

Agenda

Advisory Committee on the Environment

3rd Meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Environment

March 6, 2019, 12:15 PM

Committee Room #4

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1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest	
2. Scheduled Items	
2.1 12:15 PM G. Tucker, Communication Specialist - Communication of Environmental Topics and City Programs to the Public	2
3. Consent	
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December 19, 2018

P. McKague
Director, Strategic Communications and Community Engagement

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on December 18, 2018 resolved:

That, the following actions be taken with respect to the 1st Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment, from its meeting held on December 5, 2018:

a) the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to have a representative of the Communications Department attend the January or February 2019 meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) in order to review and demonstrate how the following environmental topics and city programs that relate to these topics are being communicated via the City of London website, as well as through other City of London communication vehicles:

- Pollinator Programs;
- Urban Agriculture Strategy;
- Resilience/Climate Change Preparation; and,
- Toilets Are Not Garbage Cans;

it being noted that these are all topics that the ACE has had an interest in during its term; and,

b) clauses 1.1, 2.1, 4.1 to 4.3, inclusive, 6.2 and 6.3, BE RECEIVED for information. (5.2/1/PEC)

C. Saunders
City Clerk
/lm

cc. Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on the Environment

Advisory Committee on the Environment

Report

2nd Meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Environment
February 6, 2019
Committee Room #4

Attendance PRESENT: S. Ratz (Chair), K. Birchall, M. Bloxam, S. Brooks, S. Hall, M. Hodge, L. Langdon, C. Lyons, D. Szoller and A. Tipping and J. Bunn (Secretary)

ABSENT: J. Howell and T. Stoiber

ALSO PRESENT: J. Ackworth, T. Arnos, G. Barrett, L. McDougall, J. Parsons and J. Stanford

The meeting was called to order at 12:16 PM.

1. Call to Order

1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

2. Scheduled Items

2.1 London as a Bee City

That the Civic Administration BE ADVISED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment recommends that a communication program be developed related to the Bee City implementation that would increase awareness for members of the public as well as between City of London departments; it being noted that the following items were received with respect to London as a Bee City:

- the attached presentation from L. McDougall, Ecologist Planner, entitled "Protecting and Enhancing Pollinator Habitat in London;
- a verbal delegation from A.M. Valastro;
- a verbal delegation from G. Barrett, Manager – Long Range Planning and Research;
- the resubmitted Memo, appended to the agenda, dated August 22, 2018, entitled "Responses to the ACE's Plight of the Pollinators and Bee City Recommendations (2014 and 2018)"; and,
- the update document, appended to the agenda, dated Summer 2018, entitled "City of London A Leader in Habitat and Pollinator Protection, Engagement and Creation Initiatives".

3. Consent

3.1 1st Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment

That it BE NOTED that the 1st Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment, from its meeting held on December 5, 2018, was received.

3.2 1st Report of the Transportation Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 1st Report of the Transportation Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on January 22, 2019, was received.

3.3 Municipal Council Resolution - 1st Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution, from its meeting held on December 18, 2018, with respect to the 1st Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment, was received.

3.4 Notice of Planning Application - Zoning By-law Amendment - 6682 Fisher Lane

That it BE NOTED that the Notice of Planning Application, dated January 24, 2019, from M. Sundercock, Planner I, with respect to a zoning by-law amendment for the property located at 6682 Fisher Lane, was received.

3.5 West London Dyke Erosion Control - Municipal Class Environmental Assessment - Notice of Study Completion

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Notice of Study Completion for the West London Dyke Erosion Control, from C. Gorrie and S. Bergman, Stantec Consulting Ltd., was received.

3.6 Thames Region Ecological Association Representative on the Advisory Committee on the Environment

That it BE NOTED that the communication dated December 4, 2018, from D. Szoller, Thames Region Ecological Association (TREA), with respect to the TREA representative on the Advisory Committee on the Environment, was received.

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

4.1 Energy and Built Sub-Committee Report

That the following actions be taken with respect to the Energy and Built Environment Sub-Committee Report dated January 2019:

a) the Civic Administration BE ADVISED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment recommends that the Discover Wonderland Environmental Assessment explore every possible avenue to avoid widening Wonderland Road to six lanes as there are a number of alternative methods that provide better traffic flow, improved options outside of driving ones own personal vehicle (public transit, cycling, walking, etc.), and proper access management; and,

b) the above-noted sub-committee report BE RECEIVED;

it being noted that verbal delegations from J. Ackworth, Transportation Design Technologist and J. Johnson, Dillon Consulting Limited, were received with respect to this matter.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1 Ice Management in Winter

That it BE NOTED that the submission dated January 28, 2019, from M. Bloxam as well as a verbal delegation from J. Parsons, Division Manager, Transportation and Roadside Operations, with respect to ice management in winter, were received.

