



Minutes of Sustainable Orangeville

April 3, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
In-Person Participation Only
The Corporation of the Town of Orangeville
Town Hall - 87 Broadway
Orangeville, Ontario

Members Present: Councillor Prendergast, Vice Chair
G. Spence
M. Smith
M. O'Connor
W. Speirs
J. Elchyshyn
J. Pickering
E. Whitfield
Emily McAuley

Members Absent: A. Waugh
G. Bryan
M. Rowley, Chair

Staff Present: J. Lavecchia-Smith, Deputy Clerk
E. McAuley, Senior Climate and Sustainability Specialist,
Infrastructure Services

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. Disclosures of (Direct or Indirect) Pecuniary Interest

None.

3. Land Acknowledgment

The Vice Chair acknowledged the treaty lands and territory of the Williams Treaty Nations and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The Vice Chair 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: 2025-004

Moved by G. Spence

That the minutes of the following meeting, be received for information:

4.1 2025-02-06 - Sustainable Orangeville - Minutes

Carried

5. Presentations

5.1 Sara MacRae, Manager of Climate & Energy & Kylie-Anne Grube, Climate Engagement Specialist, County of Dufferin, Follow up to the Community Resilience Hub Project

Kylie-Anne Grube, Climate Engagement Specialist and Sara MacRae, Manager of Climate and Energy from the County of Dufferin provided an update on the community resilient hub project. They highlighted two designs for the committee to consider and provide feedback on. Both designs were developed based on community consultation, that defined the vision of resilience for this project. They advised that the hub will be located at the Edelbrock Centre and is being transformed into a health and human services hub. Ms. MacRae provided comments and feedback of what has been received so far based on the initial concept designs. They concluded their presentation identifying next steps with the aim to obtain County Council approval in the summer.

G. Spence joined the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Members of committee asked questions and received responses from Ms.Grube and Ms. McRae.

5.2 Emily McAuley, Senior Climate and Sustainability Specialist, Town of Orangeville, Tree Preservation Framework

Emily McAuley, Senior Climate and Sustainability Specialist for the Town of Orangeville provided a presentation on the tree preservation framework. She outlined the purpose of having a tree preservation by-law and advised on feedback received from completing a public survey that residents are favourable to protect trees on private property. She concluded her presentation highlighting next steps including a feedback report to Council, public meeting, and proposed by-law for consideration.

Members of committee asked questions and received responses from Ms. McAuley and Ms. Lavecchia-Smith.

6. Items for Discussion and Reports

6.1 Community Sustainability Grants Program

Members of Committee discussed and provided comment on the grant application and guide.

Recommendation: 2025-005

Moved by M. Smith

That the community sustainability grant application be approved as amended, as follows:

- Clarify ineligible expenses,
- Remove that applications cannot be submitted subsequent years,
- Amend funding and eligibility,
- Add two categories to the scoring matrix,
 - How does this serve the community?
 - How do you meet the eligibility criteria?
- Remove funding threshold.

Carried

6.2 Earth Day Tree Planting Event in Conjunction with the CVC

Councillor Prendergast shared details on the Earth Day Tree Planting Event. The event will be held on Saturday, April 26th at 9:30 a.m. at Mill Creek. She highlighted various communication campaigns to promote the event such as a commercial and radio interview.

6.3 Tree Sapling Giveaway - Promotion at Farmers Market

Councillor Prendergast discussed having a booth at the Farmers Market to promote the Tree Sapling Giveaway event. The committee discussed which weekend to attend the Farmers Market and determined either the May 3rd or May 10th weekend would be best.

6.4 Bird Nerdin' Project

Member Pickering announced to the committee that he will be leading a bird hike in the morning on Saturday, May 10th. Member Pickering will order the items to make up the bird kits, and he will complete the communications intake form to promote this event.

6.5 Bee City Canada, Renewal Application

Member Spence to complete and submit the application form in consultation with Ms. McAuley.

6.6 Hydroponic Food Tower

Member Smith discussed the opportunity for the Westminster Church to complete the TD Friends of the Environment Grant. The Committee discussed preparing a letter of support if the Westminster Church submits a grant application.

6.7 Baby Tree Program Ceremony

Ms. Lavecchia-Smith highlighted that the 2023-2024 tree planting ceremony was cancelled in the Fall of 2024. Town staff reached out to the invitees to gauge interest if they wanted the ceremony to be rescheduled in the spring of 2025. The tree was planted in September 2024 at Harvey Curry Park, displaying the dedication plaque of the baby's names who participated in the program for the 2023-2024 year. Families have had the opportunity to visit the tree and the plaque since the cancellation of the ceremony. Several respondents had indicated that a formal ceremony was not necessary.

Recommendation: 2025-006

Moved by J. Pickering

That the ceremony for the 2023-2024 Baby Tree Program not be rescheduled.

Carried

6.8 Active Transportation

Chair Rowley who requested this item be on the agenda was not in attendance, therefore it is being added to the May 1st meeting agenda.

6.9 Urban Harvest Program

Chair Rowley who requested this item be on the agenda was not in attendance, therefore it is being added to the May 1st meeting agenda.

7. Correspondence

7.1 Meeting Minutes Review Procedure

8. Announcements

Member Smith advised that he is in the process of logging all bike rack locations located on public and private property throughout Town with the intention of integrating this information into a map.

Member O'Connor sought clarification on the location of the Seed Library and received a response from Ms. McAuley.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2025 at 6 p.m.

10. Adjournment

Recommendation: 2025-007

Moved by W. Speirs

That the meeting adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

Carried