



**Meeting
Environmental Advisory Committee
January 10, 2018, 6:00 p.m.**

The following were in attendance:

Council: Angie Desmarais
Barbara Butters

Staff: Derek Hemauer
Janice Peyton

Public Members: George McKibbon
Beth Palma
Clayton Nadeau
Patti Stirling
Jack Hellinga
Tim Hoyle

1. Call to Order

Chair Beth Palma called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by George McKibbon
Seconded by Patti Stirling

That the agenda dated January 10, 2018 be accepted as circulated.
CARRIED.

3. Introduction of new Committee Member

Beth introduced new committee member Clayton Nadeau. Clayton possesses a Bachelor of Science (Hons.) in Agriculture with additional courses in hydrology and soil science, and is educated as an Environmental Technician. Clayton is employed as a Waste Water System Operator at the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

4. Disclosures of Interest

Nil.

5. Approval / Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Moved by Jack Hellinga
Seconded by Patti Sterling

That the minutes of November 8, 2017 be accepted as presented.
CARRIED.

6. Items Arising from Previous Minutes

a) Recycle Bins

Derek advised that he is working on spring installations of recycle bins at Clarence Street and West Street and coordinating with the landscape design plan for the Library for a future recycle bin placement after design improvements.

b) “No Littering” signs on trails

Derek advised that he is waiting to hear about other sign size options. Derek will attend the next Active Transportation Committee meeting with regard to coordination of signage.

c) Boulevard Trees

There was no new information reported from committee members on this issue. Angie advised that Councillors have been invited to attend the NPCA tree-planting program. Angie said that she will raise this issue at every opportunity, at budget in February and at the upcoming Strategic Planning sessions. Jack commented that the new subdivisions in Welland allow trees on boulevards and the same in Stevensville also. All agreed that it is time to revisit this issue.

d) Community Shred-it Day/E Waste Day

Patti will continue to work on this as an Earth Day event. Earth Day this year is April 22, 2018. Earth Week is April 22-28, 2018. Locations suggested were at the Farmer’s Market or at the Health and Wellness Centre, the Health and Wellness Centre would be more favourable with respect to available parking, perhaps other Earth Day related attractions will be added as well. Derek will speak to the Director of Community Services for Saturday April 28th.

e) Air Quality

George will be meeting with Environment Hamilton (Lynda Lukasik) on Friday January 12th. He will bring questions/answers and the machine back to the committee.

George advised that on March 5, the conference “Clean Air Happens” will take place in Hamilton. George will get the particulars out to anyone who would like to attend. There is a free Sunday afternoon event that will fill up quickly.

f) NPCA Questions

Janice advised that Kerry has offered to arrange to have an NPCA guest to one of our meetings to field any questions about the Conservation Authorities Act and the new wetland conservation document. All were in favour of inviting an NPCA guest to the next meeting. Janice will advise Kerry to arrange for an NPCA guest at the next meeting.

g) Response from Planning Regarding the Wetland Protection and Biodiversity Offsetting Paper

Nil.

h) 2018 Budget

Further to the discussion at the November 8th meeting regarding low flow toilet rebates, all members in attendance were in agreement to change the flush capacity requirements to 5L or less as there were not many options for toilets with a flush capacity of 4L or less. The tree rebate program was discussed. Barb wants to be sure that the balance remaining of the tree rebate program budget is carried over to 2018. For future EAC budgets, Jack suggested funds be requested for natural wetland treatments for municipal drains, Jack thought that \$5,000. -\$10,000 would cover municipal drain plantings. Much more discussion/preparation is needed, Angie suggested dedicating an EAC meeting specifically to this item, perhaps invite someone to speak on this issue, Jack and Clayton had suggestions for speakers.

i) Drain Improvements

Derek advised that he has spoken to the Drainage Superintendent about this issue and Barb advised that this has been discussed at the Great Lakes Mayor’s Conference. Farmland is not included under the Drainage Act. The committee feels that buffering along the sides of farmland and planting in stilling areas is required to protect

the drains, however the question is....who is responsible?. Clayton commented that some municipalities provide incentive to farmers to be a certain distance away from the drains. Angie and Derek will look into this further.

j) Wyldewood Road Drainage

Derek advised that drainage staff have been on site to check the drain and be sure that it is clear. Barb added that the east side of Firelane 13 is very swampy.

7. New/Other Business

a) Protecting Water for Future Generations

Jack provided a notice of consultation on the Provincial Greenbelt Plan by email for information and so they could provide comments if they wanted. There is a 90-day open invitation for comments on the plan.

8. Next Meeting/Adjourn

The next meeting will be on March 14, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.