

**DATE:** February 15, 2023

**MEETING:** 01-2023

**TIME:** 4:00 P.M.

**PLACE:** McNaughton Room/MS Teams

**CHAIR:** Councillor Andrew Foulds

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**PRESENT:**

Councillor Andrew Foulds  
Shannon Costigan  
Kiera Essex  
Sandra Stiles  
Jane Todd  
Matthew Villella

**OFFICIALS:**

Michelle Warywoda, Director – Environment  
Division  
Summer Stevenson, Sustainability Coordinator  
Jacob Porter – Climate Adaptation Coordinator  
Lori Wiitala, Committee Clerk and Legislative  
Specialist

**GUESTS:**

Kerri Marshall, General Manager – Infrastructure  
& Operations

**1.0 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

MOVED BY: Sandra Stiles  
SECONDED BY: Jane Todd

WITH RESPECT to the position of Chair on the EarthCare Advisory Committee, we recommend that Andrew Foulds be appointed Chair of the Committee for the remainder of 2023 calendar year, or until a replacement is appointed, as required annually.

CARRIED

The newly-appointed Chair, Councillor Andrew Foulds assumed the position of Chair and administered the nomination for the position of Vice-Chair of EarthCare Advisory Committee for 2023.

MOVED BY: Sandra Stiles  
SECONDED BY: Jane Todd

WITH RESPECT to the position of Vice-Chair on the EarthCare Advisory Committee, we recommend that Shannon Costigan be appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the 2023 calendar year, or until a

replacement is appointed, as required annually.

CARRIED

## **2.0 Disclosures of Interest**

There were no disclosures of interest.

## **3.0 Confirmation of Agenda**

MOVED BY: Matthew Villella  
SECONDED BY: Shannon Costigan

WITH RESPECT to the February 15, 2023, EarthCare Advisory Committee meeting, we recommend that the agenda be amended as follows: item 5.0 discussion be moved to after item 9.0 on the agenda;

AND THAT any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

## **4.0 Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

Minutes of Meeting 07-2022 of the EarthCare Advisory Committee held on June 14, 2022, for approval.

MOVED BY: Kiera Essex  
SECONDED BY: Shannon Costigan

THAT the Minutes of Meeting 07-2022 of the EarthCare Advisory Committee held on June 14, 2022, be approved.

CARRIED

## **5.0 Review of Committee Terms of Reference**

Item deferred to after item 9.0 discussion.

## **6.0 Presentations**

Summer Stevenson, Sustainability Coordinator, provided a PowerPoint presentation relative to the above noted and responded to questions. A high level

update was provided relative to the following work completed in 2022:

International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) Advancing Adaptation Funding supported a Climate Change Forum to provide hands on learning to over 120 youth

Pollinator Garden Signs and installation – Community Greening Working Group; funding provided by Clean, Green & Beautiful Committee – Emerging Projects

EarthCare, Active Transportation Thunder Bay and EVANO hosted an Electric Vehicle show and over 800 people attended

200 people engaged and attended Live on the Waterfront evenings

Engaged over 400 stakeholders and community members through Sustainability Plan, CEF Feasibility Study, Emergency Exercises

Completed Community Efficiency Financing Feasibility Study with \$117,000 of funding through FCM, relative to home energy retrofit program

Preparation of 3 policy and advocacy briefings for Mayor and Council Delegates for presentation at OGRA, ROMA and AMO

Continue to support LUSSC for campus climate plan advocacy

Presented the following three (3) memos to City Council: Clean & Clear Yards, Organic Waste and Zoning By-law

The EarthCare Advisory Committee provided responses to the SWOT exercise which evaluated the Committee and the following was provided:

It was determined that the EarthCare Advisory Committee has a diverse and knowledgeable membership and has the ability to draw on expertise within the community and City Administration, and is well regarded in the community. It was also determined that the Committee is not connected with the broader EarthCare network, community, or the implementation of the Sustainability Plan; the Committee's broad focus and unclear expectations of the Members limits effectiveness and creates work for City Administration, and the limits towards member recruitment presents a challenge when building relationships.

Proposal to re-assess the EarthCare Advisory Committee governance structure, Terms of Reference, and recruitment processes. Looking to integrate Indigenous knowledge and worldview through collaboration and partnership. A working group meeting will be scheduled in April to discuss.

## 7.0 **Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

None.

### 1. **Net-Zero Strategy Update**

Summer Stevenson provided the following update relative to the above noted:

LEAD: Provide civic leadership to advance mutual respect, equal opportunity and hope.

