

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM C  
MINUTES**

**Present:** C. Oakes (Chair) L. Renzetti  
A. Baron A. Mason  
L. Todd V. Capmourteres  
A. Singh M. Wilson

**Regrets:** A. Miller

**City:** A. Labbe, A. Nix, M. Myhill

**Delegates:** Hugh Whiteley  
Laura Murr

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

**2. Call and Certification of Quorum**

Attendance was noted and a quorum was declared.

**3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest**

None

**4. Introduction of new member – Angela Mason**

**5. Review of Process and Procedures**

- A. Nix and A. Labbe provided a presentation to refresh committee members of processes and procedures
- Reviewed background of the Environmental Advisory Committee – history, purpose, and role as well as core mandate
- Reviewed legislative hierarchy in Ontario
- Reviewed the planning process
- Terms of reference for an EIS
  - EAC's role is to provide advice regarding the scope of proposed studies/field programs
- Committee members discussed and asked for clarification around some of the procedures, including motions
- Colin – TOR are too vague and limits ability to provide advice at that stage and then brings more conflict to EIS stage – budgets based on TOR

**Natural Heritage Action Plan (NHAP)**

- A. Nix and A. Labbe introduced the Natural Heritage Action Plan
- The NHAP will identify and prioritize the development of additional resources (studies, guidelines and implementation tools) and recommendations which serve to implement the policies and objectives found within the Official Plan.
- The Committee will informed of the work plan moving forward
- Reviewed NHAP themes and topic areas
- Reviewed timing and next steps

**Hearing of delegates:****Hugh Whiteley**

- Concerns about the NHAP as the main document governing subwatershed planning – not always just a subwatershed plan, it is about all city policies (i.e. development)
- Concerns about suggestion that water protection is just within natural heritage – far beyond this
- No mention of social side – greenbelt expansion, province will implement policies, getting people to experience rivers, etc.
- Concerns around not properly aligning this with other City department master plans
- No open space master plan which was core land use plan prior
- No action taken on monitoring plans (e.g. Hanlon Creek) need to assemble group to review these plans
- Recover funds set aside for a community monitoring program for Torrance Creek to establish current state of surface water
- Emphasis should be given to prioritizing a list of restoration areas and major gaps
- Consider EAC mandate expansion

**Laura Murr**

- Concern around funding for follow up work – plans are promising, but no action taken for following up
- Concerns around gap between parks and recreation, and protection between natural heritage areas – these areas all seen as recreation areas when they are natural heritage areas
- Need to protect what we have without too much encroachment
- Need to consider where we provide spaces for people
- Stormwater ponds – although not intended for wildlife, they are significant habitat that need to be considered during remediation – policy needed for this
- Neglect to follow up with many past strategies and need to ensure we protect these areas in the future
- Use public efforts to get rid of invasive species
- Leash free enclosed area needed for City

**EAC Discussion:**

- London has good guideline for developing trails in significant areas
- Baseline analysis – public will be great resource in capturing what was and knowing where things were – this will help facilitate restoration process
- Look at policy which would not allow stormwater management dry facility to become a wet facility

**Moved by L. Todd and seconded by V. Capmourteres**

**The environmental advisory committee recommends the city consider the following in the preparation of the NHAP:**

- **That the City develop a guideline for trail development in significant natural areas;**
- **That during the public consultation process that city staff take part in events and go to citizens rather than expect citizens to come to City Hall;**
- **That to best protect the natural heritage system a low priority be placed on the retrofit of existing dry SWM facilities into wet facilities and that water quality objectives be met through source controls, conveyance controls and more environmentally sensitive end of pipe facilities;**
- **That priority be placed on the completion/update of subwatershed studies;**
- **That the restoration plan look for opportunities beyond the identified restoration areas including the removal of private and public infrastructure;**
- **Recognize the need for integration with other City plans and departments; and**
- **Prioritize the development of the useful and adaptable natural heritage database that also includes adequate data management and data sensitivity plans.**

**Motion Carried  
-Unanimous-**

**6. Approval of Minutes from May 10, 2017.**

**Moved by L. Renzetti and seconded by A. Singh,**

**THAT the minutes from the May 10, 2017 meeting be approved as amended.**

**Motion Carried  
-6 moved, 2 abstained-**

**7. Correspondence & Information**

- 71 Wyndham – TOR came to November meeting and there will be joint meeting with RSAC on September 13, 2017
- Lowes Road application – reviewing in August meeting

**8. Other Business**

**9. Next Meeting – August 9, 2017.**

**10. Adjourn**

**Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm.**

**Moved by A. Baron and seconded by M. Wilson,**

**Motion Carried  
-Unanimous-**

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**CHAIRMAN**