

Environment Committee Minutes

Tuesday February 20, 2024 Lighthouse River Centre - 7:00 pm.

Members Present

Phil Taber (Chair) John Blenis Blair Boudreau Laura Myers
Pam McKenzie (Vice Chair) Marshall Fowler Councilor Karin Boye Jean Northrup

Staff Present

Arthur McCarthy – Director, PLED
Bailey Brogan – Assistant Planner/Development Officer

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Phil Taber, interim Chair at 7:04 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Pam McKenzie and seconded by Councilor Boye to approve the agenda.

Motion Carried

3. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2024

Interim Vice Chair, Pam McKenzie called for nominations for the 2024 Environment Committee Chairperson. John Blenis nominated Phil Taber; Phil accepted the nomination. Councilor Boye nominated Laura Myers; Laura respectfully declined the nomination.

Phil Taber was elected 2024 Environment Committee Chairperson by acclimation.

Chair, Phil Taber called for nominations for the 2024 Environment Committee Vice Chair. Laura Myers nominated Pam McKenzie; Pam accepted the nomination.

Pam McKenzie was elected 2024 Environment Committee Vice Chair by acclamation.

4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

5. Approval of Minutes: October 17, 2023

Moved by Councilor Boye and seconded by John Blenis to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2023 meeting.

Motion Carried

Marshall Fowler inquired whether the Chair may vote on a motion in regard to a vote that took place at the October 17, 2023 meeting. Staff will contact the clerk to provide interpretation of the procedural by-law to clarify this matter.



6. Old Business:

a) Action Plan for Environment Committee

Staff reviewed the Environment Committee Action Plan and highlighted initiatives that were started by the Committee in 2023 such as:

- EV Charging Action Plan
- 2023 National Climate League Standings Report
- Review of Hampton's Stormwater Management Guidelines
- Battery Recycling

Phil Taber mentioned that light pollution was also discussed in 2023 and he will provide some examples of provisions for consideration in the zoning by-law for light pollution later this year.

The Committee discussed opportunities to work with local groups (KWRC, HRAA, SNB Wood Co-op, JDI) to plant trees. Staff indicated they could gather information on suitable municipally owned planting sites and on any tree planting work Hampton is planning. Phil Taber suggested this item be added to the agenda at the next meeting to determine the Committee's goals for tree planting.

Laura Myers has been in contact with Beth Pollock on volunteering to give a public presentation on Energy Efficiency. Laura requested suggestions on a venue for the presentation.

Moved by Jean Northrup and seconded by Pam McKenzie that Laura Myers further investigate organizing public information sessions on energy efficiency.

Motion Carried

b) Robertson Road Dumpsite – update from Council Meeting February 13, 2024

Staff displayed the information on the former Robertson Road dumpsite provided by the Department of Environment and Local Government (DELG) which included a site assessment report, water quality sampling results and site closure report. The Committee discussed the information provided and shared concerns regarding the location of two water samples being upstream of the dumpsite, lack of sampling for hydrocarbons, and residential development near the site since this assessment has been completed. Based on sampling presented by HRAA Representative, John Blenis, at the October 17, 2023 meeting showing high manganese and the site closure recommendation that indicated "Other", the Committee was interested in contacting DELG to discern whether there are plans for future assessment.

Moved by John Blenis and seconded by Jean Northrup to recommend that Council request plans from the Department of Environment and Local Government for further monitoring (groundwater, surface water) to address the potential levels of pollution at the Robertson Road Dumpsite given the risks that have been identified in the report by Dillon Consulting in 2001 and sampling presented to the Committee on October 17, 2023.

Motion Carried



Stormwater Management Review Guidelines - Update

Staff reviewed actions that have been completed to date and advised that a memo will be forwarded to Council with recommendations on updates to the Stormwater Management Guidelines.

c) National Climate League

Laura Myers provided an update to the Committee on the 2023 submission to the National Climate League. The submission was completed in January with the help of Staff. New to the reporting this year was an opportunity to highlight specific initiatives completed by communities to be shown as a case study in the final report. Laura submitted information on Hampton's work on the Mayor's Monarch Pledge. Laura will provide a presentation to the Committee when the results of the National Climate League Standings are published.

d) Hampton Battery Recycling

Laura Myers provided update on the Call to Recycle program initiated by the Environment Committee and led by previous Environment Committee member Chris Rendell. Hampton has received recognition as a Leader in Sustainability for collecting 1,233 kg of batteries in 2023. Marshall Fowler suggested battery boxes be placed at another commercial location (Titusville General Store), to which John Blenis volunteered to reach out. Other commercial locations suggested were the Nauwigewuak Firehall and Barnesville store.

Moved by Laura Myers and seconded by Pam McKenzie to forward the Leader in Sustainability award to Council and request that it be shared in the community newsletter. Motion Carried.

7. Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for March 19, 2024

a. New agenda items for next meeting

Phil Taber requested to add the EV Action Plan to the agenda for the March meeting. Phil will send the EV Action Plan to the Committee a week before the meeting for discussion at the meeting.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Pam McKenzie to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm.

Phil Taber – Chair

Bailey Brogan – Staff Representative