

Minutes

**Sustainable Peterborough Coordinating Committee
GPA EDC – 210 Wolfe Street, Peterborough
November 15, 2013 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

Present: Ken Doherty, John Knight, Jeannette Thompson, Trish O'Connor, Sheridan Graham, Fred Irwin, Linda Slavin, Larry Stinson, Tom Cowie, Anca Pascalau, Melanie Kawalec, Katie Allen

Regrets: Stephen Hill, Mike Hendren, Peter Hughes, David Clifford, Lois O'Neill, Brigid Ayotte

Guest presenters: Dawn Berry-Merriam, Pat Learmonth, Cheryl Lyon

1. Call to order/Opening Remarks

Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:05 a.m.

2. Introductions

The Chair introduced Anca Pascalau as the new Sustainability Coordinator, part-time staff working out of the GPAEDC office but dedicated staff member to Sustainable Peterborough. Anca's immediate endeavour will be to work on the 2013 report card.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Sheridan Graham

Seconded by: Jeannette Thompson

THAT the Agenda for the November 15th meeting be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

5. Approval of the September 13th, 2013 Minutes

Larry Stinson asked that the minutes of September 13, 2013 be revised to remove the notation "...particularly addressing bikes on the sidewalks and injury prevention" from the Roundtable Update section of the minutes.

Moved by: Larry Stinson

Seconded by: Linda Slavin

THAT the minutes of the September 13th, 2013 meeting be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Presentations

- a) Local Food and Farming Working Group - Pat Learmonth and Dawn Berry-Merriam – a copy of the presentation can be found [on our website](#).

Historical background:

- Following the release of the Menu 2020 report by the Metcalf Foundation a local group formed to discuss the future of food and farming, sustainability, and food security. The group presented their findings to County Council in 2011.
- Future of Food and Farming Summit held in October 2012 was attended by 27 community members. The SP Local Food and Farming Working Group was established from participants at the Summit.
- In December 2012 the Peterborough Social Planning Council issued a survey on attitudes towards buying local food. Results are available online at www.pspc.on.ca.
- In March 2013 the "Future of Food and Farming: Next Steps" summit took place. A whole systems approach diagram of food and farming was presented, illustrating the entire cycle of food, from production to waste, including the many sectors and community organizations involved in a successful food production and delivery system. See hand outs attached to the minutes.

Projects underway:

- The Health Unit runs their Breakfast Program and is looking at how to get food grown locally to local schools, particularly the challenges with sourcing local food.
- The Culinary Institute is looking at local restaurants and use of locally sourced food.
- Fred Irwin is the newest member of the Local Food and Farming Working Group.
- The group will be involved in the County's official plan review next year.
- The group is looking at statistics relating to the number of local farm businesses, farmers, demographic information, covering 1971 to 2011, projecting out to 2036 to calculate how much farm land we will need in order to feed ourselves. Currently land use reported as agriculture is not very accurate. The numbers do not specify how many acres are zoned as agricultural land and protected as such vs. cash crop.
- Survey results indicate people are buying more local fruits and vegetables. The group is looking at the sustainability of rural areas, what we can do to grow the number of producers and protect agricultural land. Ideas such as training new farmers, keeping track of all farmers' markets, increase the number of farmers to sell at local markets.
- The group is presenting Peterborough County as a case study at the Ontario Farmers' Forum in Guelph in February 2014.

Pilot Project:

- The committee discussed the need for mapping agricultural land based on current use. A pilot project to map agricultural land on a township basis emerged. Township of Selwyn offered to be the host municipality, the County offered GIS support, Trish will investigate if Fleming students may be able to collect and map the data, in conjunction with the Working Group.

- b) Formation of a Public Trust - Fred Irwin and Cheryl Lyon of Transition Town Peterborough
– a copy of the proposal can be read [on our website](#).

Fred Irwin and Cheryl Lyon presented a feasibility phase proposal on the “Formation of a Public Trust”. A copy of the hand out is attached to these minutes.

