

Energy and Environment Minutes, 2018 - 2020

THIS IS A ROUGH COPY, intended to give a history of the committee's conversations. Some portions of minutes are omitted. There may be errors.

THESE RECORDS ARE NOT COMPLETE. If you wish to cite passages, please refer to the originals on the City website.

DOCUMENTS

Greenhouse gas reduction plan (Perth County) - August 2021 https://www.stratford.ca/en/live-here/resources/Climate-Change/Perth-County-and-Municipalities-Climate-Change-Plan-FINAL_cb.pdf

MINUTES

2018 January

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2018-01-11-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/79a91a12-4638-40c8-b1be-ab7500de603c>

Chair: Kerry McManus, VC Marianne Hawley

Waste & Water

EC: working group toured a residence on Birmingham that has replaced all windows with high efficiency. Retrofitting entire house. Also met with a volunteer from Alzheimer's Assn to discuss details to further reduce waste at Soup'sOn Diabetes Association has been approved for text diversion program, with bin now located at landfill. Recycling calendar will include dates. Lorraine Kuepfer raised issue of plastics not being permitted to be shipped & recycled elsewhere. - info to come.

Transit & Climate

Bike racks delivered, will be installed this spring

Ecological

LK registered and paid for E&E booth at home show. Should have been charged as nonprofit. Possible partnership with Communities in Bloom for the shows, lower costs to E&E. Spend up to a maximum of \$1,000 for home show expenses - carried.

Dave Hanly & CM attended Parks Board meeting - CM presented on crib wall work. Well received.

Energy

Kate Simpson supplied KM with info on water pollution control plant; City working on net zero initiative to optimize the control plant infrastructure, increase its production of methane by adding source separated organics. Some funding from province

Business arising - publicize Soup's On

New Business:

Projects & priorities to be dealt with at next meeting. No changes to terms of reference.

Ethan Elliot presented on iMatter, youth initiative — create a report card for your city re climate change. Can E&E participate? KM: city has a greenhouse report card from a few years ago, why not compare. DH added that UTRCA has an environmental report, soon coming out. Will bring it next meeting.

UTRCA Grade 7/8 - students highlighted garbage as their concern, and oil, grease and pieces of towels . Will discuss with Kate Simpson

ATAC rep - Lorraine Kuepfer

2018 February

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2018-02-08-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/79244e14-3c5c-4357-bba4-ab7500de6040>

Ed Dujlovic & Michael Mortimer – Update on Organics Project

Ed Dujlovic explained the status of the “**zero waste**” or “**renewable natural gas**” projects. Stratford is looking at producing renewable natural gas at the Stratford plant. They currently have an anaerobic digester at the sewage treatment plant to produce methane gas. A lot of it is burned off or used in the process of the digester. The technology that GE Water has would be new to Canada, but is in operation in the UK. They are doing more testing in Guelph at their waste water treatment plant to improve the efficiency of their processes. Stratford would be looking at food waste going through the hydrolysis process getting into the anaerobic digester, producing the methane. You then clean up the methane to meet standards for natural gas and pump that directly into Union Gas’ distribution network. The city has been in discussions with Union Gas regarding renewable natural gas as a lot of changes have taken place in the market. He noted that some provinces are looking at making curbside food organics collection mandatory for communities over a certain population. Stratford would meet the population criteria. If this is the case, Stratford will have to review the number of trucks they currently use as well as researching the use of bio filters to regulate odours that may occur. Stratford has received \$5M from the Ontario Centres of Excellence and have also applied to the Greenhouse Gas Challenge Fund for \$10M. They should hear in February if they were successful with this grant. Mr. Dujlovic estimates the new facility would cost approximately \$14-15M to build. If they are successful, construction may start as early as this summer and take approximately 1-1½ years to build and be operational. Mr. Dujlovic stated the estimated lifespan of the facility would be 20 years. This would be the first facility in Ontario; there is currently one operational in Quebec.

Mike Mortimer discussed with the committee that the theme for this year’s **World Water Day** is “Nature & Water”. Staff are planning on running tours again this year for World Water Day on March 22nd. Last year they toured a waste water plant, water tower, Romeo Street pumping station and one of the waste water collection pumping stations. Mr. Mortimer plans to run the same tours this year and have them promoted a lot more. He will send information to Councillor McManus to distribute to the schools. Once plans are set, he will send staff the information to forward to members. The annual water quality report will be posted on the City’s website on February 28, 2018 and a staff summary report will be going to Council by March 31, 2018 regarding compliance in 2017.

Councillor McManus suggested that if staff was applying for grants, a water truck to deliver water to events would be a great option. Councillor Henderson noted that she has requested staff add a section on event applications stating alternatives to using bottled water. Angela Bossence explained that the City of Guelph has vending machines at their recreation centres that sell stainless steel water bottles for \$3 and have footprints leading from the vending machine to water bottle filling stations.

Anne Carbert – Update on Waste Reduction Efforts (Soups On)

Anne Carbert reported that the Soups On event went very well and visitors were receptive to the “bring your own spoon” campaign. More people brought spoons than organizers expected, estimating upwards of 1000 people bringing spoons. Some people even brought their own spoons to Heartburn Day a few weeks later, which was a nice surprise. When Soups On was over, they had collected only seven bags of garbage and 30 bags of compost. Recycling was difficult to calculate, but she estimates 15 bags of recyclables. There were 30 volunteers specifically for garbage/recycling/composting. She will be working with organizers to help plan for the 2019 event. She would welcome any feedback on new waste diversion ideas they can incorporate in future events. Councillor McManus suggested the waste working group could help work on a “tips” sheet to possibly be included with the city’s event applications.

Waste & Water

Kate Simpson reported that staff has posted on social media and the city’s website reminding people that coffee cups are not recyclable in Stratford. She is also doing an interview with the newspaper tomorrow

Ecological

Councillor Henderson will e-mail a volunteer sign-up sheet for the upcoming Garden Show. Craig Merkley has ordered trees for the schools. Members discussed the possibility that the E&E funds requested to be carried over to the 2018 budget may not be approved. The committee had planned on using the carry over to fund an upcoming Avon River shoreline naturalization project in conjunction with the UTRCA and the Parks Board.

Motion by Dave Hanley, seconded by Dave Mabee that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests Council consider, in accordance with and as per the September 14, 2017 motion previously passed by the E&E Committee, confirming the earlier request to Council that the Committee’s reserve funds be allocated to the E&E 2018 budget for shoreline naturalization/bank stabilization projects. Carried

2018 March

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2018-03-08-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/cd16d1e9-c409-401b-b82a-ab7500de6045>

Waste & Water

Emily Chandler updated the committee that Anne Carbert is working on completing the form to use for waste reduction plans at events in Stratford. The working group will meet again with Ms. Carbert in a couple of weeks when a draft is complete. They will also be planning additional 2018 priority projects.

Kate Simpson reported that the textile recycling proposal is going to the March 26, 2018 Council meeting for final approval. The first collection date is scheduled for the week of

April 16, 2018 on the regular garbage days. She will do a social media blitz to explain the program to citizens. Dave Mabee inquired with Ms. Simpson about e-waste in Stratford. Ms. Simpson reported that in 2017, the Stratford landfill diverted and safely recycled over 75 tons of e-waste. Members asked if Ms. Simpson would organize another group tour of the landfill site

Ecological

Councillor Henderson reported that the Garden Show went very well. The location in the front lobby was great for traffic at the booth. She has distributed notes via e-mail to members from the show. A project the working group will take on is updating the green booklets. Updating the E&E website would also be another project. Angela Bossence asked if activity to a website can be tracked at all. Staff will inquire with IT to see if this is possible and report back to members. E&E members were asked at the Garden Show about recycling planting pots. Kate Simpson noted that Stratford does not currently accept plastic pots to be recycled, there are some municipalities like London who do recycle them. She has sent some inquiries to London to find out about their program. Craig Merkley shared pictures of the crib wall work underway on the Avon River near Tom Patterson Island. The project is estimated to be complete within the next week. Dave Hanley reported that at the E&E booth, he met representatives from other municipalities who were interested in the Stratford E&E committee and how they operated. He forwarded staff contact information for them to inquire.

Vanni Azzano reported that 20 sugar maple trees have been ordered to present to all schools in Stratford. UTRCA staff will contact the schools to see if they are interested in receiving a tree and if so, UTRCA will deliver the tree, help plant it and show them how to maintain and care for the tree in the future. They are planning on doing this project during Green Week (April 16-20).

Mr. Azzano also explained that the UTRCA would like to work on a program to help schools with various naturalization projects each year. Depending on the projects, it will affect how many funds will be required. He inquired if this would be a project E&E would be interested in also participating in. Members agreed they would like to participate.

Motion by Angela Bossence, seconded by Lorraine Kuepfer that the Stratford Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$500.00 on 2018 Stratford schoolyard naturalization projects (native plant material). Carried.

A proposed tree-planting project the Parks Manager has noted is infilling around Greenwood Park with 150 trees. CBEAC has already agreed to partner on this project. The total cost of the project is \$1,500.00. The proposed date for the planting is April 20, 2018.

Motion by Dave Hanley, seconded by Dave Mabee that the Stratford Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends \$750.00 to partner with CBEAC on a tree planting project to infill around Greenwood Park. Carried.

April 2018

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2018-04-12-1630-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/08272d70-23d3-4608-8a78-ab7500de604a>

Waste & Water

Emily Chandler updated members that the working group has met and discussed the draft events waste document that Ann Carbert has been working on giving her feedback. Lorraine Kuepfer also included examples of other communities that are also trying to encourage event hosts to have a waste management plan. When the final copy is ready, the E&E committee as a whole will have an opportunity to review and make a recommendation to Council to adopt the inclusion of a waste management plan for anyone holding events at city venues

Ecological

Lorraine Kuepfer is working on updating the green booklets; please send her any feedback regarding these. City cleanup is taking place on April 21, 2018 from 10-12. Councillor Henderson will e-mail the poster to everyone. Councillor Henderson noted there are still a couple of slots to be filled for the Home Show. Please let her know if you are available to volunteer. Dave Hanley reported that the 17 trees have arrived to distribute to the local schools. He also added that Craig Merkley has offered to do a tour of the recent Avon River work sites. Committee members would be very interested in seeing the sites. Dave Hanley reported that they are short approximately \$10-\$12,000.00 for the crib wall work on the 90m project on the south shore of the Avon River. They would like to do some fundraising and Councillor Henderson suggested that they also request funds from the City at the Finance & Labour Relations Sub-committee. They are also applying for grant money to help fund the project.

Motion by Dave Hanley, seconded by Anna Stratton that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests staff investigate through the city what opportunities there are for additional financing to cover the shortfall of the Avon River South Shore crib wall project. Carried.

Business arising

iMatter Update – Ethan Elliott

Ethan Elliott suggested tabling the iMatter initiative and possibly researching different climate focus initiatives better suited. Emily Chandler suggested that this could be something that the Energy working group could explore.

UTRCA Green Program Update (St. Aloysius) – Kate Simpson

Kate Simpson reported that she met with the students from St. Aloysius School to discuss landfill and waste reduction issues. She had great dialogue with the kids and noted they were most concerned about hazardous waste.

Update on World Water Day Event

Members reported that the event organized by Mike Mortimer was a great success with many great tours. They noted that the staff at all the tours were fantastic and offered very informative presentations. Members are looking forward to this event growing each year.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

iMatter Update – Ethan Elliott

Ethan Elliott suggested tabling the iMatter initiative and possibly researching

different climate focus initiatives better suited. Emily Chandler suggested that this could be something that the Energy working group could explore.

(c) UTRCA Green Program Update (St. Aloysius) – Kate Simpson

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(d) Update on World Water Day Event

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THIS WAS AN EXCELLENT EVENT - I ATTENDED.

Green Week – April 16-20, 2018

- Tree planting on April 19/20 – contact Vanni Azzano if interested in helping.

Oxford County Zero Waste Event – Thursday, April 19, 2018

- Mayor David Mayberry will be speaking at the Rotary Complex at 7:00 p.m.
- Emily Chandler will send information for a press release to the Clerk's Office
- Lorraine Kuepfer and Anna Stratton will be setting up a display to show easy swaps people can make to reduce waste; they will be giving away a kit or a composter as a draw prize.

Motion by Dave Mabee, seconded by Dave Hanley that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$300.00 for costs associated with the April 19, 2018 Zero Waste Event. Carried.

E&E Budget – Dave Hanley

Dave Hanley inquired if staff could bring a **budget update** to each meeting. This would allow the committee to track their spending and be better prepared for the end of the year.

Textile Diversion Update – Kate Simpson

Kate Simpson reported that Stratford's new textile diversion program was featured on CTV Kitchener News. She will send the link to members. She will do an update on numbers at the next E&E meeting. So far in the collection box at the landfill during January, February and March they have collected almost a ton of material.

Update from Engineering (Taylor Crinklaw)

Kate Simpson updated the committee with some information from Taylor Crinklaw. He will be attending the upcoming Ontario Bike Summit in Toronto, the Ballantyne Street construction included low-impact development in the form of a rain garden

May 2018

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2018-05-01-1130-Accessibility-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/6948192d-f71e-48cc-bf91-ab7500de604a>

Curb Replacements & Budget Update

Dan Sykes reported that they have begun working on curb replacements. He will have a report on the April work at the next meeting. He encouraged AAC members to continue sending him updates and requests.

As discussed at the last meeting, he reported that the driveway at the main entrance at

82 Erie Street is for vehicular traffic, not pedestrian use, therefore does not fall under curb-cut work. He will inquire if the edge can be shaved down to help. Judy Hopf also noted the sidewalk on Front Street between Albert and Brunswick is in need of repairs. Mr. Sykes will have the inspector look at it.

Peter Zein inquired if something should be done at the accessible spots on Wellington Street that do not have curbs at them. There is usually a garbage can placed there to deter cars from driving too far up onto the sidewalk, however the last time he parked there the garbage can had been moved. Julia Opie suggested a bollard be placed there as a more permanent safeguard

PARKING

Councillor Henderson noted now that payment is not required at any meters if a valid accessible permit is displayed, they will have to monitor to see how often the accessible spots are occupied. People may be inclined to use the regular spots more now that they are not required to pay with their permit. Jessica Jantzi had someone inquire at the Home Show about converting the areas along the sides of City Hall into accessible spots (along Downie and Wellington). Members agreed that this would not be a safe area for accessible parking spots. There has been additional accessible parking added in and around Market Square since the redevelopment.

