



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

**Thursday, February 4, 2021, 4:00 p.m.  
Remote Electronic Meeting**

Members Present: Marissa Vaughan, Council Representative  
Tim Cumming, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority  
Alyssa Keller, External Representative  
Steve Boles, Chair/External Representative  
Ryan Munn, Vice-Chair/External Representative

Member Regrets: Jessica Thompson, Huron Perth Public Health

Staff Present: Stacey Jeffery, Climate Change Officer/Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

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

2. Agenda

**Motion:** CCAAC 01-2021

**Moved:** Marissa Vaughan

**Seconded:** Alyssa Keller

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

**Disposition: Carried**

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and the General Nature thereof

None noted.

4. Minutes

**Motion:** CCAAC 02-2021

**Moved:** Marissa Vaughan

**Seconded:** Ryan Munn

That Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee adopts the minutes of November 26, 2020 as printed and circulated.

**Disposition: Carried**

5. Business to be Discussed

5.1 Action 2.1 (Community Forum)

Chair Boles asked clarification on how the Committee views the delivery format of the forum and whether it would be a live or series event, full or half day. It was discussed that there is potential for significant technical needs in hosting a true live event and it may be more beneficial in prerecording the content. Member Cumming and Member Vaughan identified that there is value to build upon what others are doing and that the forum should act as a portal into what others are doing.

The Committee discussed the community forum to be delivered as a series event, where a topic will be highlighted in a 20 (twenty) minute segment and released to the public. If willing, each Committee member to provide a short introduction to each of the topics. Staff to provide Committee members with Durham Region's four part series information, as an example.

It was discussed that a pre-recorded video doesn't allow for questions to be asked, an option could be to reach out to the community for questions related to the topics and the answers can be given in the video - this may be a great opportunity to reach out to various groups within the community. Staff to look at the survey responses and pull any questions that may be relevant to include and reference the survey in the video. Member Vaughan discussed the benefit of linking the climate adaptation survey with the series.

The Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to trial one of the series first to identify the logistics carried out for the rest of the series videos. The natural environment/asset topic might be one that could be put together within the next month or so with staff from the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, dependent on their availability. Member Cumming can connect with potential staff and define a scope.

Communication plan and avenues to utilize (such as the municipal social media channels, The Hub in newspaper and the online newsletter were discussed. The creation of a communication plan and updated workplan to reflect the discussions of this meeting are required. Timing of the series would be dependent on topics and availability of speakers, being mindful of season (i.e. agricultural sector may be available in June).

Member Vaughan discussed that although the action items were approved by council in the strategy, the Committee should still provide council with the intention of the community forum through a Committee Memo to Council.

**Motion:** CCAAC 03-2021

**Moved:** Ryan Munn

**Seconded:** Alyssa Keller

That Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee authorizes Member Vaughan and Stacey Jeffery to prepare a Memo to South Huron Council outlining the intentions the Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee regarding the delivery of the Community Forum.

**Disposition: Carried**

#### 5.1.1 Agriculture (Member Munn)

Member Munn provided an overview of the information gathered related to agriculture and climate change, including practices applied in Huron County. It was discussed that the specific term climate change isn't utilized widely by the agricultural industry, rather, there is an acknowledgment and understanding of the changes occurring and the industry is very forward thinking and innovated to address the changes. One of the notable topics of interest is grant funding for the agricultural sector.

Member Vaughan inquired about what the sense was from the agricultural contacts of what role they may play in the community forum. Member Munn discussed that all have an interest in sharing their on the ground practices and examples as a means to educate others in the industry. It was also discussed that verbiage and wording of messaging related to the event is important to ensure that those involved in the sessions are in agreeance.

### 5.1.2 Energy Efficiency, Green Buildings and Green Technology (Member Vaughan)

Member Vaughan notified members of a summary provided to all members via email, which are included in the minutes. It was discussed that the word net-zero has been brought forth in many conversations but may have different meanings. A clear understanding of net-zero homes that was most understandable was "zero energy homes are just like any others but better" which includes their ability to be air tight, well insulated and as efficient as possible. The challenge lies in that building new is the best way to get to net-zero, whereas retrofitting older buildings are more difficult and may not reach net-zero. PassiveHouse or similar professional is typically required, although does make new builds slightly more expensive. Also discussed was available grants for efficiency upgrades offered through local utilities with energy audits as a prerequisite.

