

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes
Minutes
Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

CKLEAC2023-001
Wednesday, February 1, 2023
2:30 P.M.
Electronic Participation Meeting

Members:
Councillor Pat Warren
Grant Barker
Nicole Bruneau
Virginia Colling
Jamie Morris
Deborah Pearson
D. Ryrie
Barry Snider

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EAC2023.004**Moved By** Councillor Warren**Seconded By** J. Morris

That the minutes of the September 22, 2022 meeting of CKLEAC be adopted with the deferral of the motion on the Tree Preservation By-law.

Carried**3. Deputations/Presentations****3.1 Robyn Carlson, Solicitor (Long Grasses By-law).**

R. Carlson reported on a proposed amendment to By-law 2014-026 Long Grasses By-law to foster more pollinator habitat in Kawartha Lakes. The amendment would permit long grasses and weeds, which were not noxious, to exceed eight inches in height in urban areas on lands zoned Residential, Commercial or Institutional and would not contravene the Weeds Control By-law. EAC was encouraged to view and provide support and feedback and to participate in an upcoming "Jump In" page prior to presentation of the amendment for City Council consideration in May 2023.

CKLEAC raised the following questions/comments:

- Support for the proposed amendment as evidenced by the Broad Street Pollinator initiative and addition of a Pollinator Gardens tour as part of the Garden tour.
- Reference be made to other similar municipal by-laws.
- Reference to native plant materials in pollinator gardens.
- A registration process for pollinator gardens which would enable dissemination of information.
- The amendment goes beyond benefit to pollinator garden by improving storm water infiltration, reducing noise pollution from lawn maintenance equipment, reducing green house gases and implementing the Healthy Environment Plan.
- The proposed "Jump In" page include a detailed benefits/education page and refer to the Healthy Environment Plan.
- Neighbourhood acceptance of Pollinator Gardens is improved when addressing environmental concerns. Challenges to creation of lawnless yards in other municipalities (e.g. Smith Falls and London) have been

unsuccessful and resulted in removing negative public reaction and changing local by-laws.

The City Solicitor left the meeting after this presentation.

4. Correspondence

There was no correspondence presented

J. Morris reported on a thank you note for the successful fall 2022 “Walk and Roll” student event.

5. Action Item Updates

5.1 Update on hiring of Environmental Policy Planning Officer position

R. Holy indicated the job description and details are being finalized and the position will be posted in the next months.

D. Pearson reported on request by the Climate Change Co-ordinator for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge Health Unit to outline actions undertaken to implement the Healthy Environment Plan.

R. Holy indicated implementation occurs through various means (e.g. design details of development applications which are pedestrian friendly and accessible, adding green spaces/landscaping requirements, reducing excess amounts of parking, Green Building Standards, Active Transportation Master Plan Project) and that the new Environmental Planning Officer can formalize activities, recommend new areas for implementation of the Healthy Environment Plan and collaborate with the Health Unit.

6. New or Other Business

6.1 CKLEAC Work Plan Updates by Project Team Leaders

Bee City and Pollinator Action Subcommittee

P. Warren reported on the “Broad Street Pollinator Garden” project and requested clarification on insurance liability coverage for the anticipated work.

Discussion followed on the unused Pollinator Garden funds from 2022 Operating Budget and options for lowering costs if insurance coverage is provided and after clarifying the Parks Division role in the installation.

D. Marcoux-Hunter indicated the Kawartha Region Conservation Authority Community Grant Program is open until April 30, 2023 and applications may be made to reimburse half the cost of completed projects. KRCA will be considering applications in May 2023 with the deadline of June, 2023. It was clarified that