AAC PROJECTS UPDATE

(a) Promoting Accessibility with STA – Peter Zein/Michelle Good

Peter Zein reported that Stratford Tourism has the survey temporarily up and running as a test. Mr. Zein also discussed the survey with Rob Russell and he will mention it at the upcoming City Centre meeting to let all the businesses know the link to the survey is now available. Mr. Zein explained that they will need to discuss further how to use the information and post it on the website. The idea is to slot them into accessible categories.

(b) Stratford Sporting Facilities Accessibility Review – B. Henderson

Councillor Henderson reported that she will discuss with Peter Zein and Roger Koert times to tour the facilities in the upcoming month

Business arising

(a) **Stratford Accessibility Guidelines** – Julia Opie

Julia Opie reported that she has met with the City Clerk to discuss processes for handling situations for people who are not able to meet the guidelines. There would have to be some sort of review process to handle these instances. Ms. Opie noted that Ottawa has a very defined consultation process for the Accessibility Advisory Committee, which is a useful outline to follow. The biggest hurdle is that after the AAC is consulted, there is no process to follow up with their recommendations. Ms. Opie has an Accessibility Steering Committee meeting on May 15, 2018 and members will review the draft guidelines and provide feedback. Julie Patterson suggested the definition of disability could be adjusted to reflect the barrier of the environment, as opposed the individual specifically. She also inquired if Transit should be included in the document. Ms. Opie will look further into if Transit should be included in this document or as a separate document.

(b) **Review of 2017 Annual Status Update and Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2018-2022)** – Julia Opie

Julia Opie reported she met last week with the AODA Steering Committee and did a review of the final drafts. Ms. Opie has distributed these drafts to the AAC for their review and feedback. Members had a few minor wording adjustments, but were pleased with both the updates.

Motion by Michelle Good, seconded by Julie Patterson that the Stratford Accessibility Advisory Committee approves the 2017 Annual Status Update with the recommended amendments. Carried.

Motion by Judy Hopf, seconded by Paul Schoonderwoerd that the Stratford Accessibility Advisory committee approves the Stratford Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for 2018-2022 as presented. Carried.

Members discussed the accessibility issues facing the Stratford Police station and how the multi-year accessibility plan addresses these types of issues in the future.

(c) Update on 2018 AAC Forum – Julia Opie

Julia Opie reported that the forum was a great success and they are looking forward to working with Heritage Stratford on accessibility reviews in the future.

(d) Update on Stratford Home Show

Julia Opie has sent an e-mail to organizers to request the AAC booth not be in the arena area next year. It was very cold and loud where they were this year and would like to go back to the area they have been previous years. Councillor Henderson noted that the Rotary staff and SABA members were very helpful.

Jessica Jantzi will bring the comment book from the show to the June meeting. Members suggested that around January/February of next year, they should begin looking at gathering updated government information to have on hand at the booth.

2018 May (second meeting)

Waste & Water

Emily Chandler reported that they are waiting to receive the final draft of the waste reduction plan for use at events from Anne Carbert. Ms. Carbert is looking to possibly have the City of Stratford partner with the Canadian Federation of University Women on this project. She is hoping to have the document approved by staff and council to begin distribution in September.

Ecological

The sub-committee has suggested purchasing two tablecloths and a pop up banner that showcases the committee's work. Members agreed this would be worth having to use at future events.

Motion by Dave Hanley, seconded by Lorraine Kuepfer that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$500.00 to purchase various display items including two tablecloths and a pop up banner. Carried.

All tree giveaways are completed, with the exception of one. Councillor McManus will follow up with Craig Merkley regarding the final tree recipient. The sub-committee suggested that as part of a future spring tree planting, that trees could be given to each of the churches in Stratford or perhaps industries who show initiative during Green Week.

The South Shore naturalization is \$7,000.00 short on funding. Craig Merkley and Dave Hanly are scheduled to attend an upcoming Finance Sub-committee meeting to request funds. They also attended a Parks Board meeting to discuss future work along the shoreline. Parks Board members suggested creating an actual plan that could be used as a guide for future initiatives. Quin Malott and UTRCA staff will arrange a meeting to discuss. UTRCA has already created a north shore plan, which includes viewing stops. Due to the height of the bank the cost will be approximately \$37,000.00. Plans are still in place to treat the invasive species in TJ Dolan this spring. Periwinkle, Japanese Knotweed and a couple others will be targeted. Buckthorn will not be included in this particular effort, but will be looked at in the late fall if possible funding comes through.

Councillor McManus reported that members of Council and staff are visiting London to tour a sewage treatment plant. She will contact Ed Dujlovic to see if any E&E members interested in attending could be included in the tour. Members noted the necessity of being vigilant about using the City's services regarding hazardous waste.

As discussed at the previous E&E meeting, members would like to arrange a boat tour of the shoreline work along the Avon River. Dave Hanly will make arrangements to do a tour following the June 14, 2018 meeting.

Motion by Angela Bossence, seconded by Emily Chandler that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$200.00 for any expenses related to the boat tour of the Avon River shoreline work. Carried.

Energy

Anna Stratton and Dave Mabee have met to discuss issues they would like to see addressed. They were very inspired by Dave Mayberry's recent presentation in Stratford. They hope to work on larger community level and individual level projects. Initiatives such as converting snow ploughs to CNG power, purchase hybrid emergency vehicles, an energy sustainability plan, green energy booklet, Stratford green team. They would like to discuss with staff what the city is currently doing for energy conservation and what initiatives are being undertaken with city buildings and new developments. They would like to also consult with Dave Mayberry to discuss how to get initiatives started and possible partnerships. They would also like to find out what other energy initiatives local businesses are already doing. Councillor McManus volunteered to contact Festival Hydro to arrange a meeting with Mary Steel, the Energy Conservation Officer and the working group.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a) Priorities for 2018/Budget Update

Committee members reviewed upcoming projects and budget allocations. Some possible project ideas:

- Cigarette receptacles near Market Square – Collect and ship. Working with Kate Simpson on this project.
- Fountain at Upper Queen's Park – Angela Bossence noted that the drinking fountain at Upper Queen's Park has been removed. Councillor Henderson reported that she believes it is being repaired and will be reinstalled. Members

would prefer to see a water bottle filling station installed. Ms. Bossence would like to see Stratford as a city focus on the use of tap water. Anna Stratton suggested stepping up the promotion of Stratford's drinking water. Councillor McManus noted that this would be a good fit for the communication plan. Motion by Angela Bossence, seconded by Dave Mabee that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee request a report from Community Services staff regarding the status of the drinking fountain at Upper Queen's Park; with a recommendation that staff consider a water bottle filling station/drinking fountain be installed. Carried.

- Recycle bins at city parks – Staff will inquire with the city's Waste Reduction Coordinator to see when the bins will be out. Members questioned if the city should mandate businesses who require garbage/recycling to provide bins if they are operating on city property.

Angela Bossence suggested promoting recycling at schools and clearly explaining what exactly can be recycled. She noted that posters at the recycle bins would be helpful, as well as a brief power point presentation at the beginning of the school year to help keep teachers, students and custodians up to date. She has been in discussions with the Waste Reduction Coordinator regarding a poster that can be used in the schools.

- Updating the Green Gardening Booklets – Lorraine Kuepfer and Councillor Henderson have been working on the updates and will send their draft to all members for review.
- Fall tree plantings
- Waste reduction training session – Members would like to suggest that the new Events Coordinator for the city attend a waste reduction training session to help with the greening of events on city property.

Motion by Emily Chandler, seconded by Dave Hanly that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests staff investigate training opportunities for the new City of Stratford Events Coordinator to attend on waste reduction at events. Carried.

*Additional bike racks / Bike valet parking

UTRCA Green Program Update (St. Aloysius) – Vanni Azzano

Vanni Azzano reported that the students met with Kate Simpson. After the meeting, the students raised the question with their teachers of why they don't compost at school. The students were tasked with researching options and alternatives and concluded they would like to try the green cone digesters. They are going to install 3-4 at the school and after they have been in use for a while, do up a report. Throughout this process, they have been encouraged to change or influence policy. If the students feel the digesters are working, they may do a presentation to Council to support subsidizing green cone digesters in the City of Stratford.

Councillor Henderson questioned how in the future they could encourage residents to compost with green cone digesters at home, but also promote the collection of compost for use at the waste treatment plant.

Update on Green Week Events

Members agreed that Green Week events went well, the Oxford Zero Waste talk, tree plantings, "Trashion" show.

Update on Oxford County Event

Members reported the speaking event with Dave Mayberry was a great success. Before the next event, they will do some further research on other events that might be happening on the same evening to ensure the date is clear for anyone who wishes to attend

June 2018

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2018-06-14-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/1f735381-fcb7-4c24-8a9a-ab7500de604e>

Ecological

Craig Merkley reported that Council approved the additional \$7,000.00 for the most recent shoreline work completed. They have scheduled the aquatic planting along the shoreline near the end of June. They have enough summer students available to do the plantings. UTRCA is working with the City of Stratford Parks staff to make a plan for future shoreline work. They will prioritize what areas need work

Waste & Water

Emily Chandler, Craig Merkley, Councillor Henderson and Dave Mabee all visited **Storm Fisher** for the tour of their facility. It was very interesting to hear about the quantities of waste and what exactly they accept at the facility. They have very little waste that they send to the landfill. Storm Fisher is a large operation with approximately 35 employees; Stratford would be approximately 20% the size of their facility. They profit mainly from tipping fees, but also fertilizer produced and energy generated. The smell of the facility is mainly contained inside. They are located in close proximity of a residential area and meet frequently with local residents to ensure concerns are dealt with. Emily Chandler will e-mail pictures to the committee.

Energy

Anna Stratton has met with former E&E member Christie Bertrand to discuss her recent work assisting not-for-profit organizations improve their energy costs. They also met with Festival Hydro to gain information regarding their incentives and programs for energy efficiency upgrades. **Festival Hydro** will do audits and recommend what programs are available to organizations. Festival Hydro will match 50% of the costs to do the audit, the organization funds the other 50%. They also offer programs for residential and commercial buildings. Ms. Stratton will inquire if they can also meet with a representative from Union Gas to discuss their programs. Councillor McManus noted that the city has done energy reports in the past on city-owned buildings, however it has been a few years since they were done. Members suggested with the possibility of the new Community Hub, there could be a focus on environmental sustainability when that facility is built.

Business arising

Priorities for 2018/Budget Update

Councillor Henderson has confirmation from staff that ten cigarette butt recycling receptacles can be placed downtown as a trial. The butts are picked up free of charge to be recycled. There is a two pound minimum for the pick-ups. The manager of Public Works has confirmed that staff will empty the receptacles in the downtown core. She will confirm with staff regarding the issue of having to possibly dry the cigarette butts prior to being picked up for recycling.

Motion by Councillor Henderson, seconded by Craig Merkley that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$1,200.00 from their 2018 budget on (10) cigarette butt receptacles to be placed in the downtown core. Carried.

Some addition projects still being worked on for the 2018 budget are the green gardening booklets, fall tree plantings, an E&E display banner and possibly a bike valet, which is a mobile bike rack that can be set up at events. Councillor McManus suggested that Emily Chandler and Craig Merkley could do a presentation in the fall on the rehabilitation of the Avon River shoreline. Vanni Azzano suggested inquiring if Stratford could borrow Oxford County's sustainable house to display. Councillor McManus suggested having it at the Fall Fair would be great time. Emily Chandler will look into this option. Emily Chandler will continue to work on the waste reduction plan for events. She will circulate the checklist to members to review. The document will require to be reviewed by the Waste Reduction Coordinator and staff in the Clerk's office prior to printing and being included with event applications. Dave Mabee inquired if there was a recycling bylaw that enforces that any businesses operating in the park system must provide a recycling option. Staff will send his inquiry to the Waste Reduction Coordinator for her feedback. Members will continue to work on adding to the Google Doc Emily Chandler has started. This can be sent to Mike Beitz as a list of E&E topics he could share on social media. It is helpful to share links to organizations that specialize in green living advice and tips.

(b) UTRCA Green Program Update (St. Aloysius) – Vanni Azzano
Vanni Azzano reported that the digesters have been delayed arriving to the school. He will give an update at the September meeting

September 2018

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2018-09-13-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/e1c84613-ad0c-4d07-a37f-ab7500de6053>

DELEGATE: Anne Carbert – Update on Reducing Waste at Events Document
Anne Carbert presented to the committee the finalized wording of the waste reduction tips that the CFUW Advocacy Committee has been working on with the E&E Waste sub-committee. The E&E committee has discussed including these helpful tips with event applications when people apply to hold an event in the City of Stratford. Members agree that it is important to bring the waste reduction options to organizers attention and hope that they will try to implement as many as possible.

*Jessica Guy and Sammi Orr now present (4:10 p.m.)

Councillor Henderson suggested adding the water truck rental as an option for events would be beneficial. Kate Simpson supported adding this document as part of the event applications and would post it on the city's website with the waste reduction information.

Ms. Carbert has had the document designed. Kate Simpson will inquire if there is budget to support this project. Ms. Carbert has had different designers give her a quote and the least expensive is \$630.00. The designer is familiar with doing City of Stratford documents in the past and the AODA regulations. Should there not be budget the City's 2018 Waste Reduction budget, the E&E Committee feels this is a very important step to

get this information out to event organizers and would like to cover the cost. This document will contain tips and suggestions for organizers to incorporate into their events. It is the hope of the committee that in the future, these types of suggestions will become policies within the city and requirements for events. Councillor McManus expressed concern that it is a lot of information all at once. Should the focus be on breaking down the list to fewer tips and working on getting them passed as mandatory within the city? Could this many tips be daunting for event organizers? Ms. Carbert was just looking to put together helpful tips and suggestions with the hope that people will try and implement a few from the list. Angela Bossence stated that moving forward, it will be the E&E Committee's responsibility to pursue getting some of these turned into policies for the city. Staff will have the document reviewed by the Clerk.

