



**GEORGINA**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWN OF GEORGINA**

**Georgina Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes**

Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM

Members of Committee Present: Dave Neeson  
Lee Dale  
Mary-Lynn Seeley  
Mark Setter

Members of Committee Absent: Stephen Parker  
Austin Rooney

Staff Present: Hillary Thompson  
Alan Drozd  
Justine Burns  
Steph Wolfe  
Neil Comer

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

“The Town of Georgina recognizes and acknowledges that we are on lands originally used and occupied by the First Peoples of the Williams Treaties First Nations and other Indigenous Peoples, and on behalf of the Mayor and Council, we would like to thank them for sharing this land. We would also like to acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our close neighbour and friend, one with which we strive to build a cooperative and respectful relationship.

We also recognize the unique relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory. They are the water protectors and environmental stewards of these lands and we join them in these responsibilities.”

**2. ROLL CALL**

As noted above

**3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEM(S)**

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC2024-0021**

Moved By Mark Setter  
Seconded By Mary-Lynn Seeley

That the June 11, 2024 Agenda be approved as presented.

**Carried**

**5. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

**6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. Minutes from the April 2, 2024 Meeting

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC2024-0022**

Moved By Mark Setter  
Seconded By Lee Dale

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on April 2, 2024 be approved as presented.

**Carried**

**7. SPEAKERS**

**8. DELEGATIONS/ PETITIONS**

**9. PRESENTATIONS**

1. Climate Change Action Plan SWOT Analysis - Threats and Opportunities  
Stephanie Wolfe, Climate Initiatives Lead, to provide update.

The Committee discussed several opportunities for staff to explore:

Mary-Lynn Seeley recommended that staff look into more sustainable transportation. Mark Setter added to this by recommending that staff seek opportunities to increase the amount of electric vehicle charging. Mark explained that current charging stations in Georgina generally have a large line-up and asks, how can we expect people to transition to greener transportation, if there are not enough charging stations? Staff member, Neil Comer, suggests this is a mitigation opportunity to increase green transportation and suggests that Georgina should advocate to the Region to create more sustainable transportation (ie: buses).

Councillor Neeson recommended that staff look into increasing Georgina's tree canopy as well as phosphorous reduction in Lake Simcoe. Staff are to

look into how the Municipality, along with other levels of government, can incentivize more environmentally friendly opportunities to help the agricultural sector in this regard. Additionally, staff are recommended to explore how to decrease salt usage in the winter and make the change to greener materials.

Mark Setter recommended that staff look into how we design our streets to positively impact runoff, such as using plants instead of pipes for drainage, or creating sediment trenches. He states that the goal should be to slow water down, spread it out and soak the area, rather than rushing it into the lake or the water table. Further to this, Mark recommends that the Town modifies their urban design thinking to become a leader in addressing climate change, by utilizing our landscape architects and engineering skills. Justine Burns offers an update stating that design development criteria is currently being looked into and is in the process of being updating.

Mary-Lynn advocates for the consultation of youth to engage them in this process to which the remainder of the Committee endorsed the recommendation.

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC2024-0024**

Moved By Mark Setter

Seconded By Mary-Lynn Seeley

That the presentation regarding the Climate Change Action Plan SWOT Analysis, be received as presented.

**Carried**

2. Tree Preservation and Compensation Policy Update

Justine Burns, Senior Landscape Architect, to provide update.

Mark Setter advocates for the 'trunk method' where the program is looking at the tree in terms of size, species and condition and believes it is a fair solution for compensation. Mark asks how staff came to determine the value of specific trees? Justine Burns explains that various stakeholders were consulted such as York Region to determine pricing and states that these figures will be reassessed every three years.

A Tree Cutting Bylaw, although separate in nature, will be coming to Council in the fall based on feedback received.

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC2024-0024**

Moved By Mark Setter

Seconded By Mary-Lynn Seeley

That the presentation regarding the Tree Preservation and Compensation Draft Report, be received as presented.

**Carried**

**10. REPORTS**

**11. GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Discover Georgina Show Earth Day Giveaway

Community Services attended the Discover Georgina Show where they provided attendees a variety of plants for free, as a symbol of their commitment to environmental sustainability.

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC2024-0025**

Moved By Lee Dale

Seconded By Mary-Lynn Seeley

That the information regarding the sapling giveaway at the Discover Georgina show, be received as presented.

**Carried**

2. Trees For Life Earth Day Donation

Councillor Dave Neeson, to discuss the donation surrounding the Earth Day event.

The Town secured 2,000 trees, valued at over \$60,000, donated through Trees For Life and given out to the community at the ROC.

All trees remaining after the giveaway were planted on town-owned properties throughout the community while 200 trees were provided to Georgina Island First Nations and 20+ trees were donated to each YRDSB and YRCDSB school in Georgina.

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC2024-0026**

Moved By Mary-Lynn Seeley

Seconded By Mark Setter

That the information regarding the Trees For Life Earth Day donation, be received as presented.

**Carried**

**12. MOTIONS/ NOTICES OF MOTION**

**13. OTHER BUSINESS**

**14. CLOSED SESSION**

**15. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**RESOLUTION NO. GEAC2024-0027**

Moved By Mark Setter

Seconded By Mary-Lynn Seeley

That the meeting adjourn at 8:36pm.

**Carried**

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Councillor Dave Neeson, Chair

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Hillary Thompson, Committee Services Coordinator