Transition Town Peterborough is proposing the creation of a public trust in order to mitigate some of the adverse effects that the global economic growth model has had on the local economy. The proposal also encompasses looking at climate change as a matter of public health. Transition Town believes that the idea of the Public Trust fits in well with Sustainable Peterborough as the SP Coordinating Committee can provide strategic direction, input, expert knowledge.

There are three legal requirements for a Public Trust:

- Clear Intention - specified as re-investing in local initiatives that build renewable energy projects, farming, ecological considerations, environmental restoration, etc.
- Beneficiary - in this case the beneficiaries will be the citizens residing in Peterborough City and County
- Funding Source - proposed to be the tax base of the City and County of Peterborough and municipal revenue from renewable energy projects.

One of the benefits of a public trust is that it can operate through the existing banking system but that it would be accessible to all the people, not just some citizens, like regular banks. Micro banks are well established in some parts of the world, such as in North Dakota, where a public trust has been functioning as a public bank since the 1980s. Examples of local organizations that run like a public trust are the Peterborough Economic Development Corporation, Public Utilities, and Kawartha Land Trust.

The Committee expressed concern in that the proposal is about more than just dollars and that it would be a very tough sell to municipal government. It needs a very clear vision for people to buy into it. The feasibility proposal seems to lack understanding of municipal government, which is reliant on property tax for revenue in order to provide infrastructure, operation, and services to their residents.

In order to even consider presenting a proposal to City and/or County Council, a much more detailed, complete proposal would be necessary. Fred Irwin confirmed that this is just the initial raw framework, with more detail to come.

Moved by: Linda Slavin

Seconded by: Sheridan Graham

THAT Sustainable Peterborough Coordinating Committee receive Transition Town Peterborough’s Triple E Trust Proposal for information, and refer the proposal to the Sustainable Peterborough Executive Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

7. Administration

a) Grant proposal update – Melanie Kawalec & Ken Doherty

Staff met with Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) regarding the Climate Change Action Plan. OTF confirmed that they will not support single sourcing, but require a competitive bid process. The GPA EDC Board shared the single source concern as well as questioned staff commitment to this project. Based on this change in direction, the funding applications would not be ready for the November 1, 2013 submission deadline.

The Climate Change Action Plan Steering Committee (CCAP SC) members met with GreenUP to regroup. The CCAP SC confirmed that an RFP process for consulting services would be required. We will target the March 1, 2014 OTF and GMF submission deadlines. The working group is working on preparing the two grant applications. The drafts will be presented to the GPAEDC board and the SP CC.

b) Partnership Recruitment - Katie Allen

Katie Allen has started the recruitment process for potential new members and invited the SP CC to provide info on any potential new members that they may be aware of. She is encouraging all partners to update the action inventory database, stressing the significant of the data base as the primary source of data for the annual report card.

Katie, Melanie and Anca met to discuss the partner recognition event. They are targeting a spring event, potentially partnering with a working group or agency, teaming up with another event in April.

John requested an updated list of members along with any promotional materials on the benefit of membership. Linda requested a link to the 2012 Report Card. Anca will email the requested information to the SP CC.

c) Project Neutral – Linda

Project Neutral originated and is successfully running in two Toronto neighbourhoods. They are looking to expand Project Neutral into two pilot municipalities - Guelph and Peterborough. The project consists of measuring and recording energy use per household. Linda requested that the Coordinating Committee submit a letter of support to apply to Project Neutral to the Executive Committee. The letter was approved in principle by the EC, as a stringent deadline prevented it being presented to the SP CC for approval.

Moved by: Linda Slavin

Seconded by: Cheryl Lyon

THAT the Coordinating Committee approve the letter of support for Project Neutral.

MOTION CARRIED

d) Committee approval process

It was expressed that it is sometimes difficult to come to the Coordinating Committee for approval on certain items, outside of core business, as timing is often an issue.

Moved by: Linda Slavin

Seconded by: Sheridan Graham

WHEN requests for Sustainable Peterborough support cannot meet the Sustainable Peterborough Coordinating Committee timelines that they be presented to the Executive Committee for approval.
MOTION CARRIED

- e) Sustainable Peterborough Coordinating Committee 2014 schedule of meetings

Moved by: Melanie Kawalec

Seconded by: Linda Slavin

THAT the Sustainable Peterborough Coordinating Committee approve the 2014 schedule of meetings, as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

8. Working Groups update

- a) Climate Change – Melanie Kawalec

New group formed at Trent as part of the Ontario Climate Change Consortium initiative. The climate change working group is working with a group of agencies looking at climate change. A climate change town hall series is scheduled for early 2014 at Market Hall.

Linda mentioned that "Chasing Ice", originally screened and sold out at the ReFrame film festival, is now available for purchase.

- b) Energy – Sheridan Graham

The wind turbines issue in Cavan Monaghan prompted county council to vote in a proposal to place on hold all FIT program applications (including, solar, biogas, etc). This proposal was sent to the Minister.

Council received a delegation from Cham Shan Temple. There would be a huge negative economic impact to the area if they decide not to go forward with the Temple.

- 9. Membership Profile** – Peterborough GreenUp – Peter Hughes – unable to attend today's meeting.

10. Roundtable Update

- Ken Doherty – GreenUP received formal City approval to build a greenhouse in Ecology Park. The greenhouse will also provide indoor classroom space.
- Trish O'Connor – Office of Sustainability officially open at Fleming, with a staff of four. Fleming students undergoing a canopy cover assessment with the County. On Nov. 25th there will be a presentation of Fleming's sustainability initiatives at York University.
- Jeanette Thompson-Solar proposal pending municipal council approval. Township cultural map completed and endorsed, start to roll out 2015. A few water protection initiatives

wrapping up, one received approval. Part of the Peterborough Biking Summit Selwyn presented their trails master plan. Complete streets in the County improvement plan.

- Sheridan Graham-first County leaf and yard waste program received four times the volume expected, has been expanded to two years. The Courthouse is having its windows replaced with environmentally friendly windows. Current heating is being replaced with radiant energy heating units. Ash tree inventory completed; no emerald ash borers detected in the process. ORCA – Hope Mill integration into the Lang property, potential for community garden, eco systems park, conservation area, potential to work with the Peterborough Cycling Club to extend bike lanes up to Hope Mill.
- Fred Irwin – Fred has joined the Agriculture and Local Food Working Group. Fred requested that he resign from the Committee and be replaced by Cheryl Lyon.

Moved by: Fred Irwin

Seconded by: Jeanette Thompson

THAT the Coordinating Committee accept Fred Irwin's resignation and appoint Cheryl Lyon as the Transition Town Peterborough replacement representative.

MOTION CARRIED

- Larry Stinson – Health Unit is moving inspection program for mandatory septic inspection to County Council (Haliburton is also getting out of septic inspection). The Cycling Summit was successful and sold out; the complete streets model was promoted.
- Tom Cowie – Fire and EMS project will be completed by December. They are initiating a source water protection policy. They are completing the identification and location of 200+ source water systems, noting condition and deficiency of wells and septic systems. Twenty wells need to be properly decommissioned. They want an annual septic pump-out policy, included in lease, with a revocation clause if not done. The ash borer has been present for 10-15 years. They have taken care of the issue on their own.
- Melanie Kawalec – Peterborough Sports and Wellness Centre is in the process of becoming LEED certified. The process takes 3 months and 5 teams consisting of Fleming students are working on the project. Local Food Fund Grant – \$30 million over 3 years, first application window period ended October 31, 2013.
- John Knight – GPAEDC – Chinese company to potentially open in Peterborough, lots of potential for job creation. A report identified 3 areas where Trent brings forth expertise: environment, culture and humanities, healthy and sustainable communities.
- Linda Slavin – Housings Fundamentals report is done. The Symposium on Climate Change was well attended. The Peterborough Declaration on Climate Change still needs signatures. 4OurGrandchildren will be attending a rally on November 16th - the national day of climate change. They met with Jeff Leal and Dean DelMastro. Dean DelMastro does not deny climate change but says it is due to history, not to human intervention.

11. Other Business

12. Next Meeting – January 10, 2014 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.