5.2 The Precautionary Principle as it Applies to the City of London

That it BE NOTED that the ~~attached~~ hand out from K. Birchall with respect to the Precautionary Principle, was received; it being noted that there will be further discussion on this matter at the next meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Environment.

5.3 Revisiting a City Sustainability Office

That it BE NOTED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment held a general discussion with respect to a sustainability office in the City of London.

5.4 Current Recycling and Waste Diversion Efforts in the Downtown Core and the <https://getinvolved.london.ca/WhyWasteResource>

That it BE NOTED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment held a general discussion with respect to current recycling and waste diversion efforts in the Downtown core.

5.5 Advisory Committee Budget - 2019

That it BE NOTED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) held a general discussion with respect to the 2019 ACE budget and work plan.

6. Deferred Matters/Additional Business

6.1 (ADDED) Green Bin Program

That it BE NOTED that the submission, dated December 19, 2018, from J. Kogelheide, with respect to a Green Bin Program, was received.

6.2 (ADDED) Municipal Council Resolution - Bird-Friendly Development

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council Resolution, from its meeting held on January 29, 2019 and the staff report dated January 21, 2019, with respect to bird-friendly development, were received.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:28 PM.

Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

Report

1st Meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee
January 23, 2019
Committee Room #4

Attendance PRESENT: R. Mannella (Chair), T. Khan, J. Kogelheide, A. Meilutis, A. Morrison, M. Szabo, S. Teichert, R. Walker; and P. Shack (Secretary)

ABSENT: C. Haindl, C. Linton and G. Mitchell

ALSO PRESENT: A. Beaton, R. Cosby, J. Spence

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 PM.

1. Call to Order

1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

1.2 Election of Chair and Vice Chair for the term ending June 1, 2019

That the existing appointments of the Chair and Vice Chair for the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee BE EXTENDED to June 1, 2019, to coincide with the end of the current term.

2. Scheduled Items

None.

3. Consent

3.1 11th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 11th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on November 28, 2018, was received.

3.2 Municipal Council Resolution with respect to the recruitment and appointment of Advisory Committee members for the up coming term.

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution from its meeting held on November 20, 2018, with respect to the recruitment and appointment of Advisory Committee members for the up coming term, was received.

3.3 ReThink Zoning Draft Terms of Reference

That it BE NOTED that the ReThink Zoning Draft Terms of Reference, dated October 31, 2018, was received.

3.4 City of London Trees Website - J. Kogelheide

That it BE NOTED that the communication from J. Kogelheide, dated December 9, 2018, was received.

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

None.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1 1576 Richmond Street Project - A. Morrison

That it BE NOTED that the attached presentation from A. Morrison, with respect to the construction at the property located at 1576 Richmond Street, was received.

6. Deferred Matters/Additional Business

6.1 (ADDED) RFP 1903 Tree Inventory Update

That it BE NOTED the Trees and Forest Advisory Committee held a general discussion, with respect to RFP 1903, Tree Inventory Update and provided the following comment:

"the information that the City of London gathers may not be of good quality information to support the 2014 Urban Forestry Strategy due to the short timeline".

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:14 PM.



MEMO

February 7, 2019

To: Chair and Members of ACE
From: Jay Stanford, Director, Environment, Fleet & Solid Waste

Direction from Council to City staff on November 20, 2018 (via an ACE Recommendation)

That the following actions be taken with respect to recycling:

- a) the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to consider a voluntary commercial recycling reporting system similar to the Health Unit Dine Safe Program where businesses display signage indicating their recycling efforts including, but not limited to, what materials are being recycled; and,
- b) staff representatives responsible for the above-noted request BE IDENTIFIED to the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) and attend a future meeting of the ACE for further discussion.

