



## THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

### ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### MINUTES

Monday, October 28, 2019

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

"We would like to begin today's meeting by acknowledging that the Town of Georgina is located over lands originally used and occupied by the First Peoples of the Williams Treaties First Nations and other Indigenous Peoples and thank them for sharing this land. We would also like to acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our close neighbour and friend, one with which we strive to build a cooperative and respectful relationship."

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Committee members in attendance:

Councillor Dave Neeson, Chair

Kelly Mingram, Vice Chair

Gary Heine

Lee Canavan

Mark Payne

Dr. Neil Comer

Rebecca Wheeler

Staff member in attendance:

Sarah Elliott, Committee Services Coordinator

#### 3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS - *None*

#### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Gary Heine, Seconded by Lee Canavan

#### **RESOLUTION NO. GEAC-2019-0015**

That the Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee approve the October 28, 2019, agenda as presented.

**Carried.****5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF - *None***

- (1) Committee member Mark Payne declared a conflict of interest relating to the Upper York Sewage System. Mark advised as an employee of York Region Environmental Services he must recuse himself from discussions related to the Upper York Sewage System.

**6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- (1) Minutes of the meeting held on September 30, 2019.

Moved by Mark Payne, Seconded by Lee Canavan

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC-2019-0016**

That the Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee meeting minutes of September 30, 2019, be adopted.

**Carried.****7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS**

- (1) Parking Lots

Local resident Cora Raine, from 57 Kay Avenue, Virginia, addressed the Committee with respect to the environmental impact related to parking lots and requested the GEAC consider this topic for ongoing discussion. She raised concerns related to municipal policies and current practices in relation to the environmental impact. Ms. Raine referenced the parking lot at 115 Hadden Rd.

Moved by Neil Comer, Seconded by Mark Payne

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC-2019-0017**

That the Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee receive the delegation from Cora Raine on parking lots.

**Carried.**

Moved by Mark Payne, Seconded by Lee Canavan

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC-2019-0018**

That the Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee request the planning report relating to parking lot application for 115 Hadden Rd.

**Carried.**

Mr. Hobe resident of the Virginia hamlet advised he has a sod farming operation near the proposed parking lot, 115 Hadden Road, and echoed the concerns relayed by Ms. Raine.

Moved by Neil Comer, Seconded by Lee Canavan

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC-2019-0019**

That the Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee receive Mr. Hobe's delegation.

**Carried.**

8. PRESENTATIONS - *None*
9. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS ON THE AGENDA - *None*
10. COMMUNICATIONS
  - (1) AMO Board Highlights, Sept. 27, 2019. Blue Boxes, Conservation Authorities, Provincial Policy Statements, and E-scooters.
  - (2) AMO - Continued Work on Amended Blue Box Program Plan Being Discussed (2018)
  - (3) AMO - The Province Announces Important Next Steps on Blue Box Program
  - (4) AMO - Managing Our Natural Environment
  - (5) ESA (Endangered Species Act) -royal-assent-Blackline (changes)
  - (6) Barrie Council says it takes more than just words to fight climate change

The Committee requested a presentation or information from staff regarding a climate change plan and requested staff speak to the benefit of declaring a climate emergency as other municipalities have done.

Moved by Rebecca Wheeler, Seconded by Lee Canavan

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC-2019-0020**

That the Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee receive the following communication items:

1. AMO Board Highlights, Sept. 27, 2019. Blue Boxes, Conservation Authorities, Provincial Policy Statements, and E-scooters.
2. AMO - Continued Work on Amended Blue Box Program Plan Being Discussed (2018)
3. AMO - The Province Announces Important Next Steps on Blue Box Program
4. AMO - Managing Our Natural Environment
5. ESA (Endangered Species Act) -royal-assent-Blackline (changes)
6. Barrie Council says it takes more than just words to fight climate change

**Carried.**

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

- (1) Ontario Blue Box program (update if available) – *Refer to Communication, agenda item 10(1),(2), & (3).*
- (2) Conservation Authorities and Bill 108 Amendments (update if available) *Refer to Communication, agenda item 10(2)*
- (3) Trash receptacles at beaches and parks (update if available)

The Committee requested an update on Council Resolution C-2017-0520.

- (4) Upper York Region Sewage Solutions (ongoing item for discussion)

Committee member Neil Comer advised he is reviewing the UYRSS report that is available online.

- (5) Electric Vehicle Charging – Town Policies and Initiatives (update if available)

The Committee Coordinator advised staff are investigating options for electric vehicle charging stations.

- (6) York Region Environmental Advisory Committee, Fall meeting (update if available)

The GEAC was invited to co-host the fall meeting. Members were advised the meeting would be held at the ROC Chalet on November 28<sup>th</sup> and that further details will follow.