Member Vaughan discussed ways to address concerns in existing homes, given the nature of South Huron. Some items discussed included: fuel and energy use in homes, indirect sources of carbon (source of energy used), food and consumables. Alternatives Journal (A\J), an environmental magazine had many opinion and article pieces that may be of interest on some of the items within this topic.

Member Cumming advised that during previous Sustainable Huron meetings, Chris Lee has showcased his PassiveHouse new build and may be interesting to feature a local example of this.

Chair Boles offered Member Vaughan assistance with sources of emissions profiles, for both individuals and businesses depending on the scope of this topics session. It was discussed that aside from a new build or complete retrofit of homes and businesses, there are actions that individuals can make that would make a collaborative impact.

### 5.1.3 Flooding Hazards (Member Boles)

Chair Boles discussed a potential scope for the topic including the high level expended increase in precipitation events, severity and frequency. It may be most useful for the community to hit home the concerns through using information related to the future changes

projected, flooding impacts from a event on a household level and community level (such as outlining the average cost of flooding in Ontario on homeowners). It was outlined that there are many things that can reduce the impact from flooding, particularly on a household level to ensure preparedness. The Home Flood Protection Program was provided as an example of information that could be provided, which gives homeowners a range of ideas to make their house more resilient to flooding, typically at a low cost. Member Boles will begin to identify potential speakers, such as the staff at the Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation.

#### 5.1.4 Natural Environment/Assets (Member Cumming)

Member Cumming provided an overview of the natural environment/assets topic and indicated that because it is so broad, the scope will have to be defined further. Green infrastructure is an important topic as the value placed on natural features needs to be made a priority. Some of the ideas for this topic were discussed and include: natural stormwater, rain gardens, and low impact development.

Member Cumming highlighted the Stormwater Stroll initiative in Bayfield where a tour allows you to see some of the things related to green infrastructure they have implemented such as permeable driveways, grass ditches, low impact development, etc. It was discussed that it is important to highlight what is happening in South Huron and what local individuals or businesses are doing related to this topic in order to encourage others to explore implementing similar concepts on their properties. Member Vaughan discussed that the neighbourhood concept (both residential and business) resonates with the community and has been seen in efforts by Communities in Bloom.

Member Munn inquired about best practices surrounding watercourses within the Municipality and whether or not there is the potential for this to be included in the scope of this topic, given the importance of naturalization in these areas and the benefit it has for the entire community and environment. Stacey Jeffery discussed that within South Huron's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, there are two action items focused specifically on this inquiry under Goal 7: Protect and enhance the natural landscape to mitigate

impacts; however, it is an important piece that the Committee may wish to include in the scope of this topic.

#### 5.1.5 Regional Perspectives/Partners (Member Boles)

Chair Boles asked for further clarification on this topic and what the intent was. Stacey Jeffery explained that this topic may overlap with some of the other topics assigned and that the intent was to identify other local initiatives, groups, projects that would be beneficial to highlight for the community. One example that was discussed were the efforts led by Eco Exeter. It was discussed that bringing in a group such as Eco Exeter to highlight their efforts would be a benefit to the group as well as the community.

#### 5.1.6 Waste Reduction (Member Keller)

No information was provided from Member Keller on this topic.

#### 5.1.7 Water Resources and Wastewater Treatment (Member Keller)

Member Keller provided a summary of water resources, water treatment and wastewater treatment. Climate impacts related to drinking water supply and treatment from the Lake Huron Water Supply system, private wells, municipal wastewater treatment, private septic systems, and compromised water services. From a mitigation perspective, it was discussed that there is also an impact on climate from municipal wastewater treatment process.

#### 5.2 Action 3.3 (Neighbour Check in Program)

Stacey Jeffery provided the Committee with a brief update to this action item. Communications has been initiated with the Social Research and Planning Council (SRPC), which operates under the United Way as well as with the 211 Coordinator with the United Way. A summary of the action item was provided and there was indication that they would discuss the potential for any support they could offer. Staff will provide an update on this action item and any further correspondence at the next Committee meeting.

### 6. Correspondence

None noted.

### 7. Other Business

#### 7.1 Next CCAAC Meeting Date

It was discussed that the Committee shall meet in March of 2021. Staff to send out a poll to determine meeting date with the potential dates being March 4, March 11, March 18, and March 25, 2021.

8. Adjournment

**Motion:** CCAAC 04-2021

**Moved:** Tim Cumming

**Seconded:** Ryan Munn

That Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee hereby adjourns at 6:03 p.m. to meet again on March 18, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. or at the Call of the Chair.

**Disposition: Carried**