Motion by Emily Chandler, seconded by Anna Stratton that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$700.00 for the design of a "Waste Reduction Tips" document to be included with all City of Stratford event applications. Carried

DELEGATE: Jessika Guy – Stratford Trashion Week (April 14-20, 2019)
Jessica Guy discussed with the committee the 2019 Trashion Week event. Organizers would like to show a documentary during the week, educating people on the effects of chemicals used in clothing. The E&E Committee has done documentary evenings in the past as part of their educational events. Members suggested that the committee could host the documentary as part of their annual Green Week events. Ms. Guy will inquire what costs are involved in showing the film and report back to the committee

Ecological

Vanni Azzano reported that UTRCA has attacked the periwinkle, Japanese knotweed and frag mites in the TJ Dolan area.

Motion by Angela Bossence, seconded by Councillor Henderson that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$2,000.00 on the invasive species project at T.J. Dolan. Carried.

Business arising

Priorities for 2018/Budget Update

Members discussed inviting Shane Douglas Ward (Plastic Free Guelph) to speak at an upcoming E&E meeting.

Motion by Dave Mabee, seconded by Anna Stratton that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends \$200.00 for a stipend for Shane Douglas Ward (Plastic Free Guelph) to attend an upcoming E&E committee meeting. Carried.

The committee has previously discussed a fall tree planting both for shade and naturalization. Vanni Azzano will contact the Parks Manager for locations and arrange plantings of both large and small trees. Angela Bossence suggested replacing some of the trees taken down in Portia Park.

Motion by Dave Mabee, seconded by Angela Bossence that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$1,500.00 on fall tree plantings at a location specified by the Parks Manager. Carried.

UTRCA Green Program Update (St. Aloysius) – Vanni Azzano

Vanni Azzano reported that some funding has been lost for this program, however they have been informed that new program funding is coming. St. Aloysius is continuing with their digesters and water quality programs.

New business

019 E&E Budget Request and Annual Report – Due Sept. 30, 2018

Motion by Emily Chandler, seconded by Marianne Hawley that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests a 2019 budgetary figure of \$18,500.00 from the City of Stratford.

The E&E Committee projects budgetary figures of \$19,000.00 for 2020, \$19,500.00 for 2021 and \$20,000.00 for 2022. - Carried.

Educational Expenses \$ 3,750.00
Community Projects & Initiatives 4,250.00
Avon River Naturalization 10,000.00
General Expenses 500.00
TOTAL \$18,500.00

Collection of Dog Waste – Anna Stratton

Anna Stratton discussed the option of placing dog waste collection containers in Stratford. There are some nearby municipalities already using the containers. Members discussed inviting representatives from a municipality using the system to hear the pros/cons and costs from someone already using it or actually visiting the municipality to see the system. Ms. Stratton will inquire and report back to members. Kate Simpson noted that the tender is going out shortly for organics processors. She will receive lists from each of the companies of what they accept, including if dog waste is accepted. Members would also like to know what happens to all the plastic.

Updated Terms of Reference

Dave Mabee suggested some updates for the E&E mandate, regarding purpose. Staff noted that all advisory committees will be given the opportunity to update their mandate in January when the annual review is done. Mr. Mabee will send the revisions to staff for discussion at the January meeting

No minutes for 2018 October

2018 November

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2018-11-08-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/565b395b-cda9-4c2b-9d14-ab7500de6058>

Waste & Water

Members who toured the Stratford Landfill found it very interesting and the staff was very informative. They were interested to learn that the compost is being purchased by a local farmer who tests and processes it with his own equipment on site

Ecological

Craig Merkley reported that they have done an inventory of work that is required along the shores of the Avon River with Quin Malott. The next area they would like to work on is the North shore near James Street. There is approximately 60 ft. that requires work, with an estimated cost of \$37,000.00. UTRCA has already applied for some funding for this area. The South shore near Waterloo Street is another one of the sites suggested. It is a financial advantage for the city to work with UTRCA on these projects, as they provide the labour for the job. Mr. Merkley noted that crib walls work well with the water being higher. They will also be replanting some of the water plants

DELEGATE: Shayne Douglas Ward – Plastic Free Guelph

Shayne Douglas Ward, Executive Director of Plastic Free Guelph, recognized the City of Guelph, where their campaign takes place, is situated on indigenous lands and recognize the wide number of indigenous people who still call these territories home. Mr. Ward founded Plastic Free Guelph three years ago. Some of the previous project they have worked on are Earth Day clean-up, a plastic bag petition, issues surrounding single use plastic water bottles, plastic bag survey and “straws suck” campaign to eliminate plastic straws. The basis of their “bring your own bag” campaign was a goal that by Earth Day 2019 they wanted to phase out all single-use plastic bags from the City of Guelph. They concluded that the City of Guelph does have the resources and the capability to eliminate single-use plastic bags. They asked the City of Guelph to recognize that they committed to being a Blue Dot community; they are obligated to provide citizens with a healthy environment, including clean air, drinking water, food and a stable climate. 1/10 of all plastic bags end up in the oceans. Plastic bags, bottles, straws and coffee cups are the most common litter. Communities spend a large amount of their waste management budget on diversion projects, such as plastics. He noted that Victoria, BC banned single-use plastic bags on July 1, 2018. Businesses can provide paper bags for a charge \$0.15/bag and re-usable bags for a minimum cost of \$1.00. They ran a 6-month outreach education plan prior to the by-law coming into effect, and now are allow a 6-month period for businesses to begin participating. If businesses are caught within the first year, they will visit the site and educate after the first offence. After that, they will face a fine.

Plastic Free Guelph conducted a survey and found that 78% of citizens were in favour of banning single-use plastic bags and had 2800 signatures on a petition to ban plastic bags. This began their push for banning plastic bags in Guelph. They have submitted a recommendation to the City of Guelph and staff will be reporting back to Council by June 2019. From there Council will make a decision on whether to move forward with the ban. Councillor McManus suggested E&E members keep the possibility of a cart program on the radar.

Mr. Ward will provide committee members a copy of their report to Guelph City Council, including survey results and litter audits.

+ Motion by Dave Hanley, seconded by Emily Chandler that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests City of Stratford staff review the recommendations from Plastic Free Guelph and report back to the committee with suggestions on how the City of Stratford can move forward with this initiative. Carried.

+ Motion by Ethan Elliott, seconded by Marianne Hawley that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests City of Stratford staff research the feasibility of the City of Stratford banning single-use plastic bags and any

suggestions the committee can address. Carried

NEW BUSINESS

(a) Stakeholder Meeting – Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review

Members are invited to attend the comprehensive zoning by-law review meeting being held on November 14, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. Lorraine Kuepfer will be attending.

(b) Changing Zoning and Policies for Tiny Homes/Affordable Housing

Angela Bossence asked the committee to consider working towards changing zoning and policies associated with tiny homes in Stratford.

(c) Trashion Week / Heartburn Day Volunteers

Emily Chandler asked members to let her know if they are available to volunteer for either of these events.

2018 December

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2018-12-13-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/284b82e8-83c1-4845-9e26-ab7500de605d>

Waste & Water

Emily Chandler updated the committee that they are planning on holding a film screening during Earth Week. Anna Stratton is working with Trashion Week organizers on this event.

Heartburn Day organizers are looking for support to help organize volunteers for waste diversion (Feb. 2, 2019). Soup's On is also looking for a donation for attendees who bring their own spoon again this year. The committee will be purchasing items with their 2018 budget to give away at these types events. Ms. Chandler will make arrangement for an item to be donated.

The management report regarding the plastics free request for the City of Stratford will be going to the ITS Sub-committee in January for consideration.

The working group also discussed the 2004 Roundtable for the Environment document. It has not been updated since 2014. They would like to work towards updating this. Kate Simpson has already begun some updates and will work on this with the group.
Ecological

Councillor Henderson reported that she has met with St. James Anglican Church to discuss a joint event, such as a water forum. She has inquired with Maude Barlow to see if she might be available to speak on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 during Green Week. Members discussed being involved in both the Trashion Week event and this event and if they would consider just doing one during Earth Week. Further discussion at the January meeting.

Craig Merkley reported that UTRCA has applied for further funding for the North Shoreline work. The estimated budget for the next Northshore project is approximately \$37,000-\$40,000 to complete.

Priorities for 2018/Budget Update

Committee members discussed the remaining funds in their 2018 budget and the

priority projects left for the year. Members agreed that having educational items available for upcoming events would be the highest priority.

Motion by Dave Mabee, seconded by Marianne Hawley that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$1,900.00 from their 2018 budget on educational giveaway items, such as LED light bulbs, washer balls and green cones that the committee can use to promote the environment at upcoming events. Carried

Roundtable on the Environment Update – Kate Simpson

Kate Simpson has been reviewing the report and making some notes. Many of the items are being addressed with the new quotation process for processing and curbside collection for organics. She does recommend a full review of the report. Looking ahead, digesters at a reduced rate could be added, a management report to Council regarding construction/demolition diversion, mattress recycling. Incorporating new and more recent initiatives such as textile diversion, cigarette recycling, single-use plastics, Blue Dot, etc. Emily Chandler suggested that once staff has completed the update, perhaps a public open house could be held to highlight the updates and receive feedback.

Motion by Dave Hanly, seconded by Marianne Hawley that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests that Infrastructure & Development Services staff review and update the Roundtable on The Environment Report. Carried

Textile Recycling Program Update – Kate Simpson

Kate Simpson explained that the two-week curbside collection of textiles has been eliminated, due to low numbers. As an alternative, the city is working with Diabetes Canada, instead of doing two full weeks; they will operate “on-demand”. You can call or click and they will come and do a pick up at your house for you. All the information is provided in the new calendar and online. The city still tracks the tonnage of items collected.

Ms. Simpson noted that they will be going out to tender in January for the garbage, recycling and organics collection and processing.

Reducing Waste at Events Document – Emily Chandler

Emily Chandler updated the committee that the reducing waste at events document is now live. It is posted on the Canadian Federation of University Women website, the City of Stratford waste site. They are working on having parts of the document included in the City of Stratford events application. Ms. Chandler will draft the statement to be included on the application and circulate to members. People can be directed to the website for full details. Members requested staff invite the new Events Coordinator to the January meeting to discuss the application and how to green city events

Bike Valet Update – Dave Mabee

Dave Mabee updated the committee that the portable bike valet to use at events has been purchased. This could be added into the events document as well.

2019 January

Chair: Emily Chandler, Vice-Chair Marianne Hawley

file:///Users/imac/Downloads/2019%2001%2010%20-%20EE%20Minutes%20-%20January%2010%202019.pdf

Jessica Guy explained further details regarding the proposed film screening partnership with E&E. The event is to take place on Thursday, April 18, 2019 showing the documentary "The River Blue", in the City Hall Auditorium. The fees incurred for renting, shipping and use of film equipment is estimated to be approximately \$800-\$900.00 (carried)

Emily Chandler asks the working groups to put together a brief overview of their group's focus.

Waste & Water

Emily Chandler updated the committee that E&E has donated a tree to the upcoming Soup's On Event. Anyone who brings their own spoon, their name will be entered into a draw for the tree

Ecological: Two events: Stratford Home Show, Garden Show. Discussed plastics, recycling, bottled water. Suggestion to invite Kate Simpson to the next working group meeting to discuss resources. Posters from the David Mayberry event still available: Dave Hanly: contact Oxford County reps for additional information

C.Merkley: continued work on the invasive species project at T.J. Dolan, L.I.D. projects Rotary & UTRCA have applied for grants for shoreline work. \$25,000 federal grant received from Enabling Accessibilities fund.

Energy

Anna Stratton suggests inviting rep from Festival Hydro.

Business from previous minutes: ctee has received breakdown of the last of the items purchased with the remaining 2018 budget. UTRCA Green Program update - Roundtable on the Environment Update - recommendations have been sent, waste portion to be updated. Dog Waste: \$4.000 per container, including installation (\$1,100 - could be reduced if city did installation) Emptying fee \$150 per container. Locations discussed, motion carried to investigate feasibility of dog waste collection. Alternate dates for E&E meetings discussed.

New Business

Annual Review of [E&E Terms of Reference](#). Proposed update:

1. To study all matters coming to its attention which might have any effect on the environment, particularly the environment of the City of Stratford and its surroundings. The Committee's principal goal will be to improve the environment and advocate for energy efficiency across the entire municipal spectrum. The committee will strive to maintain Stratford's reputation as a community of environmental excellence. The Committee shall be advisory in nature and shall advise City Council of environmental matters and may from time to time make such recommendations to Stratford City Council concerning the environment as it deems advisable.

2. Voted for two E&E reps to have one-year terms on the Active Transportation Advisory Committee ATAC

3. Concerns over glass factory coming to Stratford. BH to find out more at next Council meeting

4. Perth Children's Water Festival

2019 February

Ecological

Craig Merkley reported that E&E is registered for the Garden Show and the Home Show. The Garden Show reps requested that E&E incorporate an interactive area at their booth. Kate Simpson reported that the main theme for the display this year is waste reduction. They will have a garbage can, blue box and composter at the booth and have materials that visitors can sort into the proper containers. Ms. Simpson has some posters regarding plastic-free and waste reduction tips. They are going to avoid too many handouts and try to use as many posters as possible. There will be a draw held for any visitors who participated in the interactive area at the booth. E&E has purchased some giveaways with their 2018 budget. Members also plan to contact Mike Mortimer to inquire if they can use the water cube again this year for their display. Dave Hanly inquired if Anna Stratton and Lorraine Kuepfer would put together another re-usable kit to have as part of the display or use as a giveaway

Motion by Dave Hanly, seconded by Jo-Dee Burbach that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$300.00 on various supplies for the 2019 Home Show and Garden Show required for the displays and giveaways. Carried

Waste & Water

Councillor Henderson will be meeting again with the St. James Church to discuss partnering in the future for a water event. She will continue to keep E&E updated.