- (7) Simeon Dredge request for Council consider a bylaw to address light pollution (update if available) – *None*
- (8) Disposition Item, May 8th Council, Municipal Water Policies and reducing or eliminating bottled water (update if available) - *None*
- (9) Committee Objectives for 2018- 2022

A. Previous Committee Achievements, 2015:

- Hosted semiannual regional Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting.
- Representation of the Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee (GEAC) at the Ontario Invasive Species Council's conference held at the Hamilton Royal Botanical Gardens.
- Hosted annual joint meeting with the Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee.
- Plan to host an Earth Hour event for 2016
- Plan to focus on education awareness prevention and best practices for invasive species.
- Total number of meetings in 2015: 3 (including Joint meeting with Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee).

B. Previous Committee Achievements, 2016:

- Representation at semi-annual regional Environmental Advisory Committee meetings.
- Requested Georgina Town Council submit comments through the public consultation phase in relation to the York Region Upper Sewage Solution project.
- Recommended the Town recognize environmentally significant UN awareness days.
- Initiated Town's participation in *Blue Dot Movement* (Commitment to recognizing environmental rights).
- Recommended Council support the Associations of Municipalities of Ontario lobby effort with respect to producer responsibility.
- Assisted in developing an Earth Month campaign with the Communications Division.
- Continued to focus on education awareness prevention and best practices for invasive species by:

- Invited a speaker from Ontario Invasive Plant Council.
- Initialized planning of an Invasive Species Awareness Campaign
- Provided a suggested list of tasks to LSRCA for their Summer Invasive Species Student.
- Total number of meetings in 2016: 8, including:
  - Joint meeting with Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee.
  - One cancelled meeting due to lack of Quorum.

C. Previous Committee Achievements, 2017:

- Representation at semi-annual regional Environmental Advisory Committee meetings.
- Recommended the purchase of waste receptacles to be dispersed throughout the Town.
- Recommended that the Town increase littering fines (with an adequate number of waste receptacles being available at facilities and parks).
- Recommended that the Town consider a Zero Waste Program, similar to Markham.
- Hosted a staff representative from Markham to provide overview of the Zero Waste Program.
- Continue to discuss hosting an Earth Hour and cooking event in the future.
- Total number of meetings in 2017: 7
  - Joint meeting with the Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee.
  - One cancelled meeting due to lack of quorum

D. Previous Committee Achievements, 2018:

- Requested the Communications Division implement a Spring Pollinator Education and Awareness Campaign.
- Referred an article exemplifying the City of Montreal's decision to ban plastic shopping bags.
- Referred the following communication items to Council and/or staff for informational purposes.
  - New Program Supporting Low-carbon Innovation for Industry,
  - Ontario Making it Easier to Charge Electric Vehicles
  - Ontario Continuing Fight Against Invasive Species
- Ordered earth week seedlings to distribute to residents.
- Invited Development Services to discuss a possible Community Energy Plan.
- Invited Brandon Stiles, Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation to provide insight with respect to the Chippewas of

- Georgina Island First Nation position on the Upper York Region Sewage Solution at the May meeting.
- Invited Kori Zsigmond, Environmental Safety Officer to present at the March meeting on *Understanding Water Testing for Lead in YCDSB Schools*.
- Received a presentation from a member who attended the viewing of *"Before the Flood"*, a documentary that touched on shared land with first nations and climate change action plan for Ontario.
- Total number of meetings in 2018:4

The Committee discussed potential initiatives for the current term, including:

- A Climate Emergency Policy or Plan
- A Greening and sustainability Plan
- A tree cutting by-law – that includes plan for carbon offset
- Continuing with some promotional initiatives, such as seedling give away.

Moved by Neil Comer, Seconded by Gary Heine

#### **RESOLUTION NO. GEAC-2019-0021**

That the Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee waive the rules of procedure to allow Mr. Hobe to re-address the Committee.

**Carried.**

Mr. Hobe raised concern about the recent occurrence of green algae in Pefferlaw.

The Committee asked for a follow regarding the occurrence of green algae in Pefferlaw.

Moved by Payne, Seconded by Mingram

#### **RESOLUTION NO. GEAC-2019-0022**

That the Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee receive the GEAC accomplishments from the previous term (2015 -2018).

**Carried.**

(10) 2020 Proposed Schedule

The Committee approved the following 2020 meeting dates:

January 27<sup>th</sup>  
February 24<sup>th</sup>  
April 27<sup>th</sup>  
May 25<sup>th</sup>  
June 22<sup>nd</sup>  
September 28<sup>th</sup>  
October 26<sup>th</sup>  
November 23<sup>rd</sup>

- 11. CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED - *None*
- 12. MOTION TO ADJOURN
  - (1) Next Meeting Next Meeting:  
Date: Monday, November 25, 2019  
Time: 7:00 PM

Moved by Gary Heine, Seconded by Lee Canavan

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC-2019-0023**

That the meeting adjourn at 8:26 PM.

**Carried.**



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Dave Neeson, Chair



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Sarah Elliott  
Committee Services Coordinator