



**Corporation of the Municipality of South Huron
Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee
Minutes**

**Thursday, March 5, 2020, 4:00 p.m.
Olde Town Hall - Verity Room**

Members Present: Marissa Vaughan, Council Representative
Jessica Thompson, Huron Perth Public Health
Tim Cumming, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority
Alyssa Keller, External Representative
Steve Boles, Chair/External Representative
Ryan Munn, External Representative

Staff Present: Justin Finkbeiner, Administrative Assistant
Stacey Jeffery, Climate Change Officer/Recording Secretary
Scott Currie, Communications/Strategic Initiatives

1. Call to Order

Chair Boles called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Member Thompson provided a brief introduction on her role at Huron Perth Public Health and the consideration of climate change into their work.

2. Agenda

Motion: CCAAC 10-2020

Moved: Tim Cumming

Seconded: Marissa Vaughan

That Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee approves the Agenda as presented.

Disposition: Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and the General Nature thereof

Member Cumming - Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority - Item 6.2

I, Tim Cumming hereby declare a pecuniary interest to Agenda Item No. 6.2, Item Title: Footprints to Forests, the general nature thereof being: sharing of information about a tree planting program for carbon capture - donation to this program if through ABCA would be a program administered by my employer. If through Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, then no conflict.

4. Minutes

Motion: CCAAC 11-2020

Moved: Marissa Vaughan

Seconded: Alyssa Keller

That Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee adopts the minutes of February 6, 2020 as printed and circulated.

Disposition: Carried

5. Workplan Milestones

5.1 Goals of Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

S. Jeffery provided the committee with an overview of the eight (8) goals that have been identified for the climate change adaptation strategy.

The following suggested changes to the goals were discussed:

- Goal 2 - addition of "and action"; and
- Goal 8 - addition of "infrastructure".

Motion: CCAAC 12-2020

Moved: Marissa Vaughan

Seconded: Ryan Munn

That the Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee support eight (8) goals of the South Huron's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy as follows:

Goal 1: Integrate climate change adaptation into municipal planning, asset management and operations;

Goal 2: Support municipal and community resilience awareness and action;

Goal 3: Ensure community readiness and a coordinated response to extreme weather events;

Goal 4: Reduce risks to buildings, properties and people from flooding;

Goal 5: Minimize disruption to municipal service delivery;

Goal 6: Reduce health and safety risks to municipal workers and community;

Goal 7: Protect and enhance the natural landscape to mitigate impacts members from extreme temperatures; and

Goal 8: Strengthen the resiliency of municipal infrastructure and facilities.

Disposition: Carried

5.2 Action Planning

5.2.1 Identified Action Items for South Huron

The potential to include mitigation action items into the strategy was discussed. Member Boles and Member Cumming discussed the importance of reducing the impact on climate change through mitigation to reduce emissions significantly. It was suggested that discussion around mitigation action to be discussed in further detail at the April meeting and added to the agenda. Discussion around ensuring that the Municipality is working towards reducing the problem that they are preparing for is important and must be considered, whether it fit within the adaptation strategy or a separate initiative. Member Thompson provided the committee with an overview of the health unit structure and mechanisms in place to ensure they as an organization are supporting the community initiatives they support.

S. Jeffery provided the Committee with a brief overview of the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) administered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) which is a Milestone program focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Municipality of South Huron signed on to the program in December 2017. Further information of the PCP program will be provided by Staff at a subsequent meeting. It was discussed that an overall action regarding a commitment to reducing the Municipality's overall carbon footprint is important. This will be discussed in detail at the April committee meeting and added to the agenda.

Member Vaughan inquired about quantifying the impacts and goals to include where we are now and what the goal is. An example of this was given: action item related to tree cover should address current forest cover and what the future target is from the action. S. Jeffery explained that the action plan will identify qualitative and quantitative measures, where applicable, and will be investigated during the project review. It was also discussed that the plan should identify the actions that the Municipality is already doing in terms in terms of adaptation.

S. Currie entered the meeting at 4:27 p.m.

J Finkbeiner left the meeting at 4:32 p.m.

The following changes and comments on the action items identified for South Huron were discussed:

- Action Item 2.1 - change "conservation" to "conversation";
- Action Item 4.7 - comment on the potential to include the impact on insurance;
- Action Item 6.4 - add "settlement" after urban boundary to the action item; and
- Action Item 6.4 - add "native species" to the description.

S. Jeffery discussed that the action items range from small changes to large capital projects and represent either new actions or enhancing some of things the Municipality already does. An example of an implementation plan was shown to the Committee and highlighted identifying the cost, timeframe of implementation, responsible department, and potential partnerships for each action item.

J. Finkbeiner returned to the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

5.2.2 Action Item Examples from Other Jurisdictions

S. Jeffery provided examples of action items from other jurisdictions. A presentation from the Clean Air Partnership in the fall of 2019 will be circulated to the committee members, for information.

