

City of St. Catharines Sustainability Committee Meeting  
Wednesday September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Committee Room 1, City Hall – 4:30PM – 6PM

Attendance: Marty M (Chair), Phil B, Vanessa A, Dan R., Katrina K (recorder)  
Regrets: Bernie S, Sam M, Greg W, Anthony C, Mat S, Laura I, Marco M (staff)

1. Marty called the meeting to order at 4:35PM
2. Approval of agenda  
    Motioned by: Phil  
    Approved by: All
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest - None
4. Adoption of previous meeting minutes from July 30, 2014  
    Motioned by: Vanessa  
    Approved by: All

Notes:

- In lieu of an August Sustainability Committee Meeting, a subcommittee meeting was held to draft the front yard garden toolkit
- There was also a subcommittee meeting held in July on community garden city policy development

5. Update from Front Yard Garden Toolkit Subcommittee
  - Vanessa presented an overview of the draft toolkit.
  - Feedback – the toolkit should note we are promoting front yard gardens from spring through fall. We are not encouraging year round structures like greenhouses.
  - Vanessa recommended the creation of a one-page Infographic and tri-fold brochure as hard copy versions of the toolkit.
  - It was decided that a distribution plan is needed if hard copy versions are created. Where will they go (ex. City Community Centres, businesses)? Will they be replaced? Who will monitor this?
  - Prior to the next meeting (Wed, Oct 29) Vanessa will distribute a draft version of the toolkit via email to the committee, with final feedback required from the committee in advance as well.

New Business

- Wed, Oct 1<sup>st</sup> Trillium Awards
  - Bernie, Phil and Marty are attending the Trillium Awards on behalf of the Committee

- Bernie will be presenting the Green Leadership award, as well as speaking on behalf of the Committee announcing the new Front Yard Farming award
- The next version of the Sustainability Committee will continue sponsoring this new Trillium Award in future years
- Community Garden Policy Development Sub-committee - Update
  - Update from Dan
  - Parameters set for policy work and involvement, Kristen to create a Flow Chart
  - Need to determine policy dimensions
    - gardens run by others on private property
    - gardens run by others on city property
    - gardens run by city staff on city property
  - Kristen understands our committee timelines, and will provide a draft before our next meeting on October 29
  - The sub-committee will meet as well prior to that meeting
- Community Engagement Fair – Tues, Nov 25<sup>th</sup> (Full Day Event)
  - All city committees will be invited to attend to promote their 2015-2018 committee to the public, and “pitch” their new committee
  - Do we want to be there? If yes, what are we trying to promote and what would be bring to the fair?
  - This will be discussed further at the October 29 meeting. Marty to ask Marco to facilitate the discussion around next steps for the Sustainability Committee.
  - All committee members to review The Way Forward: An “Anti-Shelving Strategy” prior to next meeting (pages 40-45 from the City’s Sustainability Plan)

Chair adjourned meeting at 5:40PM