

City of St. Catharines

Citizens' Advisory Committee on Community Sustainability

Notes of the April 24, 2013 Meeting

Committee Room, St. Catharines City Hall

Present:

Marty Mako (Chair)
Councillor Mathew Siscoe
Dan Romanko
Phil Baranoski
Bernie Slepko
Vanessa Aykroyd
Sam Mahboob
Erin Britnell
Erin O'Hoski (staff)

Regrets:

Councillor Greg Washuta

Presenters:

Terri Donia, Integrated Community Planning, Niagara Region
Jesse Matthews, Organizer, Niagara Green Building Event

Approval of the Minutes of the March 27, 2013 Meeting

Moved by: Vanessa Aykroyd

That the minutes of the March 27, 2013 meeting be approved.

Carried

Niagara Region Local Food Action Plan

Terri Donia, Integrated Community Planning, Niagara Region, presented information and progress on the Region's Local Food Action Plan.

The plan contains four categories:

1. Information, resources and research
2. Local food network and infrastructure
3. Education and awareness raising

4. Supportive policy and funding

Terri Donia stressed that the Local Food Action Plan is community developed, owned and driven and there are plenty of opportunities for individuals, groups and municipalities to become involved in different capacities.

Regional staff will be conducting a review of the Local Food Action plan, and consultations will take place later in 2013 or early in 2014.

A full version of the Local Food Action Plan is available at:

<http://www.niagararegion.ca/government/initiatives/lfap/about-local-food-action-plan.aspx>.

Information Sharing

Vanessa Aykroyd attended an event related to biodiversity in the city in Vaughan, Ontario. The event was sponsored by ICLEI: Local Governments for Sustainability in hopes of building resources for communities interested in increasing biodiversity in their municipalities.

Jesse Matthews provided an update on a green building event planned on May 23 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Balls Falls Centre for Conservation in Jordan. Further details will be circulated when registration opens.

Other Business

Vanessa Aykroyd expressed interest in participating in the Center of Expertise (COE) related to local food security.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 29 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at St. Catharines City Hall. The theme for the May 29 meeting is compact, livable neighbourhoods.

The Committee designated community engagement as the theme for the June meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.