



**CORPORATION OF THE
MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH GRENVILLE**

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

No 4

Monday, April 22, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Held in Meeting Room 1, 285 County Road 44

Pages

A. Open Meeting

B. Land Acknowledgment

The Municipality of North Grenville acknowledges that the Municipality operates on the territory of the Anishnabek.

We recognize all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples who now call North Grenville their home. We respect and support the need for cultivating a strong relationship, and we commit to Indigenous-informed decision making to foster the path towards reconciliation.

C. Approval of the Agenda

D. Disclosure of Interest

E. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. Committee Meeting Minutes - March 25, 2024

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F. Delegations

1. RB Heating - Rick Buffham - Heat Pumps

G. Decision Items

1. EAAC Representative - Mayor's Task Force on Clean Technology
2. Terms of Reference

H. Correspondence/Information Items/Reports

1. Water Security Update
2. Tree Canopy/Site Alteration
3. Habitat Garden Update
4. Ontario Government - Blue Box
5. Naturalized Communities/Municipal Publicity

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I. Other Business

1. Items for Next Meeting
 - 1.1 QuantoTech Solutions Ltd.

J. Public Questions

K. Adjournment



Corporation of The Municipality of North Grenville

Environmental Action Advisory Committee Meeting No. 3

Draft Minutes

March 25, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Municipal Office Meeting Room 1

Present

Co-Chair John Palmer (virtual)
Co-Chair Councillor Kristin Strackerjan
Fred Schueler
Nadia Diakun-Thibault
Mayor Nancy Peckford (virtual)
Peter Fredrichs
Sasha Honsl

Absent

Philip Frederick Fry (regrets)

Staff Present

Mike Finley, Director of Public Works
Cheryl Fequet, Public Works Coordinator

Members of the Public

None

A. Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Kristin Strackerjan at 6:12p.m.

B. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

The Municipality of North Grenville acknowledges that the Municipality operates on the territory of Anishnabek.

We recognize all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples who now call North Grenville their home. We respect and support the need for cultivating a strong relationship, and we commit to Indigenous-informed decision making to foster the path towards reconciliation.

C. Approval of Agenda:

EAAC-2024-09

Moved By: Nadia Diakun-Thibault

Seconded By: Sasha Honsel

Repository for Committee Documents to be added under Section H
Correspondence/Information Items/Reports.

That the agenda be accepted as amended.

Carried

D. Disclosure of Interest

None

E. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

EAAC-2024-10

Moved By: Sasha Honsel

Seconded By: Nadia Diakun-Thibault

That the meeting minutes of February 26, 2024, be approved as presented.

Carried.

F. Delegations

None

G. Decision Items

None

H. Correspondence/Information Items/Reports

Councillor Kristin Strackerjan advised members that the Terms of Reference for the Mayor's Task Force on Clean Technology have been approved by Council. There will be a call for a representative from the EAAC to be on the Task Force.

Members will include Mayor Nancy Peckford, Councillor Deb Wilson, 4 members of Community and Economic Development Advisory Committee (CEDAC), 1 member of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee (ARAAC), 1 member of Environmental Action Advisory Committee (EAAC) and 3 community members.

H.1. Water Security

Peter Fredrichs has been making good progress meshing the data available into the framework. Data is from the annual reports.

Committee members discussed at length the direction, the outcome, and concerns of this project. The project needs to fall within the scope of the committee's terms of reference.

Discussion on the various documents and plans already available and/or being prepared by various agencies such as the Municipality's Water Servicing Masterplan and the RVCAs Source Water Projection Plan. These documents provide insight on the future of water quality within the municipality. The impacts of climate change need to be addressed.

H.2 Committee Terms of Reference

Committee feels the Terms of Reference (ToR) are outdated and need to be revised. Members are to review the ToRs, share amongst committee via email and provide suggested changes at the next meeting.

