



## **Minutes**

Climate Action Committee  
Tuesday, July 13, 2021 – 10 a.m.  
Virtual Meeting

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**Attendance:** Councillor Geoff Shea, Lee Papineau, Eric Saunders, Bev Falco, Liz Murray, Nikki May, Councillor Beth Hamilton,

**Staff:** CAO Laura Johnston

1. Call to order – Bev Falco called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.
2. Declarations of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof - none
3. Minutes

### **Resolution 11-2021**

**Moved by: Nikki May**

**Seconded by Lee Papineau**

That the Climate Action Committee hereby adopts the minutes of June 8, 2021, as circulated.

**Disposition: Carried**

### **4. Business items**

#### **4.1 Update regarding 2021 Enhanced Ontario Community Environment Fund Grants – CAO Johnston**

June deadline could not be met but still possibility to apply for the next round.

#### **4.2 FCM PCP update - Climate Action Plan**

CAO Johnston & Councilor Hamilton attended Workshop 1 in the PCP process. This is geared toward data collection phase at Milestone 1; a GHG emissions inventory and forecasting. Next workshop: Sept. Setting ambitious targets for GHG reductions.

CAO Johnston spoke with Grey County planning. The municipality is planning to leverage on the work that Grey County has done so far and utilize their climate action manager for help when possible.

Milestone 2 – setting targets. Grey County has set targets in their draft Climate Action Plan and is looking for community input. Are the targets ambitious enough?

**Action:** Committee members come to next meeting with suggestions about what we think is a reasonably ambitious set of targets for the Grey County Climate Action Plan so that we can compile a resolution to council.

Make sure that your suggestions pertain to the Plan – refer to specific

section numbers or if you wish to add new items, try to ensure that they are within county jurisdiction.

### **4.3 Update from Council and CAO on West Grey Climate Initiatives**

Question and Answer period was undertaken to inform committee members of current status of initiatives.

**Action:** Councilor Hamilton and CAO Johnston will research two questions and come back to committee with results.

### **4.4 Action Items from Previous Meeting – Business Arising**

#### **4.4.1** Individual comments were submitted to Planner Spencer.

The next draft of the official plan will not be issued for awhile. Still waiting on County. All comments are still welcome.

#### **4.4.2** Outdoor fires by-law

CAO Johnston spoke to the West Grey fire chief and he is concerned about potential issues related to growth in Durham and about effects of open yard fires on community health. We will invite him to a future meeting to discuss a path forward.

Lee: concerned about air pollution, eg. from local industry. He is doing research on regional air quality monitoring and will continue this work. He is particularly concerned that the climate action plan highlights how individual actions affect regional air quality and human health.

#### **4.4.3** Education Plan:

Health impacts of pollution will be incorporated into education plan and will include information for individuals about how their health is impacted by air pollution.

#### **4.4.4** West Grey Climate change and local action Section on website

The new communications person is Hunter Rowley. A dedicated section on Climate action for the municipality is planned for the website, as well as committee communication pages. Staff will be looking to committee to assist with content. **Action:** CAO Johnston will bring back ideas on the process about how the committee will contribute to the content of the climate section. **Action:** Committee members will continue to do research on helpful links and what content should be included.

There was a question about possible guidelines for format and language of content, and suggested referring to what the county will have on their site, especially regarding agriculture.

Eric – how broad do we want to go in our scope? He suggests including information about building resilience in the land through

sustainable agriculture and gardening.

Lee – suggests having headings like Healthy Living on the Climate Action site.

Question – could we have Ms. Rowley attend one of our meetings? CAO Johnston suggests in a couple of meetings.

#### **4.5 Delegation discussion and approval of presentation material– All**

Bev summarized current content of presentation material. Goal is to achieve trust and familiarity. Understand our intent is to help. Suggest that WG be more proactive. Talk about challenges and successes that other communities are having.

Councilor Shea suggested a focus on basic education, similar to what you would put on website regarding impacts on global and local community. Thinks that asking for a meeting with council is a good thing to do.

Councilor Hamilton; Consider suggesting a good reference book. Climatechange.ca will tell you about possible changes that climate change will bring to West Grey. Consider painting that local picture. Consider short videos from FCM or telling them about being linked through GBCAN.

CAO Johnston; Talk about the better reality that we will have once we get through this and do the right things. Focus on the positive.

In addition Bev suggested a future joint delegation by staff and the committee, to show mutual support. CAO Johnston agreed– there are a few trailblazer champions on staff.

#### **4.6 Motion to approve Delegation presentation material – on hold until finalized**

### **5. Adjournment**

Recommendation:

That we hereby adjourn at 12:00 p.m. to meet again on Aug 10 at 10 a.m.

Carried.

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Chair: Bev Falco

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Recording Secretary: Nikki May