Summary Response

- a) the Civic Administration (Solid Waste Management) has considered this request and determined it is not something that can be pursued at this time for the following reasons:
 - **There is no capacity within existing City staff resources for this project** – Work is required to research, develop, implement and/or verify recycling programs in businesses in London. A City-led program, similar to the DineSafe program lead by Middlesex London Health Unit (MLHU), is not as simple as just placing a notice in a window with the City of London logo on it (i.e., there would need to be evidence to support the accuracy of a statement that ‘this business recycles correctly’).
 - **The DineSafe program was reviewed.** It is described on the MLHU website as “a food safety program that provides the public with quick and easy access to the results of food safety inspections. Inspection results for restaurants and other food premises’ in the City of London or Middlesex County are provided. The results can be found by [searching DineSafe](#), or by looking at the [inspection summary signs](#) posted at the food premises”. The program can be accessed here: <https://www.healthunit.com/about-dinesafe>.
 - **Provincial laws already exist for recycling in business defined in Ontario Regulation 103/94. If laws are being broken, the authority rests with the Province.** The City of London does not have jurisdiction over recycling in businesses. Any concerns about a business recycling program or a business without a program would be determined by examining *Ontario Regulation 103/94*. This activity would be undertaken by the Provincial Government; not City staff.
 - **City staff could not find a comparable recycling awareness program in Ontario that could be borrowed for easy implementation in London.** Efforts to encourage more recycling are supported by City staff. There is evidence of vague information, perhaps misleading information or even wrong information; however it is unknown how problematic it is (i.e., how wide spread is “fake recycling”, a phrase listed on the ACE Agenda, November 7, 2018). There is also little information that businesses would be interested in placing an “inspection/ approval” notice, with City of London logo on it in a public location. However, creating a new program; adjusting an existing program; and the verification program to introduce accountability and scrutiny; would be time consuming.
 - **Recycling Council of Ontario (RCO) has a program in place called 3RCertified.** This is a comprehensive and verifiable program that recognizes excellence in waste reduction and diversion. It is a certification program designed for properties in the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sector that assesses and verifies operational solid waste reduction and diversion (website <http://3rcertified.ca/>). This is initiated by the business and paid for by the business.
 - **Council has recently assigned 21 actions to City staff (October 2018)** to achieve 60% waste diversion by the end of 2022. Recycling in businesses or at business locations, although very important, is not part of these actions.

- **Idea #1** - There is nothing preventing a business from promoting recycling programs and related matters to the general public right now. If they believe this would be an added value to their business activity, the business can explore opportunities directly with RCO.
- **Idea #2** - There is nothing preventing a local community group from developing, managing, registering and promoting companies that recycle properly and can be held accountable for their statements. For example; "blueW.org is a unique community-based program dedicated to promoting municipal tap water as a healthy, easily accessible alternative to purchasing bottled drinks. We provide mapped details on where to find clean, free, public and commercial sources to fill your reusable bottle without compelling you to make additional purchases - just look for the blueW.org decal in participating shop and restaurant windows." <http://www.bluew.org/>
- **Idea #3** - The City has supported the development and implementation of Green Economy London which will be officially launched in spring 2019. This represents an opportunity for businesses to verify and promote a number of environmental actions including waste diversion. For businesses that participate in this upcoming program, there may be a future opportunity for this type of positive recognition.

b) to assist ACE members (and as previously provided), Jay Stanford will serve as the ACE contact for solid waste matters including any future discussion on this matter. ACE can receive advice from City staff in a number of ways as they examine different matters dealing with solid waste.

Potential Action for ACE

- Form an ACE subcommittee and undertake further research on a project like this to scope and/or undertake the required work including roles and responsibilities, where comparable recycling awareness campaigns are offered, verification process, success of other programs, and barriers to implementation.
- Further examine the ideas presented above.

Green in the City Speaker Series

Final Report

Feb 24, 2019

By Susan Ratz, ACE

Organizers

- Advisory Committee for the Environment – City of London
- London Public Library
- City of London
- London Environmental Network (promotional support)

All sessions

6:30pm – Doors open

7:00 – 8:30 pm Presentations

Location – Stevenson & Hunt Room – Central Library

Tuesday, November 6th - Creating Health & Resilience with Soil

Presenter - Ruth Knight, Organic Soil Consultant & Agronomist, Co-Leader of Transition Erin Soil Health Coalition

Local Perspective – Jessica Robertson

Attendance - 30

Tuesday, November 13th – Bee-coming Pollinator Friendly – In Gardens & Across the City

Presenter – Victoria MacPhail – Pollination Guelph

Local Perspective/Updates:

Gabor Sass – Pollinator Pathway Project

Linda McDougall, Ecologist, Environmental and Parks Planning, Planning Services, City of London

Attendance - 35

Tuesday, November 20th – Down the Drain - Issues & Opportunities for our Lakes, Rivers and Toilets

Presenters:

Tom Cull – Thames River Rally – Local river pollution.