H.3. Indigenous Trails within North Grenville

The naming of Indigenous Trails within North Grenville is within the realm of the Indigenous Advisory Circle. The EAAC is not involved in this project.

H..4. Tree Canopy

Many aspects of the tree canopy topic were raised such as:

- Definition
- What needs to be saved?
- Types of trees being cut
- What you can tell people to do with their land
- Site alteration
- Differences in urban areas and rural areas
- Tree planting programs
- Emerald ash bore

A fulsome conversation is required as this is a big topic with many components. Tree canopy/site alteration will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

H.5. Habitat Garden

Nadia Diakun-Thibault provided an updated on the Habitat Garden project with the Oxford on Rideau Grade 6 class. Things are progressing very well as seedlings are growing. Some water testing has been completed and will be doing some more.

Students need the dimensions of the pavilion and roof area to determine their rain barrel requirements.

A concern was raised regarding the requirements for ongoing support of the habitat garden. The garden itself will flourish on its own but the municipality will need to manage it. Municipality needs to move towards getting native plants on all the roadsides within the municipality.

Committee wants publicity and media attention when the plants flower.

The School Board wants to create a manual outlining the process to create a habitat garden that can be taken to other schools to grow the program.

What financial support does the school need?

H.6. Repository for Committee Documents

Members have requested a repository for documents as a lot of emails are generated and they need a place to house all the documents. The site needs to have a private side as well as a public side. Links to the site can be put on the municipal website.

Every advisory committee has a page on the municipal website for their use. The Comms team is looking into the availability of the website as a repository as well as establishing a process for uploading documents to the website.

I. Other Business

I.1 Items for Next Meeting

Water security update
Tree canopy/site alteration
Terms of Reference
Habitat Garden

J. Public Questions

None.

K. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is April 22, 2024.

Committee Agenda Report

Committee Name: Environmental Action

Meeting Date: 22 April

Submitted By: fred schueler

TOPIC: naturalized communities/municipal publicity

GOAL: *to demonstrate that areas currently under lawn can be converted to biodiverse carbon-sequestering stands of native tree/shrub/herb/invertebrate forest, with lessons in control of invasive species in adjacent areas.*

BACKGROUND: *Crozier Park contains large areas of lawn surrounded by brushy fencerows which contain many Buckthorns and other invasive woody species. Miyawaki-style mini-forests are “a collaboration of living creatures both intricate and mysterious — microbes, fungi, shrubs, ground- covers. In turn, this assemblage attracts insects, birds and mammals in a merry mashup of collegiality... giving rise to a tiny, forested revolution in cities across the world, including several in Canada... the densely planted forests are perhaps the size of a tennis court, ...but these minuscule forests are mighty, containing hundreds of plants, each striving to get its share of sun and rain.” - <https://canadiangeographic.ca/articles/the-many-benefits-of-the-minuscule-but-mighty-miyawaki-forests/>*

Some of us in the habitat gardening group suggest that a Miyawaki-style mini-forest in the shape of a Maple leaf – visible from space and on Google maps – be planted on one of the lawn expanses in Crozier Park, with control of the Buckthorns and other invasives in the adjacent fencerows, and publicity about the Miyawaki method, the diversity of species in a mature forest, and the depleted state of biodiversity in the plantations and wind-seeded woods in eastern Ontario. It’s important to emphasise these subjects as our Ash trees are being decimated by the Emerald Ash Borer, with subsequent invasion by Buckthorns, and global warming makes it advisable for cold-intolerant species to move north.

HOW DOES THIS RELATE TO THE COMMITTEE: This would continue the committee’s concern with native plant biodiversity, the lack of such diversity in large areas of lawns, and invasive plant species.

HOW DOES THIS RELATE TO THE COUNCIL WORKPLAN: *This project would be “green & growing” on municipal land, and would provide an example for such emulation of the municipal model by other land holders.*

OUTCOME: Joint study of this idea by municipal staff and the Habitat Gardeners group.