Energy

Anna Stratton reported that they have met to discuss some project plans. The updated Terms of Reference has now been completed. They would like to continue working towards the city possibly investigating using electric or non-fossil fuel burning vehicles. They discussed working on a green energy guide, forming a green team, energy plans for new buildings and continue researching zero waste initiatives. They continue to look at how they can partner with other organizations in the community, such as Festival Hydro. Councillor Henderson discussed the new Britannia Street housing development and that the city is using the most energy efficient architect to try to make the buildings as energy efficient as possible. Vicky Loss added that Woodstock recently built new affordable housing units and their Council strived to make them as energy efficient as possible. They have managed to reduce the utility bills for one-bedroom units to \$5.00/month. Vanni Azzano will e-mail members an article he has recently read on green buildings and the climate.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a) Zero Waste at Stratford Events – Allison Jordan

Allison Jordan reported that she has met with the CFUW to discuss the city's zero waste documents and how best to implement these into special events held within the city. One step Ms. Jordan is taking is tentatively approving applications earlier to allow time for organizers to plan for such items as the zero waste initiative. She

is providing applicants with resources to help them achieve lower waste at their event. All special event applications are now available online and can be e-mailed to her directly. She has been working on modifying the sections regarding waste and recycling to gain further details, such as how many recycling bins the event requires. There is a section in the application that the city advises against the use of bottled water at events. Ms. Jordan is currently working on creating a special event handbook that will include waste reduction resources, such as the water trucks available from the Ontario Clean Water Agency to use at events. Until the city has a zero waste policy in place, they cannot enforce waste reduction at events, and can only provide suggestions. In initial discussions with event organizers, Ms. Jordan is hearing that the largest hurdle is getting volunteers to help with the waste reduction at the events. Anna Stratton noted that this is a good example of where a green team could help. The difficulty of having a green team is who will coordinate and organize the volunteers.

(b) UTRCA Green Program Update (St. Aloysius) – Vanni Azzano

No new updates.

(c) Roundtable on the Environment Update

Kate Simpson suggested adding all the initiatives, such as banning single-use plastics, dog waste collection, etc. to the Roundtable document instead of many individual motions. The Roundtable document encompasses many different departments. Members requested that perhaps staff could attend the next E&E meeting to discuss moving forward on some of these initiatives. Staff will contact the Director of Infrastructure & Development Services and Manager of Development Services to inquire if they are available to attend.

(d) Annual Review of E&E Terms of Reference

Committee members reviewed the updates to the current Terms of Reference. Staff reviewed the proposed updated purpose of the committee as discussed at the last meeting and members are satisfied with the new description.

Motion by Councillor Bonnie Henderson, seconded by Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests Council update the purpose of the committee as defined in the committee's Terms of Reference. Carried. ++

2019 March

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2019-03-14-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/5f2867cb-b4a7-47ac-b6ed-ab7500de6061>

Jeff Leunissen attended the meeting to discuss with members how best to move forward to update and maintain the current Roundtable for the Environment document the city currently has. The document was created in 2004, with the E&E Committee completing an update in 2014. The committee has many different initiatives they would like to move ahead with and inquired if incorporating these into the Roundtable document would be a beneficial first step.

Mr. Leunissen suggested the committee formally resolve to update the Roundtable and have Council approve and direct staff to initiate the update. Mr. Leunissen stated that staff uses the Roundtable when they are reviewing applications, reviewing programs, updating streets and subdivision designs. A comprehensive review and update should

include best practice recommendations and how it can be incorporated in to the work plan program for all city departments involved. Emily Chandler noted that it states in the Roundtable that the document is to be updated every two years. Mr. Leunissen agreed that an update every two years would be a reasonable time frame.

Mike Jorna inquired when staff updates the Roundtable, do they move into areas that become feasible or does staff set goals for Council to consider? Mr. Leunissen explained that is a combination of both budget and goals.

Emily Chandler inquired if E&E requests Council to resolve staff update the Roundtable; when would the E&E Committee and the public have input on suggestions for the document? Mr. Leunissen explained that if a public open house or consultation is to be held, it should be clear in the request so staff are aware that this is the scope the committee is looking for.

Councillor Burbach inquired how a climate action plan can be integrated into the Roundtable. She also inquired if it can somehow be streamlined? Mr. Leunissen noted that incorporating new information from the County's sustainability climate change coordinator may delay the update. Vanni Azzano suggested that if the Roundtable could be more of a living document, having staff updating it as progress is made, it would better serve all parties involved. Matthew Orchard added that as a public document, it is very dense, and seems more staff related. He suggested a different format would serve as a better representation for public use. Members suggested perhaps renaming the document as a possible "action plan". Councillor Burbach also suggested that the 2008 Green House Gases document could be somehow incorporated into the Roundtable. Mr. Leunissen noted that this document may be out of date, as some reports previously required by the Province are no longer required to be updated.

Mike Jorna suggested the E&E Committee maintain their mandate to advise Council to work towards reducing the community's carbon footprint and to seize opportunities to green the city and plant more trees. He noted the Development Services Department could look at smaller houses and medium high rises with smaller units. Jeff Leunissen noted that the city is addressing these issues within their new Official Plan with provisions to go higher and denser with buildings, provisions on secondary suites and apartment units. Staff is also currently working on an update on the Comprehensive Zoning By-law outlining some of these changes.

Mike Jorna suggested having Council adopt goals to have staff work towards lowering Stratford's carbon footprint and working towards greening the community. If Council adopted this recommendation, documents such as updating the Roundtable would fall under this policy. The E&E Committee could put forth recommendations for Council to approve and pass along to staff.

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Councillor Burbach that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests that Council adopt two goals: reducing the community's carbon footprint and increasing the greening of the community, that these goals will act as a lens through which all Council activities are viewed and that Council establish these two goals as priority items. Carried.

Motion by Matthew Orchard, seconded by Craig Merkley that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee, upon approval of the prior motion, requests that Council direct staff to convert the Roundtable for the Environment Document into an Action Plan to implement the two priorities of reducing the

community's carbon footprint and increasing greening. Carried

Ecological

Craig Merkley updated the committee that the latest cribwall installation went very well. They will add in top soil and shrubs/vegetation once the weather warms up. Community Services staff will top dress the path again with stone dust. They received many thanks from local residents asking them to keep going along the shore. When the weather improves and the path is finished, they will hold an event.

Mr. Merkley reported that the Garden Show went well and the E&E booth was well received. Councillor Henderson will send out the sign-up sheet for the Home Show in the next couple of weeks. Members can send any questions visitors to the booth had regarding waste and recycling to the Waste Reduction Coordinator for her to reply.

Visitors to the booth were very interested in the green cones. Sammie Orr noted that at the garden show there was a lot of interest in the dryer balls. She inquired if there was any way the balls could be used in local laundromats. Members supported the idea, but questioned how they would prevent the balls from being stolen. Marianne Hawley suggested also educating people on better ways to do their laundry, such as faster cycles to use less water, using cold water, less detergent, etc. Information poster on the dryer balls and tips to educate people could be posted at the laundromats. Craig Merkley suggested doing a radio interview to explain what the dryer balls are to generate interest.

Motion by Vanni Azzano, seconded by Councillor Burbach that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spend up to a maximum of \$200.00 to purchase additional dryer balls to use as giveaways at the upcoming 2019 Stratford Home Show and the Trashion Week Film Screening Event on April 18, 2019. Carried

Waste & Water

Emily Chandler reported that the working group is helping to work on an initiative to collect old mascara wands to be diverted from the landfill to be used for the rehabilitation of wildlife. An organization in St. Catherines collects them and distributes them to wildlife centres. There will be three drop-off locations in Stratford, with six weeks of collection.

Ms. Chandler has also contacted the City Centre Committee to begin a program to recognize local restaurants that are already eliminating/reducing straws, with the hope it will encourage other restaurants to follow.

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Councillor Burbach that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$150.00 on shipping costs to return the collected mascara wands to St. Catherines. Carried.

Update from CFUW – Environmental Activities/Tips Sheet – A. Stratton
Anna Stratton distributed the **Green Tips Sheet** to E&E members. They have a list of other organizations they will also be sharing the tips sheet with. The City's Events Coordinator will be distributing the tips sheet with all event applications that go through the city. Ms. Stratton inquired if the city would do a press release or send out the information to other organizations and the City Centre. Emily Chandler has sent the document to the City Centre Committee.

Motion by Councillor Henderson, seconded by Councillor Burbach that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests the City of Stratford Events Coordinator distribute the Green Tips Sheets to all community groups. Carried.

2019 April

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2019-04-04-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/e95307ab-6684-4993-92ab-ab7500de6067>

DELEGATES: Anne Carbert & Bill James-Abra – Climate Change Blog

Anne Carbert discussed a new initiative she is developing aimed at climate action mobilization locally. Helping people understand how they can impact climate change locally. They are launching a blog this spring, aiming for Earth Day. Working at a municipal level to engage citizens in climate change action. Bill James-Abra explained that Canada is warming twice as fast as the global rate. The idea of the blog is to give people some direction on how they can make a difference. The blog project will focus on projects already completed or near completion that decrease energy use or lower the carbon footprint. They will highlight and profile local individuals and groups making a difference. Some planned profiles are the LED street lights, local youth activists and climate change education. The hope is to have on blog per week for the summer and then stretch out the frequency. They are recruiting volunteer writers.

Phase two will start in the fall; gathering groups of people together for informal discussions on climate change. To make community connections and to work together moving forward. Phase three is a planned event in the spring of 2020. Organizers hope to hold a town hall discussion with an eco-info fair.

Ms. Carbert has asked committee members to share the blog information once it launches and looks forward to hearing from the E&E Committee with blog and topic ideas. Mike Jorna noted that this fits well with the E&E recommendation to Council last month that they try to reduce Stratford's carbon footprint and increase greening in the community.

Dave Mabee suggested organizers partner with local businesses to help spread the blog information with their contacts.

Dave Hanly inquired if there was any feedback from other cities who are already doing the initiative? Mr. James-Abra has not received any updates from Singapore or the various cities in the United States.

Councillor Henderson noted that many of the E&E initiatives would fit well with this idea++

Waste & Water

Emily Chandler updated the committee that the cosmetic repurposing project is ready to go. There will be four depots set up in Stratford to collect mascara wands. They will start collecting during Trashion Week and run for six weeks. Everything collected will be sent to a recycling facility in St. Catherines.

Emily Chandler has been working with the City Centre Committee to encourage local restaurants and businesses to reduce the use of plastic straws.

Kate Simpson reported that she received a stack of hand-written letters from a school in Kinkora encouraging the Mayor of Stratford to change the by-law to ban plastic straws. Ms. Simpson has discussed the letters and the request with Mayor Mathieson and he encouraged her to share the information with the E&E Committee. E&E has already put forth the recommendation for Council to consider banning single-use plastics in Stratford. Members encouraged Ms. Simpson to share the letters with the community. She will contact Mike Beitz to discuss sharing this great example of youth activism.

Vanni Azzano suggested that all of the bans, such as single-use plastics and plastic straws need to be included in a waste reduction strategy. Councillor Burbach noted that the City of Vancouver has a great example of a single-use plastic reduction plan. She will forward the link to members.

Kate Simpson updated the committee that there may be changes coming in the recycling program in Stratford. There will be some items not accepted any more, which will require an educational program to inform residents. The fees will also rise drastically, so it will be imperative that the residents are aware of what can and cannot be recycled. Ms. Simpson also received two tenders for the proposed composting program. They have put forth a recommendation to Council and it will be up to them to decide to move forward with a two-year composting program.

Kate Simpson has a new poster with the updated recycling information to display at the E&E booth at the upcoming Home Show.

Mike Jorna stated that many residents may be upset that the recycling program seems to be retrogressing. They may choose to continue putting items not accepted into their blue boxes. Mr. Jorna questioned if periodic drop-offs could be held at the landfill to accept some of the eliminated items such as cartons, small yogurt/pudding containers. Ms. Simpson agreed with the idea of a depot, however the logistics of sorting, collecting and ultimately finding an end-market to ship the item to create a roadblock. Anna Stratton explained that the City of Toronto ran community collection days twice per year. They set up bins/depots around the city.

Ms. Simpson stated that the most important aspect will be to change people's shopping habits and attitudes. A key part will be educational programs in the schools.

Dave Mabee inquired if bringing back glass containers is an option. Ms. Simpson stated that the issue with glass is the weight; which drives the shipping cost up.

Ecological

Councillor Henderson reported that plans for the Home Show are set. She will recirculate the sign-up sheet to everyone.

Craig Merkley reported that the ecological working group is meeting with the CAO to discuss the city's carbon footprint and increasing greening. Some statistics gathered between 2000-2010 indicate Stratford has lost 6 hectares of woodland. By comparison London, Ontario has lost 348 hectares in that same time period. They will also discuss the climate action position for the city.

Dave Hanly suggested a dialogue with the surrounding municipalities as to how we can overall increase the coverage of greening within the County.

Mr. Merkley explained that the City of London runs "tree power" programs, which may be an idea for Stratford.

The UTRCA will be doing a planting around Shakespeare Pond on April 30, 2019.

Mr. Merkley suggested the E&E Committee could take a field trip and visit some of the sites of recent tree plantings

They are continuing to push hard with the invasive species program to keep on top of it. The UTRCA is looking at possibly partnering with local gardening clubs to stop invasive species.

UTRCA are in talks with the City's Engineering Department regarding the John Street weir.

They are discussing the possibility of removing the weir. Removing it would improve the aquatic health.

Mr. Merkley reported they have tentatively scheduled a media day on May 2, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.. They will contact Mike Beitz to cover the event.

Councillor Henderson reported they have asked for an e-coli count update for the Avon River.

Vanni Azzano reported that the beavers have destroyed trees and shrubs at Devon Park. They are planning a tree planting of 150 trees to replace the damaged ones. A class from St. Michael's School will be assisting with the planting on April 24, 2019.

Motion by Vanni Azzano, seconded by Dave Hanly that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends \$750.00 to support the tree planting project at Devon Park on April 24, 2019. Carried

Business arising

Request to Update the Roundtable for the Environment – Update

Emily Chandler updated the committee that last month's recommendation from the E&E committee is with staff and will go to the ITS Sub-committee for review.

Ms. Chandler also noted that the Bee City representative request to be added to E&E is going to Committee for consideration on April 8, 2019.

New Business

Green Program Proposal – Vanni Azzano

Vanni Azzano updated the committee on the Green Program the grade 7 and 8's at St. Aloysius School are participating in. Stratford is a great model for this type of program and the organizers are looking to add more community partners to assist with the program moving forward. The Grade 8's are currently working on their proposals; which they will eventually present to the E&E Committee. Mr. Azzano noted that they have applied for grant funding to keep the program going. They would like to offer the program to two more schools if funding allows. The cost is approximately \$5,000.00 per school for two classes to participate.

Motion by Dave Mabee, seconded by Mike Jorna that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends \$1,000.00 to support the future of the Green Program at Stratford Schools. Carried.

2019 May

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2019-05-09-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/2aa2eb07-3955-40cb-9c5c-ab7500de6067>

DELEGATE: Lorraine Kuepfer – Bee City

Lorrain Kuepfer introduced herself to committee members and explained her involvement with Bee City. She explained how Bee City, Bee City Canada and Bee City Stratford are working towards cultivating a new ethic in communities and homes. Bee City is 100%

volunteer based, including the directors. They are extremely connected to indigenous teachings of respecting nature. Stratford became the fourth Canadian Bee City and the second community in Ontario in 2017

Currently, there are 24 Bee Cities, 24 Bee Schools, 18 Bee Businesses and a Bee City Faith Community. Bee City stretches from Vancouver Island to Newfoundland to the Yukon. Ms. Kuepfer runs the social media account for Bee City Stratford and sends out a post each week that is educational and positive. The priorities of Bee City are to reach out to the indigenous community, education, emphasizing youth involvement, increasing pollinator habitat and biodiversity

Each year the City of Stratford must submit an application to maintain their Bee City status. As part of the program, each city must form a pollinator working group, which Ms. Kuepfer has organized. Ms. Kuepfer asked E&E members to please keep her informed of all projects that the committee has worked on to also include in the applications. Ms. Kuepfer stressed that the native bees are in great danger. People need to respect nature and everyone can make a difference. Encouraging citizens to plant native plants will help attract native bees. Dave Hanly inquired if Ms. Kuepfer has any stats on native bees in Ontario? She explained that there are stats for Ontario and pesticides are the greatest threat to the bees. Mike Jorna encouraged Ms. Kuepfer to connect with local service clubs to assist with funding and assist with demonstration projects. Dave Hanly inquired what E&E can do to help facilitate a better habitat? Ms. Kuepfer explained that if the city can increase the number of native trees, shrubs and plants within the park system, that would help greatly. Matthew Orchard inquired if Bee City Stratford has a “wish list” of goals for the city? Ms. Kuepfer stated that they have just formed the committee and getting started. Craig Merkley stated that encouraging the naturalization of industrial and commercial properties would be a good goal. Vanni Azzano stated they are currently working with Bedford School planting wild flowers in their old baseball diamond area.

Carbon Reduction

Emily Chandler and Sammie Orr have been working on the cosmetic repurposing project and it has been going really well. Mike Beitz informed them that to date, there has been 33,000 hits on the city’s Facebook page and shared 415 times.

Ms. Chandler informed the committee that Mike Beitz has been doing social media updates on the waste and recycling changes in Stratford. This has been helping the initiative to have restaurants try to reduce their waste by giving examples of how they can make changes. He has also been sharing information on issues that restaurants face, such as recyclable or compostable take-out containers. Vanni Azzano inquired if the take-out containers are an issue that the Waste Reduction Coordinator would address? Ms. Chandler noted that she received all her information for Stratford from Bluewater

Recycling directly. She has also encouraged any business owners to get in touch with the city’s Waste Reduction Coordinator with any questions they might have prior to purchasing containers.

Councillor Burbach stated that the city is currently working on a quote for a green bin program, even if Stratford does not have their own facility here. Some compostable containers will be able to go into a green bin.

Ms. Chandler has been in contact with the Social Services Maintenance Manager and he will distribute the LED light bulbs for use in Stratford’s geared for income housing.

Ecological

Craig Merkley updated the committee that UTRCA engineering staff would like to see the John Street weir left out this season to coincide with the Shakespeare pedestrian bridge repairs being done this summer. This would be a good trial to see how the water flows this season without the weir, before a decision is made to permanently remove it.

Taylor Crinklaw reported that the entire Queen Street project is estimated at over \$24,000,000.00 and remains as an unfunded project. Staff has submitted an application for funding, however have not heard if they are successful.

Mr. Merkley reported that the shoreline work is at a standstill, they have been rained out and unable to finish the job. They are hoping to begin work next week, weather permitting. The media event has been rescheduled to Wednesday, May 29th at 2:30 p.m. Vanni Azzano reported that the UTRCA completed the tree planting along the Avon River with students. They planted half the trees (75) and Community Services will be doing the remaining 75. Craig Merkley reported that students planted 150 trees around Shakespeare Pond. This is the 25th year that the students have been doing various plantings

Business arising

Request to Update the Roundtable for the Environment – Update

Craig Merkley and Councillor Henderson met with Rob Horne to discuss Roundtable plans. They discussed the newly created Climate Change position and what that staff member will be looking after. At this time, there has not been a mandate set for the position. The CAO is going to review the current Roundtable for the Environment document and meet again with interested E&E members to see how they can tie it into the city's Strategic Priorities. Councillor Burbach will circulate the strategic priorities information to members.

Green Program Update – Vanni Azzano

Vanni Azzano updated the committee that the Grade 7's helped clean up the drain on Matilda Street between Huron and Douglas Street and along the Sobeys parking lot.

Climate Momentum Blog Update – Emily Chandler

Emily Chandler reported that the climate momentum website has launched with weekly blogs and articles. They are also on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Greening Projects for the City – Mike Jorna

Mike Jorna discussed the idea of a "tree tour" around the City of Stratford to view past and ongoing greening projects and future project ideas. Organizing a bus tour for E&E members, Council and staff to visit all the various project that have been done along the Avon River watershed from Shakespeare Pond down to Dunn's Bridge. Mr. Jorna stated there are far too many large mature trees being taken down. Citizens are cutting down large trees on private property quickly. The trees to human ratio requirements are far too low. Conservatively, various reports state the ratio of trees to humans should be 200:1. Stratford is drastically below these ratios. A discussion between E&E members and staff would be beneficial to brainstorm on how best to move forward with plans for greening the city and to educate citizens on the importance of greening their private property. Without a tree policy for Stratford, it is not possible to enforce tree planting on private property. Councillor Burbach added that the last statistics for woodland cover in the City of Stratford is from 2004 and it is 2.9%. This is considered to be low, as

rural areas in the region are at 11% for the whole watershed. The recommended target coverage commonly cited in landscaping and ecology literature is 25-30%. These percentages all must be balanced by various factors, such as urban settings.

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Sammie Orr that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee invites Community Services Staff to attend an upcoming committee meeting to discuss the Roundtable for the Environment and to explore what they see possible for urban forestry in Stratford. Carried

Staff will contact the Director of Community Services and the Parks Manager to invite them to attend the June 6th E&E meeting. Dave Hanly also suggested a plan to initiate discussions with rural partners in the surrounding municipalities to explore what can be done in a broader scale. Craig Merkley stated that over the years they have been using a trust fund towards greening projects. There is a small amount still left to use. Dave Hanly inquired what can be done publicly to build these trust funds up. This would allow people with a concern and love for the environment to contribute money towards greening projects. Further discussion regarding this with staff at the June meeting.

2019 June

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2019-06-06-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/e11e9a76-d34c-4763-a1f6-ab7500de606f>

DELEGATE: Quin Malott, Parks & Forestry Manager – Greening Stratford

Quin Malott explained to the committee that his annual budget for planting trees in the city is \$75,000.00, not including what they receive from subdivision funds (one tree per lot). This amount has not changed greatly and Mr. Malott feels this is an adequate annual budget which allows them to plant approximately 500 trees per year. In conjunction with UTRCA, they also plant approximately 1,500 saplings. City staff will try to plant wherever they can; there are not a lot of areas that have not been infilled. They are currently working on infilling around swim ponds on Romeo Street. The “actual” cost for staff to plant a tree is \$300/tree with all the associated costs involved. Memorial trees are \$300.00 to purchase, which just covers the costs associated. Memorial trees are not plaqued.

Because Stratford is an urban forest, it requires a lot of effort to document and maintain each tree. Inside the arterial roads, Stratford has a 6-10% tree coverage. Because the city owns outside those arterial roads, there are percentages of farm land, which lowers the percentage of tree coverage.

The City of Stratford has a plan for three years in advance for tree plantings and removals. Staff has trees on their radar that are in decline due to age or disease and they plan ahead of time. They pre-plan around subdivision plans and know when those trees are also being put in. Mr. Malott stated that between 2010-2014, staff removed 2800 ash trees along streets. During that time frame, staff planted a 1:1 ratio of trees removed and planted. The normal planting ratio is 7:1, including all the saplings being planted. Staff anticipated the ash borer and there was a contingency plan in place for the tree removals leading up to it.

Any tree planting projects that the E&E Committee partners on is over and above the annual Community Services tree budget.

Mike Jorna stated that there is a great need to plant as many trees as possible in the city and thanked Quin Malott and his staff for doing a terrific job in their efforts. He inquired if there are more possibilities to do additional plantings of trees along soccer fields. Mr. Malott noted that they have received some push back from citizens in the past for trying to naturalize areas such as this. However, he is open to planting some trees. Mr. Malott also stated that the city gets all of their trees from the UTRCA now. Councillor Henderson inquired how many woodlots we have that are protected in the city. Mr. Malott stated that the woodlots in Stratford are mostly privately owned. Some of the woodlots are under a hectare, and therefore are not protected.

Mr. Jorna also inquired about citizens cutting down large, healthy trees on their private property and if there is any by-law addressing this. Mr. Malott explained that currently there is not a private tree by-law, but a proposal has gone to Sub-committee with some options. This proposal will address some of these issues. He did note that there is a tree by-law in place currently, but you have to be in the planning process of a renovation, etc. At this point staff would address the removal and replacement of trees with a landscape plan. With the new proposed plan in place, it will not be in the planning by-law, you will have to obtain a permit to take a tree of a certain diameter. Councillor Burbach noted that other municipalities require a homeowner present a plan for taking down trees. They must show a building plan to justify why they are taking them down. Matt Orchard inquired if the city's updated urban forestry plan is available to view online? Mr. Malott stated that the 2007 update is, but not sure if the 2018 update is online

Mr. Jorna gave Quin Malott a plaque from the Arboretum that has decayed and was lying on the ground. He suggested that all the plaques be removed or replaced due to their poor condition.

Councillor Burbach inquired if the city could work with farmers whose land surrounds Stratford to plant trees? Mr. Malott stated that they have worked with landowners in the past, but have mainly planted along creeks and rivers. She also inquired if the city would consider working with the county to partner on tree plantings? Mr. Malott was open to working with E&E and other groups to find locations to plant saplings. Sharon Poelstra inquired if staff tries to plant native trees? Mr. Malott explained they try to be as diverse as possible with their plantings, using native plantings wherever possible. He estimated that their native plantings would be approximately 50%. Dave Hanly inquired what committees such as E&E and staff could do to help move Council along to allocate more funds for tree plantings. Mr. Malott explained that their current tree planting budget is substantial and adequately covers what staff can handle each year. They are restricted on when and where they can do plantings. Everything is done in-house and there are only so many staff hours to complete all the projects.

Carbon Reduction

Marianne Hawley updated members that the working group is working on putting together a green team that would be available to volunteer at various events. The Stratford Library currently has a Huron-Perth volunteer group that might also be interested in partnering for the team. They would also like to work on a handbook for green living and post it online. They would also like to increase the online presence explaining the new recycling program and the importance of following the new guidelines. Kate Simpson noted that they have recently had radio time and placed two colour ads for recycling regarding changes as well as the acceptables. Ms. Simpson is always open to feedback on how they can best get information out to citizens with respect to recycling and waste collection. Some suggestions were notices in tax bills, slip a flyer into empty recycle bins after they have been picked up, add the Facebook posts to the city website

and inquire if Community Living or students would deliver flyers. The working group will look into organizing another visit to the passive house for a tour over the summer. They will keep members posted if a date is set.

They would also like to research some recycling pilot-projects, where collection boxes are set up at various locations to collect specific items. Some locations they would like to target are schools, healthcare providers and garages. Emily Chandler reported the recent mascara wand collection boxes were also a success. Kate Simpson reported that their co-op student placed boxes at local schools and the only negative feedback is that people often place the wrong items in them. Further discussion at the September meeting. The working group inquired if the new Climate Coordinator could possibly attend the September meeting. Staff will look into arranging.

Ecological

Craig Merkley reported that the media event for the recent shoreline work was held and photos were posted on social media. They still have to do some seeding and planting shrubs around the area.

UTRCA has been taking inventory of the invasive species at the Old Grove. They have recently been targeting Japanese Knotweed. There have been some frag mites in the Grove and they were treated last fall. They will check again this fall. Mr. Merkley noted there is a lot of buckthorn in the Grove and has inquired if the Parks Manager would be willing to divert some funds to take care of this.

Mr. Merkley has received a report regarding the water quality of the Avon River and the numbers are improving. The trees that were won at the Stratford Home Show and Garden Show have been delivered.

Request to Update the Roundtable for the Environment – Update

The committee would like to arrange a follow-up meeting with the CAO prior to his retirement to discuss feedback on the strategic plan. Councillor Burbach noted that recommendations put forth by the E&E Committee, such as reducing the city's carbon footprint and dog waste collection program, will be included in a new roundtable document or environmental action plan. This has been passed at Subcommittee and will now go to Council for approval. Councillor Burbach noted that E&E will have to work with staff to develop the action plan. Members should review the document and be prepared to give feedback in September. Please e-mail Emily Chandler to compile a list.

(b) Update on Trashion Week Event – Emily Chandler

Emily Chandler will forward an update from organizers once she receives it

2019 August

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2019-08-01-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Budget-Meeting/7d24fe6f-b9ed-40b7-ad13-ab7500de6074>

2020 BUDGET REQUEST & ANNUAL REPORT

Emily Chandler reviewed the current 2019 budget and projects left to complete this year. Members discussed future plans for 2020 and the amount of funds necessary to complete planned projects. Craig Merkley discussed future plans for the river naturalization projects and funding required to complete various areas.

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Dave Mabee that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests a 2020 budgetary figure of \$18,500.00 from the City of Stratford. Carried

Educational Expenses \$ 3,750.00
Community Projects & Initiatives 4,250.00
Avon River Naturalization Projects 10,000.00
General Expenses 500.00
\$18,500.00

2019 September

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2019-09-05-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/7d70f713-18da-4d13-b2e8-ab7500de6074>

Delegate: Ed Dujlovic – **Bio-Digester Update**

Ed Dujlovic provided an update on this project. To date they have held two public meetings and these meetings generated a lot of questions from the public, and as a result an FAQ was developed and posted on the City's website. Further comments have been received and will be presented verbatim to Council in a report.

Staff will report back to Council with the additional information Council has requested later in September. After this, Council will direct staff on how they would like to proceed. Council has not made a decision if they will be proceeding with this project and staff is currently reviewing the draft environmental compliance approval from the Ministry of the Environment. Mr. Dujlovic clarified that the City has not received approval from the Ministry; staff are reviewing the conditions outlined. To date, expenses incurred relate to consultant and legal fees. Once all of these questions have been addressed, the date for a third public meeting will be set.

Dave Hanly inquired if the proposed truck traffic would run Monday to Friday or seven days a week. Ed Dujlovic stated the trucks for the organics program would run Monday to Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Truck traffic is an issue and there will be an increase of trucks moving the organics and the extra sludge being produced. Mr. Hanly noted that with the proposed 16 additional trucks, it will actually be 32 trips with them going in and then out, which works out to approximately a truck travelling through every 12.5 minutes. Mr. Dujlovic stated that 16 is the proposed maximum number of trucks, which includes the trucks carrying the organics plus any trucks in and out of the plant for other purposes. The actual number of trucks carrying organics will be closer to 11-13.

Dave Hanly addressed the estimated **\$22.7 million dollars** for the project. Mr. Dujlovic noted that this figure is based on more detailed design drawings and equipment details now identified. Mr. Hanly inquired if the City receives the \$5 million grant, \$1.5 million from OCWA and \$1.5 million from the City itself, where does the additional funding come from? Mr. Dujlovic stated that they are looking at **debt financing** for the remainder. Mr. Hanly inquired about the facility being under negative pressure and will it reduce the odours being emitted from the stacks. Mr. Dujlovic explained that the anaerobic digester tanks currently on site will be used. The organics will be treated through a process prior to going to the digesters.

Mr. Hanly inquired if there is a possibility in the future of other municipalities processing organics and lessening the demand on the Stratford facility. Mr. Dujlovic reported they have been following some research on this issue and they have identified that Ontario

generates approximately 3.6 million tons of food waste. Currently, there are processors that can handle approximately 1.6 million tons of waste. Right now there is a deficit of 2 million tons that is not being processed, which is quite a large quantity. They do not feel there is a risk that the demand for processing will be lowered. With landfills reaching maximum capacity, some municipalities are considering no longer accepting organics at landfills. They foresee the demand for organics processing increasing, as well as the cost to process these materials.

Craig Merkley inquired if there is a payback time period? Mr. Dujlovic stated that they are looking conservatively at a payback of 11 years. This number will be refined once all details of the costs are finalized.

Mike Jorna requested Mr. Dujlovic give a brief overview of the process of turning the methane into a form of natural gas. Mr. Dujlovic explained that it is a piece of equipment called a scrubber, that processes the methane and is then pumped directly into the natural gas system. The equipment and process is tested on a regular basis. Mike Jorna inquired about chlorine now being delivered to the plant, as they previously eliminated the use of chlorine in the process. Mr. Dujlovic explained that with the storm overflow tanks, they need to chlorinate and dechlorinate the overflow water. For the regular operation, they continue to use ultra-violet.

Anna Stratton inquired if they have a timeline for the project. Mr. Dujlovic reported that they are aiming for September 23, 2019 to have the information prepared for Council. After that, they will be directed by Council on how to proceed. Ms. Stratton inquired if landfills are filling up, and Council does not approve the processing plant, what will be the alternative for Stratford? Mr. Dujlovic stated that they would have to investigate shipping the City's food organics to a processor. Approximate current costs to collect and process organics offsite is a minimum **\$487,000.00/year**. Staff would review the entire waste management process, including the cost of bag tags to cover these increased fees. He noted that Stratford's **landfill has approximately 25 years** of use left. They will begin the process of looking for a new landfill location when there is approximately 10 years left.

Marianne Hawley inquired if there would be a weekly roadside pick-up of organics. Mr. Dujlovic stated that the Province does not dictate the frequency of pick-ups; however they highly recommend a weekly pick-up of the green bins. Bag tag fees would need to be reviewed if a green bin program is added, as all residential programs are included. They may use a dual-purpose truck to pick up organics and regular waste. A cart system may be introduced and citizens would pay based on what size of cart they have requested. Councillor Burbach advised she has received inquiries on whether collection will include industrial and institutional waste. Mr. Dujlovic clarified that they will indeed be collecting from industrial and institutional facilities; however it is all food waste that is being collected.

Vanni Azzano inquired what regions will be shipping to a Stratford facility? Mr. Dujlovic noted that the approval from the Ministry states Ontario. Realistically, with the cost of trucking fees, municipalities are going to ship to their closest facility. He expects Stratford will receive organics mainly from Southern Ontario.

Councillor Henderson inquired if there were stats on how much greenhouse gas this facility could eliminate. Matt Orchard stated it is 49,000 tons/year. Mr. Dujlovic noted the real value is in the renewal of natural gas in the carbon credits. Mr. Orchard inquired if

trucking considerations are included in the reduction. Mr. Dujlovic confirmed that they looked at the trucking in the calculations. Councillor Burbach inquired if the amount of renewable natural gas produced offsets the amount coming out of the ground, and if the information of that amount being produced will heat approximately 1000 homes. Mr. Dujlovic advised he does not have exact calculations, but noted it is a significant amount that would be produced.

Dave Hanly noted that Council and staff have been looking at this for some time now and realize they are not going to make all citizens happy with their decision. Emily Chandler thanked Ed Dujlovic for attending to discuss the bio-digester project. Mr. Dujlovic stated that members could contact him if they have any future questions.

Carbon Reduction

Anna Stratton updated the committee that the working group is working on some pilot projects using terracycle boxes in various locations around Stratford such as the library, landfill and schools. The idea is to have the boxes available to recycle some items that are no longer recyclable in the blue bin program, such as snack wrappers, plastics, art supplies, etc. Some local businesses have already placed boxes and are successfully collecting dental care products. Emily Chandler noted the mascara wand collection boxes were successful and participants are willing to do it again.

Ecological

Craig Merkley updated the committee that they have been working on the design for the next crib wall project, as well as securing additional funding. The UTRCA would like to do a project on the north shore and south shore, depending on funding.

The latest invasive species project has been completed in the Old Grove and they will inject the remaining plants near the river that could not be sprayed. Mr. Merkley stated that an UTRCA team can take care of the buckthorn in the Old Grove in one day. He explained that there is strategic targeting initiative right now that will match any funds that the E&E Committee commits to an invasive species project.

Update on Roundtable & Next Steps – Emily Chandler

Members of E&E met with the CAO furthering their discussions to continue to try and increase the effectiveness of the committee. The CAO suggested that moving forward; E&E should tie in their priorities with the City's strategic plan. Members should look to their Council representatives to keep them up to date on projects and issues. Dave Hanly noted that the CAO suggested that the committee should prioritize their initiatives. After this is done, perhaps a subsequent meeting with the Acting CAO and department heads could be scheduled. Anna Stratton hopes the committee can encourage the City to make the environmental initiatives a higher priority on their strategic plan. Emily Chandler has contacted the city's Greenhouse Gas Project Coordinator and she is available to attend the October E&E meeting to discuss plans

2019 E&E Project Plans

Emily Chandler reviewed the remaining project plans and E&E budget for 2019. Motion by Councillor Burbach, seconded by Councillor Henderson that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$750.00 to partner with **Bee City Canada** for an educational campaign. Carried.

Motion by Dave Hanly, seconded by Dave Mabee that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$500.00 for plantings at the **latest crib wall project**. Carried.

Motion by Matt Orchard, seconded by Marianne Hawley that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$750.00 on a **terracycle collection box pilot project**. Carried.

Motion by Councillor Burbach, seconded by Dave Hanly that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$750.00 on a **fall tree planting project**. Carried.

Motion by Vanni Azzano, seconded by Anna Stratton that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$3,000.00 to partner with the UTRCA on an initiative to eradicate buckthorn at the Old Grove. Carried.

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Sammie Orr that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$500.00 to organize a bus tour with committee members, interested council members and staff to visit and highlight local environmental projects. Carried

Letter of Support for Conservation Authorities – Craig Merkley
Craig Merkley stated that with recent government changes, the work conservation authorities undertake may be scaled back or eliminated. For example, the tree planting programs, educational programs and water quality programs and all the people associated with these programs are in question. Some municipalities are submitting letters of support for conservation authorities and the value of the programs they run. Many projects that the E&E Committee takes on is made possible by partnering with the UTRCA

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Dave Hanly that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests Council pass a resolution supporting the initiatives of the Conservation Authority and the significant impact they have on our local environment and forward it to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Ernie Hardeman, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, Conservation Ontario and all Ontario municipalities and that the Chair of the E&E Committee also writes a letter of support for Conservation Authorities. Carried.

2019 October

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2019-10-03-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/7c1c9119-8de7-41c0-9f82-ab7500de6079>

Delegate: Rebecca Garlick – Community & Corporate Climate Change Plan
Rebecca Garlick presented an overview of the climate change project she is working on for Stratford. Ms. Garlick is reviewing historical temperatures and precipitation, residential/commercial/manufacturing/transportation emissions, reviewing building and land use, reviewing waste data, reviewing natural environment. She is mainly focusing her research on creating a community plan and recently attended a conference and participated in climate mitigation, resilience strategies and adaptation. Ms. Garlick plans on holding stakeholder consultations, meeting with local conservation authorities and completing a survey.

Dave Hanly inquired if Ms. Garlick is collecting the same sort of data for the County and

St. Marys as she is for Stratford. She reported that she is collecting similar data, focusing on some additional agriculture aspects for the County. Mr. Hanly also inquired if there is a tree-planting initiative between the three municipalities that is incorporated into the plan. Ms. Garlick advised a green partnership will be incorporated as part of the plan.
*Craig Merkley now present (4:25 p.m.)

Anna Stratton inquired if a transportation plan will be incorporated into the climate change plan. Ms. Garlick explained that it will not be included, as the transportation study has been started separately, prior to Ms. Garlick starting the climate change plan. She does agree that increasing public transportation and making it more accessible to everyone is a good plan.

Emily Chandler inquired what kind of information Ms. Garlick is gathering and does she have a goal of how many people she is hoping to hear back from. Ms. Garlick is trying to get a sense of what citizens in Stratford understand about climate change in this area and their personal impact. She would like to aim for feedback from approximately 10% of the total population of Stratford.

Matt Orchard inquired about how Ms. Garlick calculates the emissions figures. Ms. Garlick explained she uses a PCP tool that calculates emissions. She inputs in the electricity for Ontario and it understands the emission factor associated with electricity. Mr. Orchard also inquired if Ms. Garlick will submit a formal plan at the end of her contract. Ms. Garlick will present a community plan; however will not see it through to implementation, due to the scope of the project before her contract is over.

Councillor Burbach inquired if the City will receive specifics, such as a greenhouse gas inventory of municipal buildings. Ms. Garlick explained that if time permits, she will do a separate report for corporate building calculations. She has already calculated emissions for the municipal buildings in Stratford.

Ms. Garlick reported that each of the municipalities has already made a commitment through the Partners for Climate Protection, committing to reporting milestones completed within ten years of joining the resolution. Communities commit to future data collection and reporting on their community plan

Carbon Reduction

Anna Stratton updated the Committee on the recent Climate Momentum Event held in Market Square. The E&E Committee had a display set up about the green cones in conjunction with the City's Waste Co-ordinator. She reported that almost every visitor to the display was asking about an organics program and the new recycling guidelines. The Committee gave away a green cone digester as part of the event.

Ms. Stratton reported that the art supplies terra-cycle box is now located downstairs at the Stratford Library in the children's section; the large plastics box has arrived and will be placed at the Stratford Landfill. The group is still working on placing snack boxes at Stratford Secondary. These locations will act as a pilot project for the terra-cycle boxes, with the hope that these and additional locations will purchase more boxes in the future. Dave Hanly inquired, with all the recent news reports about recyclables being shipped overseas, is there a known end-market for Stratfords' recyclables? Emily Chandler stated that it goes from Stratford to Exeter to the Bluewater Recycling station. It is her

understanding that the new updates and changes to what is accepted in Stratford for the

recycling program, is due to the fact that Bluewater does not have an end-market to send some items to be repurposed. Dave Hanly suggested another tour of the Bluewater facility would be interesting for Committee members. Members suggested working on a simplified recycling chart with the Waste Co-ordinator, which may be beneficial for citizens. Emily Chandler noted that the app the City has on their website is very helpful

Ecological

Craig Merkley updated the Committee that the native plants for the new crib wall on the north shore will be planted in the next couple of weeks. He noted that current plantings along the shore are doing well.

UTRCA will do an inventory of invasive plants in the fall after the leaves drop. They will target the buckthorn at this time too.

The working group has decided to defer the bus tour of local sites until the spring, when leaves are still off and you can see the sites well.

Mr. Merkley has met with the Parks Manager to discuss the south shore crib wall plantings. The City is committed to getting the shore project near the Tom Patterson Theatre completed early in 2020; UTRCA will assist with the design and implementation. Councillor Burbach discussed a possible tree-planting partnership with Hydro. Trees would be funded and homeowners could in turn purchase one at a reduced rate. The working group has sent some initial information to Festival Hydro to inquire if they would be interested in a project such as this. They have requested information outlining the program for further discussion with their board members at an upcoming meeting. The Acting Clerk suggested the committee draft a plan for the program and make a recommendation to Council for approval prior to moving ahead with a program. The plan should include all parties involved and a detailed implementation plan. Further discussion to be held at the next E&E meeting. Dave Hanly suggested reaching out to all potential parties involved prior to drafting a plan to ensure that they are at least interested in moving ahead

2019 Project Plan and Budget Update

Councillor Burbach has suggested that E&E could partner with the Active Transportation Advisory Committee to support an upcoming Share the Road presentation. A public presentation would be held and a report on the City would be provided. With the bus tour being deferred, there are funds available to re-allocate.

Motion by Vanni Azzano, seconded by Dave Hanly that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$500.00 to support a Share the Road Presentation in Stratford. Carried.

Vanni Azzano updated the committee that the \$750.00 previously allocated for a fall tree planting will be put towards trees in an area behind Stratford Seconda

City of Stratford Declaration of Climate Emergency – Emily Chandler

Emily Chandler reported that there has been initial interest from the City of Stratford to support a climate emergency declaration. Council was presented with a petition on the day of the Climate Momentum rally. Sammie Orr reviewed some examples of wording that other municipalities have used in their declarations. Members noted that Kingston, Sudbury, Toronto and Hamilton are all good

examples of declarations to pull information from. Ms. Orr noted that timelines, facts, projects and commitments are important factors to include in the declaration. The Acting Clerk has been tasked with preparing the declaration and is currently looking at samples of other municipal declarations and agrees that details will be key. Matt Orchard noted that Vancouver has a great example of including targets and annual reports to Council on meeting targets/goals to continue monitoring progress. He also added that making a case for why it is a climate emergency will be key. Ms. Dafoe will return to an upcoming E&E Committee meeting to discuss the draft declaration prior to taking it to Council.

(b) Grand Trunk Community Hub – Grant Application Notice (Memo)
Staff forwarded the committee a memo from the Acting Clerk regarding approval for all future grant applications.

2019 November

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2019-11-07-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/c847f383-65ba-47dd-9d05-ab7500de607d>

Carbon Reduction

Sammie Orr reported that the Terracycle Box for Stratford Secondary and Elementary School has been delivered. Anna Stratton reported that the box at the Stratford Library is up and running and the Waste Reduction Coordinator is putting one at the Agriplex with posters. Once the pilot project is complete, the next step will be to get interest generated in the community and have individual businesses begin to purchase their own boxes.

Ecological

Craig Merkley reported that the south shoreline work in front of the Tom Patterson Theatre will be completed before the spring. The design is complete and incorporates cap rock, wooden steps and cobble stones. It stretches from the bridge to the Allman Arena, approximately 800 ft.

Councillor Burbach reported that Emily Chandler forwarded the proposal to Festival Hydro regarding a tree initiative. The Festival Hydro Board has held a meeting, however Councillor Burbach has not received any feedback. E&E will most likely not play a financial role in the program; however assist on the day of the event.

Craig Merkley reported that the invasive species project at TJ Dolan will take place next week.

Mr. Merkley is doing a slide presentation at the Stratford Library on the recent shoreline work UTRCA has been doing. The event is being held on November 28th.

Vanni Azzano reported that the latest planting has been completed behind Stratford Secondary and Elementary School. They planted 100 trees and shrubs.

Roundtable & Climate Emergency Declaration – Councillor Burbach

Councillor Burbach discussed this project with Stephanie Potter. She has suggested that there are a number of projects overlapping, such as the climate emergency declaration. The CAO's office is currently putting together a document on all the current environmental initiatives in the City. This report would be useful to help recreate the action-plan document with the E&E goals of carbon reduction and greening the City. Ms. Potter suggested E&E could add their priorities and goals. She is also working with the Climate Change Coordinator on this project. Ms. Potter did suggest partnering on some of these initiatives would be beneficial,

as well as investigating grant funds available. Vanni Azzano noted that there are Eco-Action Grants available for larger projects, however there are many organizations that apply. The deadline for the application is in January. Anna Stratton noted that perhaps looking into other municipal initiatives would be beneficial to see what other communities are working towards. Matt Orchard stated that other climate emergency declarations have included timelines, where municipalities have to report on their goals. This would be beneficial to tie this back into the round table or action plan; a checklist to report on progress. Vanni Azzano stated that Oxford County would be a great municipality to use as a model. Sammie Orr inquired if the climate emergency and single-use plastics ban could also be incorporated in the action plan

2019 Project Plan and Budget Update – Councillor Burbach
Members discussed the remaining projects for 2019 and the current budget. Bee City has indicated they may not require the full \$750.00 allocated for the partnership.

Motion by Anna Stratton, seconded by Sammie Orr that the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee re-allocate some funds from the Bee City partnership project to spend up to a maximum of \$370.00 to purchase an additional recycling box to place at St. Michael's Catholic Secondary School as part of the pilot project. Carried.

Conservation Authority Resolution – Mike Jorna
Mike Jorna has proposed writing a resolution suggesting what responsibilities should be included in the new mandate for all Conservation Authorities. Some items he would like to include are flood control, water quality, wildlife and ecosystem protection, forest cover and tree planting initiatives as the fundamental mandates. In addition, he would note that the UTRCA is in a position to provide an advisory function to people managing woodlots, stream enhancement projects, wildlife corridors, erosion protection, species protection and identification and eradication of invasive species. As a first step, he would draft a resolution that could eventually be sent to Council for approval and then provincially for further support.

Vanni Azzano suggested the focus of the resolution should be on a watershed approach; as that is what the new mandate will likely affect the most. He also suggested including environmental education.
Mike Jorna will work on a draft resolution and bring it back to the Committee for feedback in December or January

2019 December

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2019-12-05-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/f04e5421-5a9c-41fa-947d-ab7500de607d>

NO MINUTES AVAILABLE. HERE IS THE AGENDA:

.0 Call to Order

2.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and to otherwise comply with the Act.

3.0 Adoption of the Previous Minutes – November 7, 2019

4.0 Updates from Working Groups – Carbon Reduction & Ecological

5.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

(a) Update on Roundtable and Climate Emergency Declaration – Councillor Burbach

(b) Update on Resolution for Conservation Authorities – Mike Jorna

(c) 2019 Project Plan and Budget Update

6.0 Upcoming Events

- Stratford Water Day April 22, 2020

- Perth Children's Water Festival June 2-3, 2020

2020 January

Elections: Emily Chandler, Chair JBurbach VC

Ecological WG

South shoreline project begins. Working on organizing the E&E booth for 2020 Home & Leisure Show. Motion to participate, will spend up to \$200 registration fee.

Business arising

Roundtable & climate emergency declaration. Draft is coming. Roundtable to be renamed "Climate Action Plan". Until City staff is assigned, Ctee members could work on an initial structure or ideas that they would like to see included. Basically an action plan based on a climate emergency declaration; targets, solutions. Ctee must decide to either revise current document or start fresh. Must provide policy-style direction for Council. Rebecca Garlick resource person.

Council has submitted a resolution for conservation authorities, therefore he will not submit his document.

Tree Power - EC, JB asking Festival Hydro if they are interested in sponsoring a Tree Power program, like the one run by UTRCA has run in London. Provides trees to homeowners at \$20 ea. The Festival Hydro board has approved program, and will partner with UTRCA for this event in April. Festival Hydro offering trees to all. Customers, not just residents. E&E commits to volunteer their time at the event.

New Business

2020 project plans and budget update - 2020 E&E budget is \$17,500, down \$1,000 for originally requested \$18,500. \$10,000 earmarked for shoreline projects and \$7,500 for various projects - teracycle, LID, Water Festival.

RNG Support project - EC asks for support at Council meeting. Proposes letter of support. Carried

Salt us in City of Stratford - CM asked about City policy. Large amount being put down. BH will inquire with staff.

2020 February

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2020-02-06-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee/84bd63eb-fd54-4053-b682-ac3700c13f6d>

Climate Action Plan

Emily Chandler introduced Steve Sauder from the UTRCA. Mr. Sauder will be assisting the Committee by facilitating their initial brainstorming session for a draft climate action plan.

The Climate action plan will be laid out in four steps:

1. Create a goal
2. Identify areas of concern – reducing GHG emissions and greening the City
3. Identify broader issues for reducing GHG emissions and greening the City
4. Create five priorities

Create a Goal

The Energy & Environment Advisory Committee recommends council adopt goals of reducing the community carbon footprint and increasing the greening of the community as priority items and converting the roundtable of the environment document into an action plan, being referred to the City's strategic priorities implementation process.

Identify Areas of Concern

The E&E Committee had previously identified the areas of concern as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and greening the City.

Identify Broader Issues for Reducing GHG and Greening the City

Members split up into three working groups to compile possible issues, concerns, threats or weaknesses that are faced in the City that make it difficult to meet some of the goals. The groups came back together and shared their lists. Many groups had raised similar concerns once the issues were all laid out.

Creating Priorities

The Committee reviewed all the issues raised and narrowed the list down to ones that members agreed were the highest priority.

1. Education
2. Staff resources
3. Transportation
4. Low impact development requirements for new developments
5. Energy efficiency
6. Zero waste/single-use plastics ban
7. Protecting established woodlots, City development policy for tree by-law

Steve Sauder will summarize the Committee's notes and forward a report to Emily Chandler and Councillor Burbach.

E&E Representatives for ATAC

Annually the E&E committee recommends two members to be representatives on

the Active Transportation Advisory Committee. For 2020, Matthew Orchard and Geoff Krauter have volunteered

Stratford Water Forum (April 22, 2020) - up to \$1,000 to support

2020 March cancelled

2020 April ?????

2020 May cancelled

2020 June cancelled

2020 September

https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Index?action=search&__RequestVerificationToken=9ADsxZTncadnX-ua74w8DilexAewi61E-O0oqMLwgBjNjV0o5ODo0Lc-NOx9ZSFA64PG-bXAH9XgMkFkbMF0Yc_KRPZRMKGpgHFhgiRZaCA1&__RequestVerificationToken=v0dk_Nb-2pE9FCJauOPit5yOwXtd6Ydac4YDB-DIRG0LVABnAx5aq213SSnceetxL-knf3Zu9In51_r_31POhEwIY8MvkE4DhYQNEWfQVSs1&StartDate=12/05/2019&Category=Advisory%20Committee&Keywords=Energy%20Environment&SearchType=Meetings

Update on Climate Action Plan – Emily Chandler/Councillor Burbach

Councillor Burbach advised the working group has been looking at all the different areas that they felt the climate action plan needed to address. They have put together some 2-page working documents as suggestions for each of the different categories from the Greenhouse Gas Emissions report. The working group will wait for Rebecca Garlick's GHG report to go back to City Council. In the meantime, Council has put the Declaration of Emergency on hold. The working group will forward the documents to all members of the E&E Committee for review and feedback prior to sending to Council. The Committee would like to see staff begin working again on the climate emergency declaration and action plan.

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Geoff Krauter

THAT the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests Council remove the Climate Emergency Declaration from their on-hold projects list; AND THAT the Climate Emergency Declaration be acted upon.

Carried

2020 Project Plans and Budget Update

Emily Chandler reviewed the 2020 plans for events and the funds that were not used for them due to the pandemic. Ms. Chandler inquired if members had suggestions for the remaining 2020 funds.

Purchasing Trees - Mike Jorna suggested moving the E&E funds to Community Services to assist in greening the city by purchasing additional trees. Vanni Azzano noted it would depend on the availability of trees and staff resources to do the plantings this fall. Mike Jorna will discuss with the Parks & Forestry Manager. Compost Cow at SDSS – Sammie Orr updated the Committee on the compost cow at Stratford District. Since the students did their presentation at the last E&E meeting, they have purchased the cow and it is at the school. They do require funds to purchase compost bins and an above-ground bunker to store the compost after it is bagged.

Motion by Vanni Azzano, seconded by Councillor Burbach
THAT the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends \$1,000.00
to support the purchase of the required compost bins and bunker for the
SDSS compost cow.
Carried

Green Bins – Councillor Henderson inquired with Kate Simpson if the Committee could help with the new green bin program in Stratford with any promotional or educational support. Ms. Simpson reported that the green bin program has been extremely successful with phenomenal participation at 90%. With only phase one rolled out, which is just residential, they are already meeting the projected goals of the entire program. The next sectors that will launch are the BIA, schools, small and large commercial, multi-residential and private subdivisions. The BIA will possibly launch in 2020, however the others will begin in 2021. Moving forward, they will promote and educate via social media.

Sammie Orr inquired about multiple trucks doing pickups at the same residence. Ms. Simpson explained that they currently have some dual collection trucks, however at this time the organics are being transported to London and they do not want to send partially loaded trucks. Once organics are processed at the Drumbo facility, dual collection trucks will be used for all pickups. Sammie also suggested citizens might not be aware of the “Recycle Coach App”. She finds it helpful and informative and encouraged staff to promote it. Ms. Simpson will ask the Corporate Communications Lead to re-advertise it on social media. She will also share the stats from the Recycle Coach app with committee members. Councillor Henderson inquired if citizens can put their whole pumpkins in the green bins? Ms. Simpson said if they will fit, the pumpkins are not required to be cut up and magic marker on them is acceptable. possibly launch in 2020, however the others will begin in 2021.

Moving forward, they will promote and educate via social media.
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Motion by Councillor Henderson, seconded by Councillor Burbach
THAT the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee recommends
consideration be given to implementing Phase 2 (BIA portion) of
Stratford’s 2020 Green Bin Program contract immediately.
Carried

Low Impact Development Project – Vanni Azzano inquired about moving ahead with the planned L.I.D. demonstration project as the Committee had previously discussed. Mr. Azzano will discuss design and location with City staff

and report back with details at the October meeting.

Sammi Orr inquired about the plans with the Stratford Rotary Club regarding the plastics ban. Emily Chandler updated that due to the pandemic, the public meeting was cancelled. The plastics ban will be part of the climate action plan document to be presented to Council.

Emily Chandler updated the Committee on the previously planned Tree Power Program with Festival Hydro. It has been postponed to 2021, as they were unable to get trees this year.

Councillor Burbach informed members that there is going to be a launch on September 18, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. for the new Tree Trust Program starting in Stratford. Emily Chandler will share the invitation with members once received.

Invasive Species - Emily Chandler will contact Craig Merkley for an update on the invasive species project at TJ Dolan and Avon River project in front of the Tom Patterson Theatre

Indigenous Pollinator Garden – Vanni Azzano

Vanni Azzano discussed a possible 2021 project that E&E could get involved in. UTRCA has been working with both school boards on an indigenous pollinator garden, which would be cross-curricular. He will put together an information package for the Committee for further discussion at an upcoming meeting.

(b) 2021 E&E Budget Request

Committee members discussed next year's budget and potential projects planned. Members agreed that working with the same reduced budget amount that they have for 2020 would be adequate.

Motion by Matthew Orchard, seconded by Marianne Hawley

THAT the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee requests a 2021 budgetary figure of \$17,500.00 from the City of Stratford as follows:

Educational Expenses \$ 3,750.00

Community Projects & Initiatives 3,750.00

Avon River Naturalization Projects 10,000.00

\$17,500.00 total Carried.