- a. **Strong Towns – March 6-8**
    - i. The City of Thunder Bay has partnered with Thunder Bay Ventures to bring Charles Marohn back to Thunder Bay. Sustainability Coordinator, Project Manager – Infrastructure & Operations, and Communications Officer – Infrastructure & Operations are representing the City.
    - ii. March 6: Presentation to Council
    - iii. March 7: Public Event ([registration link](#))
    - iv. March 8: Leaders' Breakfast (Invitation Only), City of Thunder Bay Corporate Leadership Forum (Invitation Only)
  - b. **Northern Ontario Youth Climate Summit – February 23**
    - i. Providing an Action Workshop on civic engagement in municipal climate action for a group of 45 students during the Science North Northern Ontario Youth Climate Summit at Fort William Historical Park
  - c. **Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, 2021**
    - i. GHG Inventory is currently in progress for the year 2021. Target completion early Q3 2023.
  - d. **Climate Lens Procedure**
    - i. Action item following the Strong Towns community engagement window
    - ii. Attended a CEDC Team Meeting to discuss the Climate Lens and provide a backgrounder on climate change and the Net-Zero Strategy (Feb 14)
2. SERVE: Advance service excellence through a citizen focus and best use of technology.
- a. **Climate Refugee Report**
    - i. Report 39 – 2023 (Climate Refugees) was delivered to Council on February 13. This report provides information on the topic of climate migration and the potential implications for the City of

Thunder Bay.

MOVED BY: Jane Todd  
SECONDED BY: Sandra Stiles

WITH RESPECT to the Strong Towns presentation to City Council on March 6, 2023, and Strong Towns Community Event on March 7, 2023, we recommend that the EarthCare Advisory Committee send a memorandum to City Council in support of the Strong Towns message, as it relates to the Net-Zero Strategy, Sustainability Plan, and Asset Management Plan.

CARRIED

### **8.0 Sustainability Update**

Discussion was held relative to the current Committee structure not working; working groups are not able to advocate and are looking to re-assess priorities. Discussion was held relative to how the Committee can combine forces to maximize impact and prioritize with the current resources available. A shift to community-based structure rather than working groups was proposed due to lack of engagement with the working groups. The Committee is looking to define specific objectives and present clear deliverables for working groups. Green Print Workshop was presented as an idea to facilitate discussion.

Discussion was held relative to the Committee having three (3) strategic plans: Sustainability, Net-Zero and Climate Adaptation, and the Committee is looking at existing Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and guiding documents from similar Municipalities, for reference.

A working group meeting is to be scheduled in April 2023, The Chair, Councillor Andrew Foulds will send an email to Committee Members with potential meeting dates.

### **9.0 Review of Committee Terms of Reference**

This item is being deferred to the working group meeting in April to review the Committee Terms of Reference and provide recommendations to bring to City Council for approval.

### **10.0 Climate Adaptation Update**

Jacob Porter, Climate Adaptation Coordinator, provided the following update relative to the above noted.

LEAD: Provide civic leadership to advance mutual respect, equal opportunity and hope.

Climate Adaptation - Annual Update, presented to City Council January 8, 2023. The City of Thunder Bay had record high temperatures in February: Saturday February 11, 2023, with a high of 5.8C, broke a previous record of 3.9C on February 11, 1908, and on Sunday, February 12, 2023, a high of 5.7C broke a record temperature of 5.0C from February 12, 1935.

SERVE: Advance service excellence through a citizen focus and best use of technology.

Climate Risk Vulnerability Assessment with Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) currently in planning stages. Local review of The United Nation Sustainable Development Goal's (UN SDG) was released on October 31, 2022. Upcoming presentations include:

- March 4, 2023 – Natural Resource Management Symposium “Adaptation in NRM in the Face of Climate Change”
- March 10, 2023 – Sustainable Development Goal week at Lakehead University

GROW: Focus on city building and social infrastructure to strengthen our economy, lifestyle and well-being.

Third climate-focused emergency exercise will take place on March 31<sup>st</sup>, feedback will help with shifts in policies and procedures due to Covid-19; and the Severe Weather Plan for Vulnerable Populations is active and has been renewed.

RENEW: Focus on essential infrastructure, revitalize our cores and enhance our Image Routes.

Regional Public Works Commission Ontario (RPWCO) Roadmap for assessing climate vulnerabilities pilot planned for completion in March 2023.

Discussion was held relative to City of Thunder Bay roads, and that there has been no change in engineering standards. With climate adaptation and the obscure weather, what does road maintenance look like in similar climates? The Committee discussed reaching out to Finland through the Sister Cities Committee to inquire about road maintenance.

## **11.0 Working Group Update for Liaisons**

The following information was provided relative to the above noted:

A deputation was presented to City Council with a recommendation to remove the Carrick Street bridge from the 2023 budget, and this item did not pass the vote.

- March 26, 2023 - 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Confederation College - Water Week event.

## **12.0 Upcoming Events**

March 4, 2023 – Natural Resource Management Symposium “Adaptation in NRM in the Face of Climate Change”

March 7, 2023 – Strong Towns Community Event at the Italian Cultural Centre.

March 8, 2023 – Strong Towns Leader’s Breakfast (Invitation Only)

March 10, 2023 – Sustainable Development Goals week at Lakehead University and Confederation College

March 26, 2023 - 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Confederation College Water Week event.

## **13.0 New Business**

## **14.0 Next Meeting**

The Committee will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, with the exception of July and August, at 4:00 p.m. as follows:

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

## **15.0 Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.