



Minutes of Sustainable Orangeville

July 6, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Electronic and In-Person Participation - Sustainable Orangeville
The Corporation of the Town of Orangeville
(Chair and Secretary at Town Hall - 87 Broadway)
Orangeville, Ontario

Members Present: G. Bryan
M. O'Connor
Councillor Prendergast
M. Rowley
M. Smith
W. Speirs
G. Spence
A. Waugh

Members Absent: M. Whitcombe

Staff Present: T. Barry, Executive Assistant, Community Services
K. Thomson, Sustainability Co-ordinator

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Disclosures of (Direct or Indirect) Pecuniary Interest

None

3. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Recommendation: 2023-007

Moved by M. O'Connor

That the minutes of the following meeting are approved: May 25, 2023

Carried

4. Presentations

None

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

5.1 Hutchinson Trail

The focus was on the area where complaint came from, and it would appear that the wild raspberries appear to be the main issue. At this time there is no need to rough mow the whole area, and the service request would be to have the raspberry bush removed and mow against the fence

(speak to Staff to have the bush and entire root removed). There appeared to be some evasive species, but nothing too concerning and there were no noxious or allergen plants (typical thistle and golden rod). It is recommended that staff shovel and dig out the raspberry bush and rough cut twice a year. In a couple of years the golden rod will take over the area. The homeowner joined in the site visit and was provided an education as to why it is naturalized. Recommend erecting a sign indicating "Naturalized Area" so that residents are aware of why the area looks as it does. Use social media to educate about storm water run off, and that naturalized areas are necessary for the storm water run off. Look at themed months around issues in the community (tree month/naturalized area, etc.). Find out the cost of the signs and next steps have staff recommendations with respect to signage and rough cuts and removing root structure of raspberry bush.

Budget - education, etc. - shirts having "Sustainable Orangeville" so that when committee out in public they can be recognized. M. Rowley would like same with Urban Harvest on it.

5.2 Budget Allocation

Committee Work vs. Grant Program

Sustainable Orangeville's Budget: \$30,000.00

5.3 Annual Committee Report and 2024 Workplan and Budget

Clerks have confirmed these items are due at the end of September. Two options available to ensure work is complete:

Option 1 - in lieu of an August meeting create a sub-group to develop a draft annual report and 2024 workplan/budget. Have this draft presented to the rest of the committee members in September to finalize;

Option 2 - Have an August meeting dedicated solely for preparing and finalizing the 2023 Annual Report and 2024 Workplan/Budget

Review previous budgets to see where the funds were spent and eliminate those groups where funds were not required. Preferred option 2 to work on budget as a committee as opposed to sub-group. T. Barry to circulate previous workplan/budget and circulate the draft workplan that has been started.

5.4 2023 Garden Awards

M. Smith suggested categories and awards for best gardens around Town (i.e. best edible garden/best business garden/best flower garden, etc.) Due to time constraints this year, it is recommended that this initiative occur in August 2024. Early 2024 discuss setting up timelines and ways in which the community can submit their applications. Need to promote early through social media in order to increase participation.

5.5 Solar Lights

Suggestion to bring this idea to Council and staff would need to know budget, etc. Chair Prendergast will deal with this matter and she can look into finding out more information on how this item can be implemented.

Chair Prendergast indicated that it could be a Policy adopted through the Town to promote sustainability.

5.6 CVC Planting

The Committee agrees to the planting and would prefer October 14. Chair Prendergast will advise CVC of the preferred date.

Location to go in accordance with Tree Canopy Report.

6. Correspondence

7. New Business

Celebrate K. Thomson with her assistance with the turtle protection on Riddell Road near Montgomery Village. Notified appropriate stakeholders about the turtle nesting and the organizations she reached out to provided suggestions to protect the nest and instructions on how to monitor. Mid-August they hatch and K. Thomason will visit the site every day for a week to ensure the turtle nest is safe. Working with the Town for signage.

Horticulture Society does not want to continue its upkeep of the garden at ODSS. Chair Prendergast was asked if Sustainable Orangeville is interested in maintaining the gardens. Committee to think about possible solutions. Perhaps Cadets/Scouts?

Discussed the Community Garden and stressed that a Community Garden Leader is required to be a liaison with the Town. Will need to reach out to the community to find a Community Garden Leader, or see if this is something to be addressed in the policy that will be coming out.

Tree Canopy - When will we see any action on new trees being planted. T. Barry to send Miranda email for Matthew.

Fungal disease (Oak Wilt) has moved into the area and our oak trees will be affected. Government working on a plan but suggest the Town starts on implementing its own plan. Disease was found in Niagara and then Springwater and the County is working on a communication piece to inform residents. A joint communication with Dufferin County and the Town of Orangeville to educate the community is needed. Advise our communication department of this issue and provide preventative steps. Chair Prendergast and K. Thomson to reach out to communications. This disease affects the Red Oak family.

Rick Ugolini who attended as a guest suggested we talk to the Garden Centres (landscaping companies, etc.) around Town and to see if they would like to donate or create signs for the August 2024 best garden.

8. Date of Next Meeting

August 3, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm