones
Seconded by: Mike Hoch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the October 28, 2024, regular meeting of the Environmental and Climate Adaption Advisory Committee be adopted.

Carried

4. Approval of the August 26, 2024, Minutes

Moved by: Mike Jones
Seconded by: Mike Hoch

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes for the August 26, 2024, regular meeting of the Environmental and Climate Adaption Advisory Committee be approved.

Carried

5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no pecuniary interests disclosed by any of the members present.

6. Welcome and Committee Member Introductions to New Member Jordan Wilton

Chair Jackie Oblak welcomed Jordan of behalf of the committee and Jordan introduced herself noting she is currently studying Environmental Resources and Sustainability at the University of Waterloo.

Erin McCormick, Administrative Assistant for Public Works briefly introduced herself as the new recording Secretary.

7. Presentation by Sydney Van Leeuwen on her New Role

Sydney Van Leeuwen outlined her responsibilities as Environmental Compliance Analyst, which include overseeing water-related compliance, with a focus on sanitary and stormwater systems in line with ministry legislation. Key tasks involve program development and maintenance, and ensuring policies and practices are current with regulatory requirements and addressing concerns.

8. Official Plan Update- Pam Duesling

Pam Duesling, Director of Community Planning and Development provided an update on the Official Plan on behalf of Lindsay Richardson, Policy Planner. The Committee was asked to review and provide feedback, particularly on the Environment and Climate section. A draft of

the plan is available for review on Engaging Pelham, where various sections can be accessed. Public information sessions will be held on November 12, 13, and 14, from 2-4 p.m. and 5-7 p.m., during which the Official Plan will be presented.

Chair Jackie Oblak inquired about the best method for submitting comments. Pam advised that comments could be sent directly to Lindsay Richardson or shared at the public sessions. Pam highlighted Section 4 on the environment, noting that feedback on this section would be especially valuable to the Town.

The Committee discussed the desired readability of the Official Plan (OP), with differing opinions on whether it should be simplified or more detailed. Pam Duesling noted that Lindsay Richardson would be distributing a brochure to the public, highlighting key points of the OP.

Ryan Taylor suggested creating a summary of the OP, potentially for the website, and volunteered to assist with this. The Committee discussed bridging the gap between the high-level OP document and the key highlights brochure for better public accessibility.

9. Discussion- Recommendations to Council of Inclusion- Marlene Steward Streit Property Management Plan

Chair Jackie Oblak presented information from her research on the Natural Assets Document, which advocates for assessing publicly owned properties and developing plans to identify and protect natural assets. Jackie highlighted the Marlene Steward Streit property as a key area for this initiative. She shared insights from a representative at the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA), who emphasized the importance of this work. Jackie recommended that the Committee initiate and support the development of a plan to protect the natural assets at the Marlene Steward Streit property.

Mike Jones highlighted the need to protect a flowering dogwood tree (Cornus florida), an endangered species within the Marlene Steward Streit Property. The Committee discussed the potential benefits of conducting an inventory of trees in the park and whether this should be undertaken by the Committee or through a third party, possibly a consultant or

volunteer. Samantha Witkowski suggested reaching out to a contact at Brock University for support with this initiative.

The Committee also expressed interest in discussing invasive species at the January meeting.

Motion: The Committee requests that the Town explore options to protect the endangered species within the Marlene Steward Streit Property.

Moved By: Mike Jones

Seconded: Natalie Seniuk

Carried

10. Action Items- ECAAC

Chair Jackie Oblak presented a list of action items for follow-up and completion. She requested that committee members report on the status of completed items or review the list to work on outstanding tasks.

Action Item: Jackie Oblak will send the Action Item Document to Erin McCormick for updates on the action items from committee meetings.

11. Arbour Week Activities

Mike Jones provided an update from Pelham Path. They held a photo contest featuring significant trees, which successfully engaged the community on their Facebook page, receiving over 100 submissions. Additionally, they organized a hike through the Steve Baur Trail, which had approximately 10 participants.

12. Upcoming Items

Ward One Councillor Wayne Olson informed the Committee about an upcoming event on October 30th: the Dedication/Commissioning of the 12 Mile Creek Rehabilitation Project. He noted that the project was completed on time and within budget, which could serve as a valuable model for the Committee. The event may also provide networking opportunities. Parking will be available at the Lyons Club, and participants are advised to wear boots.

13. Adjournment

Moved by: Mike Jones
Seconded by: Natalie Seniuk

**THAT this Regular Meeting of the Environmental and Climate
Adaption Advisory Committee be adjourned at 11:32 a.m.**

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 25, 2024.

Carried



Chair, Jackie Oblak



Administrative Assistant, Erin McCormick