



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
Municipal Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAP) Committee
November 24, 2022 – 11:00am
Sanford Council Chambers / Zoom

PRESENT: Debbie Francis, Councillor
Rupert Jannasch, Councillor, Chair
Scott McLean, Councillor
Mark Phillips, CAO
Sara Poirier, Planning and Development Designate
Shelleena Thornton, Protective Services Designate
Kathy Kehoe, Community Services
Diana Gibson, Financial Services Designate
Todd Richard, Director of Public Works
Mark Williamson, Resident Member, Vice-Chair
Peter Moore, Resident Member

STAFF: Alex Dunphy, Planner
John Ogilvie, Climate Action Coordinator
Vanessa Lake, Planning Assistant

REGRETS: There were no regrets.

PUBLIC: There were no members of the public present.

Call to Order and Identification of Designates

Chair Jannasch called the meeting to order at 11:00AM. Committee members identified themselves and their designation.

Approval of Agenda and Additions

Chair Jannasch added item 3.2 Committee Name to the agenda. Moved by Peter Moore and seconded by Sara Poirier that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

New Business

Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund (John Ogilvie)

As requested at the last MCCAP meeting, John gave an overview of the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund, which offers a grant between \$75,000 and \$1 million towards sustainability projects. WHRM's contribution to the project would depend on project size, ranging from 20% for projects under \$250,000, to 40% for projects over \$500,000. The pre-screening deadline for applications is December 2 and full applications are due December 16. Project expenditures are required by December 31, 2024. There are two focuses of the fund: mitigation and adaptation. John suggested a mitigation project to progress toward the goal of a 45% reduction in annual corporate emissions by 2030. A medium-scale solar project for energy generation and consumption offsetting could be relatively quick to implement and is also a stated goal of the MCCAP Committee in the MCCAP workplan. John presented some data on WHRM corporate emissions. A reduction of 35.3 tonnes of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions on the Municipality's part would meet the 2030 corporate emissions reduction goal. A solar installation could be sized to meet this goal with a 48kW system, taking up approximately 2900 sq. ft. and costing approximately \$130,000 depending on location. John suggested a few different municipal buildings and locations where solar could be installed and the potential offsets and reductions. John required direction for the pre-screening application, and the committee discussed the topic at length. A concern of the Committee was the structural integrity of buildings for roof-mounted solar installations, and ground-mounted were considered. It was also noted that the timing of this is rather tight and that precise calculations were not yet available. The cost-savings of solar projects were also discussed. The Committee agreed that a larger project would be preferable, for its energy savings, payoff, and public visibility. Location specifics were not yet needed for the pre-screening application and the Committee decided on a price range they wished to request from Council to support this application. John noted that stacking with Federal funding was permitted.

Moved by Debbie Francis and seconded by CAO Mark Phillips that the MCCAP Committee recommends that Council approve in principle funding 30% of the Municipal contribution of the application to the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund in the 2023-24 budget to support a solar project, up to a maximum Council contribution of \$150,000.

Committee Name

Chair Jannasch mentioned how a resident had been unable to find the Municipal Climate Change Action Plan Committee because the name “MCCAP” does not resonate with the community. He suggested the Committee think about its identity and whether a name change is required. Sara asked if this was something that he would like for Staff to review. Chair Jannasch said there does not need to be a lot of effort put into this, but a brief report for the next meeting might be worthwhile.

Roundtable Discussion

Sara mentioned that there will be an EV Charger opening event at the West Hants Sports Complex on December 1 at 1:00pm, where the Mayor will officially open the charger to the public. Next Ride will be offering electric vehicle test drives from 12-3pm and those who are interested can book their time at nextridens.com.

Next Meeting Date / Adjournment

The next meeting date is scheduled for February 8, 2022. The Committee will be notified of any changes.

Moved by Debbie Francis and seconded by Scott McLean that the meeting be adjourned at 12:27pm. Motion carried.

Chair’s Signature