



Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Minutes

January 8, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting
Whitby Town Hall

Present: Janet Dignem
Brian Kelly
Patti Mavins
Catherine Philogene
Alex Van Camp
Bryan Widner, Chair
Bob Willard
Zartasha Zainab

Regrets: Wenda Abel
Sara Best, Vice-Chair

Also Present: Councillor Cardwell, Mayor's Designate
Kristin Palilionis, Staff Liaison, Climate Change Coordinator
Heather Ellis, Council and Committee Coordinator (Recording Secretary)

1. Call to Order
2. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

The Committee was advised that the appointment for Chair and Vice-Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee for the January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 term would take place at this time.

Heather Ellis called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Brian Kelly nominated Bryan Widner for the position of Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Bryan Widner accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations and the nominations were closed.

Bryan Widner called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Patti Mavins nominated Sara Best for the position of Vice-Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Sara Best accepted the nomination as per an email submitted as correspondence.

There were no further nominations and nominations were closed.

Recommendation:

Moved by Brian Kelly

That Bryan Widner be appointed Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee for a term ending on December 31, 2025.

Carried

Recommendation:

Moved by Patti Mavins

That Sara Best be appointed Vice-Chair of the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee for a term ending on December 31, 2025.

Carried

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Recommendation:

Moved by Catherine Philogene

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes of December 4, 2024 be approved.

Carried

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 7.1, New Member Introduction, at this time.

5. Presentations

5.1 Joanne Stone, Leadership Coach and Trainer, Agile Coach

Re: Sustainability Incubator Program (SIP)

Joanne Stone provided a presentation regarding the Sustainability Incubator Program (SIP). Highlights of the presentation included:

- collaborating with startups to address social, economic, and environmental sustainability;
- information about the SIP method to address challenges and create prototypes for problem solving solutions;
- existing prototypes such as the Whitby Ajax Community Garden, and NotWorking to Networking projects;
- positive community impacts including increased engagement and visibility of groups participating in the SIP;
- information about the four-pillar strategy including Local SIPs, SIP Leaders, the Global SIP Community, and Global Impact, to foster collaboration between community and academic organizations;
- an overview of upcoming initiatives; and,
- seeking advice from the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee on running an SIP in Whitby, building a Sustainability Community in Durham, and securing funding for SIP work.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- collaborating with the Whitby SNAP Pilot Project;
- engaging with Little Forests Durham representatives;
- challenges in recruiting volunteers;
- details about the funding request;
- engaging with the Region of Durham to develop a Sustainability Community; and,
- a potential SIP presentation to Whitby Council at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

6. Delegations

There were no delegations.

7. General Business and Reports

7.1 New Member Introduction

Kristin Palilionis requested that Members provide a brief introduction and summary of their experience and interest in serving on the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 5.1, Joanne Stone, Founder, Sustainability Incubator Program, at this time.

7.2 Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Work Plan Review

Bryan Widner requested that the Committee review the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee work plan.

Discussion ensued regarding amending the wording of actionable items within the work plan to better support the Committee's mandate.

Recommendation:

Moved by Brian Kelly

That the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee approve the 2022-2026 Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Work Plan, as amended.

Carried

8. Council Update

Councillor Cardwell provided an update regarding:

- the Whitby Harbour Remediation Project;
- the Whitby Official Plan Amendment 143 approved by Council to permit up to three additional accessory apartments on residential properties;
- development of a traffic calming guide and policy;
- a resolution by Council for the redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities for sustainable infrastructure funding;
- the addition of seven new electric vehicle charging stations, bringing the Town's total to fifteen; and,

- a resolution by Council for the reduction or elimination of tolls on Highway 407 East from Brock Road in Pickering to Highway 35/115.

A question and answer period ensued regarding where the contaminated sediment from the Whitby Harbour Sediment Remediation Project was being disposed.

9. Other Business

9.1 Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Annual Report

Bryan Widner requested an update regarding when the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee (WSAC) Annual Report was due. Mr. Widner requested feedback from the Committee regarding preparing the WSAC Annual Report.

9.2 Events

Catherine Philogene requested information regarding upcoming Community and Town of Whitby events for 2025 that the Committee would be interested in attending.

10. Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 5, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Recommendation:

Moved by Catherine Philogene

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.