



Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee

Minutes

October 7th, 2024

6:30 pm

Erin Town Hall, lower-level meeting room / Zoom

Present: John Brennan, Abel Page, Martin Rudd, Mikaela Pagotto, Jen Edwards, Chris Tynan, and Emma Tynan.

Absent: Christina Green, Sarbpreet Bopairai, Gavin Dandy, and Valerie Chhokar

1. Call to Order

The chair called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

Carried

2. Approval of Agenda

Approved by John Brennan

Seconded by Martin Rudd

Carried

3. Declaration Pecuniary Interest

None

4. Adoption of Minutes of September 9th, 2024

Moved by Abel Page

Seconded by Martin Rudd

Carried

5. Business Items

5.1 Strategic plan and green community standards

- Town focus group workshop discussion
 - Town organized focus group sessions with the intention to receive comments/suggestions for the Strategic Plan to move forward with community consultation
 - Plan consists of 5 main pillars with lists of priorities within each pillar
 - Discussed problem/suggestions > what is the action to rectify the problem
 - Next phase:
 - Website been launched by the Town (shared by Abel through email) that includes a number of surveys on different topics including the Strategic Plan

- Strategic Plan Open House: this Wednesday October 9, 4 to 8pm at the Legion - interactive survey voting on priorities of the Plan
- NO update on the green standard from John Brennan

5.2 Greenhouse inventory update

- Chris has been in contact with the County
 - County has provided data up to 2021
 - Trends in the data look to be very similar to 2017
 - Has not been able to correlate the information yet
- Extra support needed
 - Emma to support
 - Email to be sent to the committee looking for further support

5.3 Communication update social media and website

- No update - Valerie is absent
 - Emma sent Valerie some information and suggested organization of the website
- Meeting minutes not public - when Justin Grainger is back, John Brennan will look with him to get ours up there

5.4 Green directory

- Erin green businesses for the directory complete
 - 1 farm is sold and renamed, otherwise everything is the same
- John Brennan spoke with Marina about adding a green category to business directory
 - businesses do not have to be limited to Erin, as long as it is a feasible distance/reasonable access for Erin residents
 - Mikaela and Emma will continue adding to the business list
 - Jurisdiction scan of Orangeville, Guelph, and Georgetown and notify John Brennan when it is ready to be uploaded to the website
- 3 grants – still looking for more
 - Both green directory and list of grants to be added to the website once complete

5.5 Water in Erin

- Nothing new to update
 - Triton dropped off a report shows same practices as usual
 - They report that they take any more than 20-30% of the water permitted to
 - No history of issues with monitoring and reporting

5.6 Event booth – Fall Fair & Earth Day 2025

- Earth Day – deciding if Earth Day will be with the organizers of the Home Show, alternatively we host separate around Earth Day or in June (with community clean-up still in April)
- Discuss in future meetings feasibility of Fall Fair for next year – ie including something in the bags that get handed out
- Discuss in future meetings what events we will/should attend throughout the year – create a calendar
- Booth kit – to be discussed in future meetings (November or January)
 - Price a booth kit
 - What is required
 - How many volunteers required at each event
 - How do we update it – how often, associated cost
 - Budget for the kit? Approximately \$1250
 - Banners
 - Posters
 - Tablecloth
 - Tent
 - Table
 - Tablecloth
 - Fees for booths at certain events
 - Game board (ie word match, spin the wheel)
 - Reprinting materials (ie fall fair 1000 bags to be handed out)

5.7 Other initiatives

- White Paper for Council – how do we reach out/communicate more effectively (tbd)
 - What should they be thinking about
 - Set an internal timetable by September (each year) with a list of things council should do with a dollar figure for each
 - Vote for Town budget – Occurs in December, meeting start in November
 - TO DO: White Paper for November 11th – Abel and Mikaela
 - Town wants to implement green community standards
 - Suggest having a dedicated person or exploring opportunities to share a person with another community
- Social gathering for committee members – no update, Justin Grainger away
- Approach CAO and Director of Planning from ESAC point of view to talk about items we don't have time to do here (using strong ideas/data/information) and/or invite them to one of our meetings

- John Brennan to organize this
- Discussed considering who would we like to invite to our meetings in the new year and creating a calendar to organize
- Work as a team to be more effective – attendance, follow through on work, meaningful and effective topics
 - Formalize our committee process
 - Meeting minutes – details and action items
 - Create a detailed work plan/calendar to be shared with the team

6. Other Business

- Budget
 - Turtle signs (\$170)
 - Asking for \$500 from the budget – we have a credit of \$330
 - Martin keeping the \$330 from turtle signs and using it to buy 50 more
 - \$1000 for Earth Day
 - \$1250 from budget
 - Town is managing and replenishing the clean-up kits (\$0)
 - School grant - \$500
 - **TOTAL - \$3250 – drawing \$1230 from the reserve**

Abel Page moving this budget

Chris Tynan seconding

All in favour (all in presence)

Carried

7. Date of Next Meeting (November 11th, 2024)

8. Adjournment

That the meeting be adjourned at 7:54PM.

Moved by Martin Rudd

Seconded by Abel Page

Carried