



## Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Minutes

October 4, 2023, 7:00 p.m.  
Hybrid Meeting  
Whitby Town Hall

Present: Wenda Abel  
Sara Best, Vice-Chair  
Andrea Cecchetto  
Anahita Jami  
Brian Kelly  
Patti Mavins  
Catherine Philogene  
Bryan Widner, Chair

Regrets: Robynne Dunn  
Janet Dignem

Also Present: Councillor Lundquist, Mayor's Designate  
Sarah Shields, Staff Liaison, Project Manager, Sustainability and  
Climate Change  
Heather Ellis, Council and Committee Coordinator (Recording  
Secretary)

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1. Call to Order
2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Recommendation:

Moved by Sara Best

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of September 6, 2023 be approved.

## **Carried**

### **4. Presentations**

There were no presentations.

### **5. Delegations**

There were no delegations.

### **6. General Business and Reports**

#### **6.1 Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Annual Report**

Bryan Widner advised that the draft Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Annual Report would be presented for review at the Committee's November meeting. He further advised that the final draft would be approved by the Committee during the Committee's December meeting.

Sarah Shields provided a copy of a previous Annual Report for the Committee to review.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- assigning sections of the Annual Report to Members for review;
- attaching the Committee's Work Plan;
- including a list of presentations received by the Committee in 2023;
- an overview of the Committee's achievements in 2023; and,
- determining actionable items and areas of focus for 2024.

#### **6.2 Project Planning and Work Plan**

Bryan Widner requested feedback from the Committee regarding areas of focus for project planning and the Work Plan. Mr. Widner advised that several Members expressed interest in tree planting and vegetation management as well as planting sustainable species. He stated that additional key priorities included establishing compost pick-up for multi-residential buildings, and education pertaining to climate change, sustainability, natural ground cover, and invasive species management.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the United Nations (UN) recommendations for managing climate change;
- creating a framework for the Work Plan that models the 'One Planet Living Principles' framework; and,
- aligning the Committee's goals and actions to the Town's Community Strategic Plan, Sustainability Plan, and Council Goals; and,
- establishing a deadline for Members to submit their project and Work Plan ideas.

### 6.3 2023 Sustainability Events

Waste Reduction Week - October 16 - 22, 2023

Sarah Shields advised that several events were planned for October 21, 2023 in celebration of Waste Reduction Week including a Waste-Themed Family Storytime and Craft, Repair Cafe, Community Swap, and Drop off Difficult-to-Recycle Waste event.

## 7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

## 8. Council Update

Councillor Lundquist requested that the Committee provide feedback on opportunities regarding environmental issues that come before Council.

## 9. Other Business

### 9.1 Posting Information Regarding Sustainability

Wenda Abel suggested that URL links be included in the Town's media releases and social media posts for residents to access additional information regarding the Town's sustainability initiatives and activities. Ms. Abel used a recent example, 'Help Choose Whitby's Official Tree Survey', to offer suggestions for future media releases.

### 9.2 Sustainability Updates

Sarah Shields provided updates regarding:

- the Emergency Preparedness Survey launch; and,
- the Committee's annual budget.

10. Next Meeting

Wednesday, November 1, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Recommendation:

Moved by Brian Kelly

That the meeting adjourn.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.