5.2.3 Public/Stakeholder Input

S. Jeffery provided an overview of MySouthHuron and the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy page. The survey focused on action

planning was reviewed. It was discussed that the survey will be open for submissions from March 6 to March 20, 2020.

Member Vaughan suggested that the vision statement of the climate change adaptation strategy be added to the survey page. She also discussed the opportunity to reach out to Eco-Exeter to encourage youth to complete the survey. Staff to send Amanda Keller at SHDHS a link to the survey.

5.3 South Huron's Changing Climate

The Committee reviewed the future climate projections for South Huron visual. It was discussed that the visual could contain existing variable baselines and what is happening currently with our temperatures, precipitation, flooding events, extreme weather. There is the potential to also include information on global emissions and what the current scenario is.

Member Keller suggested that awareness materials could have a focus on information that people can't ignore (ex. how do you feel about # cubic metres sewage flooding versus a focus on general flooding) to gain attention from the public.

Staff to explore ways to include additional information on the visual as it relates to existing conditions of the variables.

Member Munn left the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

6. Other Business

6.1 June 4, 2020 Scheduled Committee Meeting (Member Vaughan)

Scott Currie left the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

S Jeffery indicated to the committee that herself and Member Vaughan will be absent from the June 4, 2020 meeting. It was recommended that the June 4, 2020 meeting date should be changed. Potential dates were discussed: June 11, June 18 and June 25.

Staff to send all committee members a Doodle Poll prior to the next committee meeting to determine the preferred June meeting date. The outcome of the poll will be discussed at the April 2, 2020 meeting.

6.2 Footprints to Forests (Member Cumming)

Member Cumming - Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority - Item 6.2

I, Tim Cumming hereby declare a pecuniary interest to Agenda Item No. 6.2, Item Title: Footprints to Forests, the general nature thereof being: sharing of information about a tree planting program for carbon capture - donation to this program if through ABCA would be a program administered by my employer. If through Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, then no conflict.

Member Cummings, who requested the item to be discussed by the Committee, provided an overview of Footprints to Forests program and would like the Committee to consider offsetting travel to and from the committee meetings through a donation to a carbon offset initiative, such as Footprints to Forests or the Carbon Footprint Initiative.

Member Cumming left the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

It was discussed that there is no approved budget for the committee at this time. Although not explicitly stated, the Municipality does currently implement a tree by-law and other measures that do promote tree planting. The action items from the adaptation strategy will also promote tree planting and naturalization but is not framed as an "offset measure". Discussions around concerns of only addressing the footprint of Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee and not including any other municipal meetings and activities.

The Committee members discussed that the Footprints to Forest tool is a great awareness tool that should be promoted as part of the climate change adaptation strategy for the community to calculate their own carbon footprint.

Member Cumming returned to the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

6.3 Resolution and Referral from February 18, 2020 Regular Council Meeting

Discussion from the members in supporting the efforts made by Eco-Exeter. The elimination of single use plastics is mitigation focused and can be included within the adaptation strategy as an action item to support their efforts with specifics related to reducing the Municipality's impact and waste reduction. The action item must be very clear and concise to avoid any misinformation regarding where single use plastics will be eliminated. Discussion around the elimination to occur only within municipal offices and internal meetings.

Concerns about completely eliminating single-use plastics outside of municipal offices and the impact it may have on the community were

discussed. An example was given that single-use plastics do play a role during emergencies and situations (ex. during boiled water advisories).

Member Vaughan discussed the need for bringing Bluewater Recycling Association into the conversation of waste reduction and efficient recycling practices. It was discussed that the change in global demand has an impact on their operations and is often misunderstood. There are efficiencies in waste and recycling collection could be made on a community-wide scale. Wendy Chapman provides educational sessions that could be held to inform the Municipality and the community.

Motion: CCAAC 13-2020

Moved: Marissa Vaughan

Seconded: Alyssa Keller

That the Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee recommends to include an action item within the climate change adaptation strategy related to the elimination of single use plastics within municipal offices.

Disposition: Carried

7. Correspondence

7.1 Sustainable Huron Meeting - February 21, 2020 (Chair Boles)

S. Jeffery provided a brief overview of the Sustainable Huron meeting and noted that the presentations are available on the website included in the agenda.

7.2 Is the Coast Clear? Lake Huron Conference (May 12-13, 2020)

Discussion that there will be adequate representation from the Committee members at the conference. Member Vaughan and S. Jeffery are registered to attend. It is also anticipated that staff from the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority will also be in attendance.

7.3 Speaker Series on Climate Change - Partners for Learning

S. Jeffery informed the Committee that she will be presenting on Monday March 9, 2020 at the Partners for Learning Speaker Series on Climate Change. Scheduled speakers for the series may be of interest to the Committee members to attend.

8. Adjournment

Motion: CCAAC 14-2020

Moved: Tim Cumming

Seconded: Alyssa Keller

That Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee hereby adjourns at 5:43 p.m., to meet again on April 2, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. or at the Call of the Chair.

Disposition: Carried

DRAFT