



**WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
Municipal Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAP) Committee Agenda  
April 7, 2021 – 11:00am  
Sanford Council Chambers / Zoom**

- 1.0 Call to Order and Identification of Designates**
- 2.0 Approval of Agenda and Additions**
- 3.0 Approval of Minutes**
- 4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes**
- 5.0 New Business**
  - 5.1 GHG Potential Actions information Report (Saira Shah)
  - 5.2 Green Business Promotion and Recognition (Saira Shah)
  - 5.3 Avondale Adaptation Discussions (Saira Shah)
- 6.0 Miscellaneous**
- 7.0 Next Meeting Date**



**WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
Municipal Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAP) Committee  
February 10, 2021 – 11:00am  
Virtual Meeting (Zoom)**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Debbie Francis, Chair  
Councillor Rupert Jannasch  
Councillor Jeff Hart, Vice-Chair  
Melissa Sheehy-Richard, Resident Member  
Saira Shah, Planning Designate  
VanEssa Roberts, Community Services Designate  
Mark Phillips, CAO

**STAFF:** Vanessa Lake, Planning Meeting Secretary  
Sara Poirier, Planner  
Tim Leslie, Building and Fire Inspection Official

**REGRETS:** Kathy Kehoe, Community Services  
Greg Pace, Resident Member  
Shelleena Thornton, Protective Services Designate

**PUBLIC:** There were no members of the public present.

**Call to Order and Identification of Designates.**

Chair Francis called the meeting to order at 11:00am.

Committee members identified their MCCAP designation.

## **Approval of Agenda and Additions**

Planning Designate Shah suggested adding Energy Efficiency and Building Codes under New Business as item 5.0. Tim Leslie attended the meeting to give a presentation on this topic. Moved by Community Services Member Roberts and seconded by Resident Member Sheehy-Richard that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Jannasch and seconded by Resident Member Sheehy-Richard that the minutes be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

## **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## **New Business**

### **Energy Efficiency and Building Codes (Tim Leslie)**

Manger of Building and Fire Inspection Services, Tim Leslie, was present to provide information on this topic. Nova Scotia is a leader in energy efficiency regulations, dating back to 2015. The municipality adopted these codes in 2017. The municipality is currently up to date with the 2017 code book, and a new code book is anticipated by December 2021. The goal is to reach net zero by 2030. The thickness of the insulation is used to measure efficiency. Mr. Leslie did mention that contractors were concerned about the costs of meeting the proposed regulations. The measurement is referred to as the R value and represents how much heat is lost through a barrier. Vice-Chair Hart asked what minimum R value is required. Mr. Leslie explained the minimum R value is 24 in walls, with a double layer of R12 insulation. Spray foam on the exterior wall is highly recommended.

Mr. Leslie left the meeting after this presentation.

### **GHG Potential Actions (Saira Shah)**

Ms. Shah gave a presentation regarding goals and actions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. A report was prepared by WSP for the former Municipality of the District of West Hants on potential actions to reduce emissions. Ms. Shah went through the goals and actions identified in the report to gather feedback from the Committee to inform the GHG action plan that will be developed in the summer. Seven main goals were identified: reduce municipal building energy consumption, focus on renewable energy, investigate a Green Fleet program, educate both staff and the community about energy

efficiency, take initiative, investigate active transportation, and buying/eating local. Each goal had several actions associated with them, and the committee discussed these actions at length. Overall, the committee was pleased with the actions and goals presented. There were some suggestions for tax breaks or incentives to promote energy efficient buildings and an interest in developing a PACE program for new construction to increase residential development opportunities. The Committee had concerns about proposing a new employee to work exclusively on climate change projects based on budget constraints. There was a lot of interest in the transportation hub concept and developing partnerships to install electric vehicle charging stations with the Windsor Township. There was debate about how to expand some of these ideas to the broader region outside of Windsor such as creating a web of services instead of a hub based in Windsor. There was general support for the promotion of buy local but concern about the increase in multiple farmers markets and finding a way to balance convenience for the consumers and level of effort for the farmers.

### **Green Business Promotion and Recognition**

The committee discussed how they would recognize and promote businesses and organizations who are developing sustainable practices. Ms. Shah presented a few options such as social media posts, video tours, and awards. Identifying these businesses could be done by creating a form for the business to fill out themselves or by reaching out to businesses directly. The committee is concerned that by contacting businesses themselves they may accidentally miss some so a combination of reaching out and open calls on social media would work well. The Committee did not want to place a limit on how many businesses could participate and would like to give businesses the choice of being featured in a video or in a social media post depending on the preference of the business. The committee discussed incentive options to get more businesses involved and to reward those who are already investing in green energy. A name for this promotion series was not chosen. Another idea presented by the committee was to involve these businesses in these discussions, either by including them in the committee or by creating a separate committee.

### **Avondale Adaptation Discussion**

Todd Richard, Director of Public Works, has provided a topographical map of the area to staff. On April 12, there will be a group meeting with municipal staff and local heritage museum staff to discuss adaptation options for the short and long term.

### **Miscellaneous**

There were no miscellaneous topics to discuss.

### **Adjournment / Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting may take place in the first week of July, if the summer student is available. The committee will be informed when the date is decided.

Moved by Councillor Jannasch and seconded by Councillor Hart that the meeting adjourn at 12:50pm. Motion carried.