



## Minutes of Sustainable Orangeville

August 29, 2024, 6:00 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: Councillor T. Prendergast, Chair  
G. Bryan  
J. Elchyshyn  
M. O'Connor  
J. Pickering  
M. Rowley  
M. Smith  
G. Spence  
W. Speirs  
A. Waugh  
E. Whitfield

Staff Present: L. Bradley, Executive Assistant, Community Services  
G. Brennan, Legislative Assistant, Corporate Services  
T. Dulisse, Manager, Transportation and Development, Infrastructure Services  
J. Lavecchia-Smith, Deputy Clerk, Corporate Services

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### 1. Call to Order

Councillor T. Prendergast, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### 2. Disclosures of (Direct or Indirect) Pecuniary Interest

None.

### 3. Land Acknowledgment

Councillor T. Prendergast, Chair, acknowledged the treaty lands and territory of the Williams Treaty Nations and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. She also recognized that Dufferin County is the traditional territory of the Wendat and the Haudenosaunee, and is home to many Indigenous people today.

### 4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

#### Recommendation: 2024-017

Moved by M. O'Connor

That the minutes of the following meeting are approved:

#### 4.1 2024-06-18 - Sustainable Orangeville - Minutes

## 5. Presentations

### 5.1 Sara MacRae, Manager, Climate & Energy, Steve Murphy, Manager of 911 and Preparedness, Dufferin County - Community Resilience Hub Project

Sara MacRae, Manager, Climate & Energy and Steve Murphy, Manager of 911 and Preparedness for Dufferin County, provided an overview of the County's Community Resilience Hub project. The Community Resilience Hub project is a new initiative representing a collaborative effort between Dufferin County's Emergency Preparedness and Climate & Energy Divisions. The main objectives of the Hub are to:

- Empower the community in facing diverse challenges,
- Create a welcoming and engaging environment for all residents,
- Provide shared emergency resources, and
- Facilitate networking opportunities among community members, organizations, and local authorities.

The Committee identified existing services offered within the Town of Orangeville, and suggested areas where additional services could be implemented. The Committee discussed issues with potential locations and access at night. The Committee provided details on upcoming community events for Ms. MacRae and Mr. Murphy to attend and solicit additional feedback on this project.

### 5.2 Jordyn Lavecchia-Smith, Deputy Clerk, Corporate Services, Town of Orangeville - Committee Governance Refresher

Jordyn Lavecchia-Smith, Deputy Clerk, Corporate Services, Town of Orangeville provided the Committee with a Committee Governance Refresher presentation. Mrs. Lavecchia-Smith discussed the various Boards, Committees, and Task Forces that advise Council on important matters. She shared details on the roles and responsibilities for Committee Members, the Chair, the Staff Liaison, and the Committee Secretary. She advised the Committee on the effectiveness of having an agenda, and how that contributes to the efficiency of a meeting. Mrs. Lavecchia-Smith clarified the decision-making process for when a motion is up for consideration, and the various outcomes when a motion is being voted on. Mrs. Lavecchia-Smith advised the Committee on next steps and plans for 2025. The Committee will consult with staff on the development of their 2025 Work Plan that will outline various projects and initiatives, including the necessary budgets to be allocated.

## 6. Items for Discussion and Reports

### 6.1 Sub-Committee Updates

#### 6.1.1 Baby Tree Program - Laura Bradley, Executive Assistant, Community Services

Laura Bradley, Executive Assistant, Community Services, shared details about the ongoing challenges surrounding the Baby Tree Program. She highlighted a decline in participation in the program

in recent years, which evoked the Community Services Department to review the program's overall impact.

**Recommendation: 2024-018**

Moved by M. Rowley

That the Baby Tree Program correspondence submitted by the Community Services Department be received; and

That Community Services staff report to Council recommending the dissolution of the Baby Tree Program.

**Carried**

**6.1.2 Urban Harvest**

Martina Rowley, Committee member, provided an update on the Urban Harvest program including that the potential fall Apple Festival event will not be taking place this year and that the 2024 harvest will soon begin. Ms. Rowley shared details on the quality and the quantity of the food, and the various ways the harvest will be used. Ms. Rowley discussed additional properties that will be harvested this fall, and the challenges the program will face with additional properties to harvest. The Committee discussed the various community organizations that could assist in harvesting the properties. Ms. Rowley tentatively plans to reach out to Branching Out Support Services to gauge their interest in participating in harvesting some properties.

The Committee discussed the importance of the Urban Harvest program and future plans for the program that could be included on the Committee's 2025 Work Plan.

**6.1.3 Best Garden Contest Submissions**

The Committee debated the various submissions for Sustainable Orangeville's Garden Contest.

**Recommendation: 2024-019**

Moved by M. O'Connor

That Sustainable Orangeville recommend the following submissions receive an award for Sustainable Orangeville's Best Garden Contest:

Submission B;

Submission C;

Submission D;

Submission E;

Submission F;

Submission G;

Submission H

Submission I

Submission J;

Submission L;  
Submission M;  
Submission N; and

That the contest winners be recognized during the September 23<sup>rd</sup> Council Meeting.

**Carried**

## **6.2 Rain Barrel Subsidy Program**

Councillor T. Prendergast, Chair, highlighted the success of the Rain Barrel Subsidy Program, especially as it coincided with the Town of Orangeville's new lawn watering by-law (By-law number 2040-040).

Tony Dulisse, Manager, Transportation and Development, Infrastructure Services, shared that home deliveries for the Rain Barrel Subsidy Program will begin September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## **6.3 Fare Free Transit**

Councillor T. Prendergast, Chair, shared that on Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, the Fare Free Transit Staff Report will be going before Council. The Committee engaged in discussions highlighting the benefits of Fare Free Transit in the Town of Orangeville.

Tony Dulisse, Manager, Transportation and Development, Infrastructure Services, provided details to the Committee including that:

- The pilot program was set for a duration of two (2) years,
- That ridership has increased from 100,000 riders in 2019, to 225,000 riders by the end of June 2024,
- That the cost per rider has decreased since the start of the pilot program, and
- That there has been an increase in ridership for youth, seniors, and individuals with accessibility concerns.

### **Recommendation: 2024-020**

Moved by M. Smith

That Sustainable Orangeville submit a letter to Council in support of the Fare Free Transit Program, and

That the letter be read on behalf of Sustainable Orangeville by Committee member Martina Rowley.

**Carried**

## **6.4 TD Friends of the Environment Foundation Grant**

Matthew Smith, Committee member, shared details of the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation Grant. The committee agreed to revisit this topic at a future meeting.

## **7. Correspondence**

**7.1 Community Gardens Update - Heather Savage, General Manager, Community Services**

None.

**8. Announcements**

Councillor T. Prendergast, Chair, announced details to the following events:

- Uproot Uprise: Island Lake. Saturday, September 7, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Island Lake Conservation Area, Parking lot four (4).
- Sustainable Orangeville Community Tree Planting. Saturday, October 19, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Mill Creek off of Gooseberry Street.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 3 at 6:00 p.m.

**10. Adjournment**

**Recommendation: 2024-021**

Moved by M. Rowley

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

**Carried**