



## **Burlington Sustainable Development Advisory Committee Meeting**

### **Minutes**

Date: March 21, 2018  
Time: 7:00 pm  
Location: Room 247, Level 2, City Hall

#### **1. Members Present:**

Tim Park (chair), Jim Feilders (vice-chair), Carolyn Barnes, Katie Rauscher, Herb Lewington, Bob Burchett, Mathew McAuley, Glenn Portch, Susan Mattine & Councillor Sharman

#### **2. Others Present:**

Lynn Robichaud (staff), Fleur Storace-Hogan (staff 7:00 – 8:00) & Gareth Williams (vol)

#### **3. Regrets:**

Herb Sinnock, Farzaneh Farahani, Chris Maynard, Jillian Gorbald, Hashem Hosseini-Mousavi, & Virginia Linaja

#### **4. Declarations of Interest:**

None.

#### **5. Presentation:**

New blue box processor – Region has awarded the contract to Canada Fibres. Plastic bags will now be accepted in April and all recyclables can be placed in clear or transparent bags. The Region is hoping that this will cut down on recyclables being blown away by wind. There are a lot more plastic materials in blue boxes compared to the past when it was more cans and bottles.

The Asian markets are putting limits on the amount of contamination that they will accept – 0.5%, which is extremely low. This results in some restrictions. For instance, plastic wrap that touches food will not be accepted, like milk bags. However produce bags and the outer milk bag will be accepted. Plastic over-wrap is also accepted (ie. wraps cases of bottles, etc.).

The new Waste Free Ontario Act supports the circular economy, taking into consideration the lifecycle of products – reduce, reuse and recycle. Focus is on producer responsibility. Those producing products will become responsible for it. This will also help to streamline the programs across Ontario, which causes confusion. In the future, there may be the potential that municipalities are no longer involved in processing recyclables.

Industry funding organizations like Tire Stewardship will wind up and will be replaced in the future.

Halton Region receives approximately \$4.3 million to offset the cost of the bluebox program, about 58% of program costs.

Food & Organic Waste Framework – The province is very interested in supporting anaerobic digestion to create biofuels and energy, however, it results in leftover digestate which still needs to be disposed of, unlike the current compost facility in Hamilton.

Halton Region supports the review of the building code for apartment buildings to support proper waste management facilities. New buildings sometimes lack the space to deal with waste. Halton staff review site plans to ensure waste can be properly managed – want residents to be able to dispose of all type of waste efficiently. Halton Region already services about 50% of apartment buildings and is planning to expand.

Stewardship Ontario has created a wind up plan but it wasn't supported by municipalities because it lacked a robust communication and community engagement strategy to support the changes to be implemented.

Halton's Solid Waste Management Strategy includes initiatives to help divert waste from the landfill. The Region has reached the limit where one new action can make a big change in the diversion rate. The new strategy will include short, medium and long term initiatives. A report is coming soon on the short term strategies. There will be a staff report on the medium and long term initiatives in 2019 with a public consultation component.

The residential diversion rate is currently 58.3% but can be affected by severe weather events – ie. increased waste following an ice storm and flood.

The Region has a contract with Hamilton to accept greencart waste for compost until 2020. Hamilton is considering anaerobic digestion options.

Some municipalities have adopted large carts for recycling (Toronto and Peel) but charge residents for waste containers (different sizes). People buy the cheaper/smaller garbage container and then hide waste in the larger recycling cart. Contamination has grown significantly in these areas – about 20%.

The Region is considering the potential for a mobile hazardous waste collection unit where they can move it from community to community. The County of Wellington has had success with this.

The Halton landfill opened in 1992 and was supposed to be full in 2012. But due to successful waste diversion programs, it is expected to stay open until 2045/46.

One new performance measures the Region may employ is the total amount of garbage that residents dispose of.

Action: Lynn to circulate copies of the presentations to SDC members.

## **6. Approval of Minutes:**

6.1 Approve minutes from meeting held February 28, 2018 (Tim)

Approved.

## **7. Regular Items:**

7.1 Updates from previous events

- a. McMaster Centre for Climate Change Spring Lecture – McMaster Innovation Park, Mar 6

Lynn provided a presentation on the city's plans to become a net carbon neutral community. Well attended event with lots of questions.

- b. Bay Area Climate Summit – RBG – Mar 7 (evening) & Mar 8 (daytime)

Mar. 7 – Sebastian Damm Wray from Denmark; spoke about some of Denmark's initiatives – active transportation, sustainable development, and innovation clusters.

Mar. 8 – Full day event to support the new Bay Area Climate Change Office at Mohawk with Hamilton and Burlington, supported with funding from province. The new partnership will be creating a Bay Area Action Plan on climate change using Burlington's Community Energy Plan and Hamilton's Climate Action Plan as a basis for the actions. The new BACCO will be modelled on BARC. Sandi Stride is the new executive director of the overall climate change centre at Mohawk and there are other offices including the Campus Carbon management office and the Industrial partnership office.

There is a survey that SDC members can complete – the link was included in the notes provided by Carolyn and Glenn.

## 7.2 Upcoming events/news (All)

- a. BurlingtonGreen Eco Film Festival – Central Library – Chasing Coral, Mar 21
- b. BurlingtonGreen AGM – Crossroads Centre, 1295 North Service Road – Mar 28
- c. Open House on new provincial natural heritage maps, Haber Community Centre, 7:00 – 8:00 pm – Apr 9
- d. BurlingtonGreen Community Clean-up Event – Apr 21
- e. Tuck Park Tree Planting Event – 1:00 – 4:00 pm – Apr 21
- f. BFASTransit – Annual Transit Users Forum – Seniors Centre, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm – Apr 21
- g. Project Escarpment Clean-up – Sheldon Creek – 10:00 am with BBQ to follow (in Hamilton – Punchbowl Market) – Apr 21
- h. SDC Library event, Urban Agriculture – Central Library, May 3

## 7.3 Council updates (Councillor Sharman)

Council considered the Official Plan on Monday – Supported to continue to final approval at Committee/Council.

901 Guelph Line – employment conversion has not been supported. Considered too far outside of the Burlington mobility hub; it is also located in the employment lands area/corridor.

## 7.4 Staff Updates (Lynn)

- a. Election rules – city policy  
Lynn provided some highlights on the policy and will circulate to the committee.
- b. SOER update – April meeting  
Lynn will make a presentation about updating the SOER at the next meeting
- c. Presentations – May, June - tbd  
It was suggested to approach the developers for the Solid Gold and Georgian Estates redevelopments to see if they would present

to the SDC COW about how their projects will be sustainable.

Action: Lynn to discuss with Leah and planners.

d. SDC Annual Report

Will be on the Committee of the Whole (of Council) agenda on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Action: Tim to confirm if he is delegating.

7.5 Business arising from the minutes (All)

None.

7.6 Awareness sub-committee update (Katie/Farzaneh)

Apparently Oshawa has developed a similar app to the one that is being created by the SDC: Action: Lynn to follow up the app to find more information.

Spring Library event – two speakers are confirmed.

SDC's April 21<sup>st</sup> Clean-up location will either be centennial bikeway near Appleby or Indian Creek in Aldershot.

The fall library event is tentatively booked for Sept 13<sup>th</sup> about tree care.

The new net zero carbon building at Mohawk College has been identified as a potential site visit for the fall.

7.7 Policy and Development subcommittee update (Herb/Jillian)

Glenn is now co-chair replacing Herb S.

Carolyn provided an overview of the Principles & Objectives at the meeting.

It has been proposed that the Committee of the Whole pilot a Consent agenda for development review comments. The comments will be circulated one week in advance of the COW meeting for committee members to review. Members will have the option to request the report be put on main agenda for questions/discussions if necessary before the vote takes place to approve the comments.

There is a public meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Art Gallery for the proposed development at the southeast corner of Brant & James. The Statutory meeting for the solid gold development is on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the same day as library event.

Guy and Tim met with Councillor Sharman to discuss timing of comments; OP comments; and the pending response on the SDC's comments on the downtown policies.

Chris is reviewing the development proposal on New Street just west of Guelph Line

Reviewed the draft pamphlet to be used for pre-consultation meeting with developers.

A presentation was made by Jim on the tree canopy.

## 7.8 Reports from external groups and conferences

### a. Community Energy Plan ([burlington.ca/CEP](http://burlington.ca/CEP)) (Herb/Lynn)

Recent meetings with the CEP Engagement task group and Energy Generation/Efficiency task group. Updating actions in the plan. Lynn is also preparing the annual report for council. There was some discussion about Jim's proposal to retrofit townhomes to air source heat pumps but given the province's decision to remove the incentive for switching from natural gas, it does not make sense to proceed at this time.

### b. BurlingtonGreen ([burlingtongreen.org](http://burlingtongreen.org)) (Jim)

No additional updates on BG.

### c. Halton Environmental Network ([haltonenvironment.net](http://haltonenvironment.net))

No updates on HEN.

## 8. Other Business:

### 8.1 Inspire Burlington event

The Mayor is hosting an upcoming event with Glenn Murray as the keynote speaker on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the RBG. SDC and City can share a display table.

### 8.2 Mohawk Centre for Climate Change

Lura Consulting will be reaching out to interview the chair of the SDC for the new Bay Area Climate Change office, as well as BurlingtonGreen. There will also be pop up events for the general public to be engaged.

### 8.3 May meeting date

Lynn will miss the May COW meeting. **Action:** She will ask the Clerk's department to cover for her.

8.4 Upcoming meeting dates

- a. Policy & Development Sub-Committee – Apr 4th, Room 307
- b. Awareness Sub-Committee – Apr 11th, Room 305
- c. Committee of the Whole – Apr 18th, Room 247

**9. Adjournment:**

Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.