Barry Orr – City of London – Challenges with non-flushables.

Attendance - 35

Tuesday, November 27th – Food Waste in London – What's Happening & How to Fix It

Presenters:

Paul van der Werf President and Owner of 2cg; PhD candidate Department of Geography, Western University

Jay Stanford, City of London

Attendance - 40

Tuesday, December 4th – Community Energy Action Planning – What You Can Do to Address The Impacts of Climate Change

Presenters:

Karen Farbridge, former Mayor of Guelph / CEAP Consultant

Jamie Skimming & Jay Stanford, City of London

(Additional presenter to be confirmed closer to)

Attendance – 75 (The LEN AGM was held before this workshop, many AGM guests also attended this workshop)

Total Attendance for the Series - 215

Contributions / Budget

ACE Contributions

- Coordination of sessions & partnerships
- Members took turns moderating sessions
- Speaker Payments & Honorariums – Total \$775

Library Contributions

- Meeting room & coordination support
- Promotional support – Listing in ACCESS magazine, social media, poster, postcards
- On hand at each session to assist with introductions / facilitate room access

City Contributions

- All speaker expenses/honorariums related to the Food Waste and Community Energy sessions
- \$300 contribution to LEN for promotional support
- Social media and e-news support

Notes / Recommendations

- The collaboration between the organizations involved was very good.
- The format of having a topic speaker with a general or broader perspective as well as a local perspective was very good.
- Continue format of 5 weeks of presentations to create a series. (The library has tentatively booked dates for Nov/Dec 2019)
- Most people arrive 5 minutes before or up to 10 minutes after the presentation begins.
- Displays – Unless there is a hook to arrive early, displays were looked at after the workshop ended which is a relatively short window of about 30 minutes before the library closes at 9pm. Adjusting times and/or finding ways to increase mingling to be considered if doing displays.
- Look for ways to inspire individuals to take action after attending a workshop.
- Consider doing a survey of attendees (half page)
- When choosing topics, also give thought to when topics will be presented during the series. I.e. Potentially more 'popular' topics at first and last sessions

London: Precautionary Principle

The concept of the Precautionary Principle evolved (and continues to do so) first in Europe we are told. Multiple UN and EU sources have pointed to it first coming into being in the late 1850s and is attributed to persons deciding that they were not going to wait for further evidence that cholera was being spread via water distribution methods in use at the time.

For myself a short hand description is that when facing a decision, if there is a risk of negative outcomes, the possibilities have to be fully investigated and risk evaluated.

A 2013 Canadian Federal Government document titled: A Framework for the Application of Precaution in Science-based Decision Making about Risk (Framework) reads as follows:

The application of “precaution”, “the precautionary principle” or “the precautionary approach” recognizes that the absence of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing decisions where there is a risk of serious or irreversible harm.

The application of precaution is distinctive within science-based risk management and is characterized by three basic tenets: the need for a decision, a risk of serious or irreversible harm and a lack of full scientific certainty”¹

The idea behind the framework is that if you have your decisions guided by protection against risk of harm to the environment. Better to be safe than sorry is an equally applicable short form descriptor. It is a concept still being refined however, its use by municipalities has resulted in Supreme Court of Canada support in preserving a bylaw that prohibited the use of certain plant control chemicals in Quebec in a case reported as *Spraytech v Hudson (Town)*²

The major issue from that case that needs to be remembered is that the finding recognized the precautionary principle’s underlying purpose in International and Domestic law. They upheld a pesticide ban that was based on a reasonably held suspicion and not on a final determination after years of study. A city has the power to make changes without waiting on the Federal or Provincial government to take steps, provided they insure they are not in direct conflict with existing regulations.

I wanted to ask this committee to examine the interplay with City decision making and the Precautionary Principle as it currently exists in your opinion. My suggested subheading to this topic:

How is the Sustainable Purchasing framework within the City Procurement of Goods & Services Policy being measured currently?

My request to ACE. Please do some reading, I will circulate further materials by email including this one. Come in March prepared for a debate and vote on this.

¹ A Framework for the Application of Precaution in Science-based Decision Making about Risk (Framework), available at www.who.int/ifcs/documents/forums/forum5/precaution_e.pdf4

²Case: <https://www.canlii.org/en/ca/scc/doc/2001/2001scc40/2001scc40.pdf> Analysis: www.dragun.ca/precautionary-principle-and-canadian-environmental-law