



**The Municipal Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes**

**March 5, 2025, 7:30 a.m.
Conference Room 1**

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m.

2. Roll Call

The Chair gave the roll call.

Present: T.Seburn, D.Ruttan, N.Dubanow, J.Wilwerth, F.Raso, A.Holdsworth

Absent: S.Laroque, N.Litwin, R.Stockton, T.Lewis

Guests: None.

Staff: Jessica Abrahamse

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

No members declared a pecuniary interest.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

That: The Agenda of the Environmental Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

Moved by: T.Seburn

Seconded by: F.Raso

Carried

5. Adoption of the Minutes

That: The Minutes for January 8, 2025 be adopted as presented.

Moved by: Andrew Holdsworth
Seconded by: Frank Raso
Carried

6. Environmental Plans Review

No plans to review this meeting

7. Outstanding Business

7.1 EAC is interested in learning more if the park design has been completed for the Burleigh South Subdivision

- Staff update, currently there are no updates on this design. Information will be provided as it becomes available.

7.2 New town property - invasive species follow up with absent EAC members

- Waiting for absent members to comment on which property this is

7.3 Further Discussion of 2025 Goals

- Outreach portion of EAC can be a focus (communication with residents)

- Recruitment/Succession Planning

- In past years a native species pamphlet had been developed, and the planning department had distributed it to residents and developers

- The pamphlet could be updated

- Invasive species education, this could be accomplished through social media, scheduled posts through the Town's website. (Did you know?) Subcommittee volunteers - Jim Wilwerth and Andrew Holdsworth (Regenerative agriculture, Native plants and spring planting guide can be added

- Pollinators, information to support the Bee City Initiative

- Bigger picture policy development, Official Plan - EAC members have provided comments

- Climate Change Adaptation Plan - EAC members have provided comments

- Good news story, obtain academic paper from Ian Smith, create a case study and do outreach to farmers in Bertie County

- Council presentation, past, present and future can be prepared

- Presentations at the Library or do a webinar of EAC's contributions to the Town

- Key properties for acquisition to improve the Town's ecosystem (Natural Area's Inventory - read through) birding/eco-tourism - constructed wetlands

- 7.4 Tree By-Law updates, staff member Jessica Abrahamse provided a high level overview of the changes that are being proposed.

8. New Business

a) Public Advisory Committee Member Recruitment

Staff provided an update regarding Resolution No. FA-132-2024, passed at the Board of Directors meeting on December 13, 2024.

- Report No. FA-65-24 was received for further information
- Staff have initiated recruitment process for Public Advisory Committee members.
- Report No. FA-65-24 and the Public Advisory Committee Terms of Reference will be circulated to partner and local area municipalities.
- Questions regarding the recruitment process to be directed to Melanie Davis (mdavis@npca.ca)

b) Public Open Houses

- March 19, Tree By-Law Update
- March 27, Climate Change Action Plan

9. Next Meeting Date

April 9, 2025

10. Adjournment

That: The Environmental Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

Motion - Nick D.

Secunder - Jim W.

Carried