(c) Bike Lanes – Emily Chandler

Emily Chandler discussed some of the recent push back the City is receiving regarding adding bike lanes to streets. Members discussed the importance of moving ahead with the bike lanes and concerns some citizens are having with parking and speeding cars. Councillor Burbach will inquire at the next ITS Sub-Committee meeting about bike lanes on un-assumed roads

2021 Budget and Staffing Request – Mike Jorna

Mike Jorna expressed concerns regarding the rapidly growing responsibility for staff dealing with the waste, recycling and the new green bin composing program. Mr. Jorna noted that whether a new position is created or if Council sees fit to transfer staff from another department, either would suit. This position has grown far greater since it was first created and continuing to grow. Anna Stratton inquired if staffing in this area could be part of the climate action plan, as increasing staff was identified initially by E&E. Matthew Orchard agreed that adding this request to the climate action plan would be an appropriate step to address this issue.

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Anna Stratton
THAT the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee recommends
Council consider additional staff resources, in a broader Environmental
Coordinator type role, to be responsible for implementation of the
Climate Action Plan.
Carried

2020 October

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2020-10-01-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Committe/39a1a17b-0d30-40e7-becb-ac7f00bc3591>

Ecological Group – Craig Merkley updated members on the Avon River shoreline progress. The south shore in front of the new Tom Patterson Theatre is complete. Staff plans on fixing some of the slumped stones once the water level drops later this fall. UTRCA is working in conjunction with partners to submit a proposal for a \$20,000.00 grant to extend last year's crib work another 60m on the north shore behind the houses. The supplies will need to be purchased prior to the end of 2020, as the funding is for 2020. The project will extend into early January or February when the river is frozen. UTRCA will be notified by November 1, 2020 if they will be receiving the grant. Craig Merkley noted that there are always areas along the river that will require work and that the shoreline budget will always be put to good use for improvements. Also, along the shoreline, staff will be planting a section of wildflowers if they are able to purchase materials. UTRCA have been doing weeding to clear space for the native plants to grow and fill in.

The Committee discussed continuing with the ongoing invasive species project in T.J. Dolan. Craig Merkley reported that he has done a recent assessment and it will take a few years of aggressively targeting the invasive species, as it has continued to grow. Staff estimates it would be approximately two days' work. There is also Japanese Knotweed at the sewage treatment plant that has returned and has already been treated twice. UTRCA will treat this area at the same time as they do T.J. Dolan.

Motion by Councillor Burbach, seconded by Councillor Henderson
THAT the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends a maximum of
\$3,500.00 to continue with UTRCA's ongoing invasive species projects at T.J.
Dolan and the sewage treatment plant.
Carried.

Mike Jorna inquired if there is anything that can be done regarding residents planting invasive species as ornamental plants. Craig Merkley stated that short of getting educational information out to the media, there is not much staff can do. Most people are unaware that what they are planting or have growing on their property is indeed an invasive species. Mr. Merkley will put a press release fact sheet together.

Mr. Jorna also inquired if the surrounding municipalities have **invasive species** policies or programs in place. Members were not aware of what the surrounding areas do as far as discouraging invasive species. Mr. Jorna will contact local municipalities surrounding Stratford to inquire about their programs on invasive species and report back at the November meeting.

Carbon Reduction Group – Anna Stratton suggested deferring the meetings until

January 2021 once new Committee members have been appointed

Update on Climate Action Plan – Emily Chandler/Councillor Burbach

The Clerk shared with the Committee that the climate action plan is being worked on by the Deputy Clerk. Emily Chandler circulated the section on waste to Committee members for feedback. Ms. Chandler encouraged members to have their sections circulated for feedback by the end of the weekend so they can begin to put the package together. Tatiana Dafoe suggested that the Deputy Clerk and the Energy & Environment Committee work together and combine their reports as one presentation for Council. Rebecca Garlick's report would be submitted as stand-alone report. The E&E Committee will send their community-focused sections to the Deputy Clerk, Chris Bantock, to be included in the report. The final report will be reviewed and discussed at the November 5, 2020 E&E meeting, prior to being presented to Council.

(b) 2020 Project Plans and Budget Update

Emily Chandler reported that the previously discussed LID project is moving ahead and Vanni Azzano can provide a further update at the November meeting. Sammie Orr reported that the composter cow has arrived at Stratford Secondary. They are currently just using old containers to collect what compost is generated from within the classrooms where students are eating. The cafeteria and restaurant both remain closed.

Mike Jorna contacted the Cemetery, Parks & Forestry Manager regarding planting trees in the City. He estimated the cost of the trees would be approximately \$300.00/each should the Committee choose to proceed.

2020 November

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2020-11-05-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/837dd09d-2980-4f4b-9b60-ac9300e8c6db>

Update on Climate Action Plan – Emily Chandler/Chris Bantock

Chris Bantock reviewed the draft report with members. He highlighted two specific items within the report. The 10% reduction target by 2030, which may look a bit lower than other municipalities and local governments are committing to. However, it is based on more recent data from the 2017 baseline data for the City, as opposed to older data other municipalities are using. Tonnage amounts remain similar. This target also received support from the Climate Change Coordinator and other Perth municipalities.

The second item is on the financial aspect. Almost all of the items included involve some sort of staff support and budget allocation both on the corporate and community side. The report suggests an agile way forward, that can be adjusted as the community grows and can pivot to work towards meeting goals. Mr. Bantock thanked the Committee members for their hard work helping to develop the community initiatives.

Mike Jorna inquired if the stats and numbers should be fact-checked again by staff to ensure the accuracy. As an example, he feels some of the greenhouse gas emission figures and organic waste diversion numbers may be off. Chris Bantock noted the figures are largely projections this early in the project, however he will have staff investigate.

Councillor Burbach inquired if Kate Simpson could look at current numbers to date to project what the diversion rate for the organics could be. Ms. Simpson advised she would investigate where the numbers came from and report back.

Vanni Azzano inquired if current staffing will be extended to work with surrounding municipalities or if they do not wish to partner with Stratford, will staffing solely be funded by the City. Councillor Burbach stated this would be an issue that would need to be addressed at budget discussions.

Sammie Orr suggested being more specific in some areas, such as banning single use plastics meaning all single use plastics, not just certain items. She also inquired why the goal of 10% below 2017 levels is lower than other municipalities. Chris Bantock explained that the 10% below 2017 figures is a much more updated baseline. Some municipalities are using a baseline data set from as far back as 1990, when emissions were much higher than that of present. Because Stratford is using a much more recent baseline of data, the percentage that we are trying to achieve is less, in order to reach the same goal of tonnage reduction.

Members were asked to submit any comments on the report to Emily Chandler prior to the draft being submitted to Council for review. Mr. Bantock is planning to take the report to Council on November 23, 2020 for their endorsement. In the short term or long term, some of these initiatives, based on budget and council approval can be completed. The second piece will be the approval of the set reduction target. The final piece will be reporting back on the staffing resources once all the partners have responded.

Anna Stratton suggested to Chris Bantock that the statement on page 13 of the report, "overall if everything that we do as a municipality moving forward from corporate and community perspectives can be done through the lens of climate change", is a very important statement and could be highlighted in a prominent place in the report. She also inquired why there was no area in the report discussing the blue bin program. Kate Simpson reported that there will not be any changes to the current blue box program until 2024. Ms. Stratton also suggested that forming a coordinated community group to focus on climate action would be useful going forward.

Kate Simpson noted that community groups are looking to get the single-use plastics ban moving ahead again.

Emily Chandler inquired if under transportation, in the electric vehicle section, if the report is looking at changing the City's fleet or providing public charging stations. Chris Bantock explained that the report reviews adding public charging stations. Future initiatives may be available for the City to investigate feasible options for changing their fleet. Members suggested the City could look at purchasing hybrid vehicles for their fleet as a more economical option.

Councillor Henderson reported that she has inquired in the past why builders are not installing electric charging stations when they build new homes. She was informed that all new homes are hard wired for the charging stations should the homeowner wish to install it. Councillor Henderson suggested this would be a good addition to the report. Chris Bantock will investigate the details and add into the report.

Emily Chandler suggested the City could make plans to begin enforcing their anti-

idling by-law. Councillor Henderson suggested that perhaps the by-law should be reviewed and updated. Chris Bantock will investigate.

Geoff Krauter inquired if there will be an agricultural aspect to the report. Councillor Burbach stated that at this time, just the City has been looked at, and suggested that partnering with the surrounding County would benefit everyone. Matthew Orchard suggested adding in that the City will seek out opportunities for additional funding to support climate initiatives. Sometimes there is money out there for initiatives that the City may not have thought of. This might allow some of the initiatives to move forward at a better pace if there are funds available.

Matthew Orchard inquired if there were numbers available regarding ridership for transit to assess how no-fare transit might impact ridership. Chris Bantock reported that the no-fare ridership has just been discussed as an idea. Stratford would need to reach out to other municipalities to investigate the feasibility of a program like this. Councillor Burbach noted that this is a good example of what a potential Climate Coordinator could be responsible for, always looking for funding opportunities for projects such as this. Councillor Henderson suggested that looking into reducing the fares to a lower rate would be an option if free is not feasible

2020 Project Plans and Budget Update

LID Project Update – Vanni Azzano

Vanni Azzano discussed the proposed LID project at the skatepark, advising they would like to install a rain garden. He is meeting next week with City staff and a skatepark representative to discuss plans to move forward.

Motion by Jo-Dee Burbach, seconded by Mike Jorna

THAT the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$3,000.00 for an engineered design and drawings for the new LID project at the skatepark.

Carried.

Avon River Shoreline Update – Craig Merkley

Craig Merkley updated the Committee that they surveyed the site last week. They are looking at continuing with the project along the North Shore behind the houses for another 60 meters. They are currently working on design ideas and discussing with the homeowners who live along that stretch. There are currently some docks in that area and the UTRCA is looking at possibly doing a canoe/kayak slip in the crib system to add some access to the water. UTRCA is also looking into grants to assist with this project.

Invasive Species Update – Craig Merkley

UTRCA is still planning on doing the work this fall. Once the leaves have all fallen, it is easier to see the buckthorn.

Compost Cow Update – Sammie Orr

Sammie Orr updated the Committee that the tech department will start building the new compost collection bins next quadmester. Ms. Orr will discuss doing a presentation to E&E with staff at Stratford Secondary, possibly in the spring

Tree Power Program – Emily Chandler

Emily Chandler updated the Committee that the planned tree program with Festival Hydro that was to take place this year has been rescheduled to 2021. Organizers have postponed it and will run the event as it was planned for this year.

(b) Proposed Glass Factory – Emily Chandler

Members discussed the proposed glass manufacturing plant in Stratford. The Energy & Environment Committee has discussed this previously, however, did not pass a motion at the time pending information on the environmental impact. A ministerial zoning order has already been issued. The Provincial Government has issued the zoning order, which overrides the usual process a municipality would take.

Energy & Environment Committee members have many questions such as the amount of water used, how it affects the Avon River and what emissions are coming out of the stack. Emily Chandler encouraged members to participate in the online presentation on November 14, 2020. You can register to participate, and they will be taking online questions. Councillor Henderson and Councillor Burbach stated they will both be tuning in to listen to the presentation and questions. Emily Chandler will e-mail members an overview of the information and concerns that were raised in Guelph when this was proposed there.

Anna Stratton inquired if the new **climate action report** will affect new industry coming to Stratford. Councillor Burbach stated that the report currently does not have an industrial section, focusing more on community and what individuals can do. Perhaps this could be looked at to fill in this segment

Invasive Species Project with County – Mike Jorna

Mike Jorna updated the Committee that he did not receive much support from the County regarding a partnership with the City on tackling invasive species. Most responded that this was the responsibility of the UTRCA. Craig Merkley will investigate with the UTRCA any future plans to work with municipalities. The Committee will discuss further at the December meeting.

(d) Update on Green Bin Program – Kate Simpson

Kate Simpson updated the Committee that the next phase of the green bin program is being rolled out in the downtown core next week. Currently there are 55 interested businesses/property owners. Collection will begin on November 24,

2020 December

<https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings/Detail/2020-12-03-1600-Energy-amp-Environment-Advisory-Committee-Meeting/bbc7f947-02fb-452c-91a2-acd800d884ae>

Update on Climate Action Plan – Emily Chandler

Committee members have all received the draft management report from the Deputy Clerk to review. Emily Chandler noted that discussion of the report at Council has been postponed and will hopefully be on the agenda before the end of the year. Councillor Burbach reported that funding for the Climate Coordinator position has been discussed by Council at the budget meetings. Emily Chandler will send out the updates she has received to date to the committee.

2020 Project Plans and Budget Update

LID Project Update – Vanni Azzano

Vanni Azzano updated the committee that he has met with City staff, representatives from the Skate Park, Stratford Rotary and the designer to review the site for the planned LID project. It is very well laid out for a LID project with good options for bio-swales and rain gardens. They will also include information

boards in the park explaining how the LID project works. They will proceed with the design and also do some soil samples before the project begins.

Avon River Shoreline Update – Craig Merkley

Craig Merkley updated the committee that all the supplies have been purchased for the project. Now that the water level has been dropped, UTRCA will do some final design and elevation calculations. Mr. Merkley estimates work will begin in February 2021.

Invasive Species Update – Craig Merkley

Craig Merkley reported that the crew is in T.J. Dolan today beginning their work on the European Buckthorn. The work will take 1-2 days. Mr. Merkley will put together some information to submit for a media release to keep citizens up to date on the work they are doing. Staff will also be looking at the myrtle in the spring to try and control it.

Compost Cow Update – Sammie Orr

The compost cow is working very well, using food scraps from the Screaming Avocado. They are starting to get compost material now. The tech program is unable to manufacture the collection bins, so alternatively they are going to purchase four bins to place throughout the school.

Proposed Glass Plant – Emily Chandler

The committee has received some additional information since discussing the proposed plant at the November meeting.

Anna Stratton inquired if the City has done an environmental assessment and if the Climate Coordinator and UTRCA have reviewed the plant proposal? She inquired what the E&E Committee can do to make any changes and feels there is a demand for a public meeting. Councillor Burbach reported that there are several environmental reports now posted on the City's website. However, there is not a greenhouse gas emissions report and she has requested this information. There is not a public meeting scheduled, however Council is meeting on December 14, 2020 or a question and answer meeting with the glass company. A subsequent meeting on the cost-sharing agreement is being held on December 16, 2020.

Councillor Henderson reported she tuned in to the start of the public information session prior to this meeting. They did address a greenhouse gas report and stated they are in the process of putting together the report. She stated that during the information session they were discussing the dormitory set up, heavy industry criteria, which the glass plant is not, wages, truck activity in and out and water usage in comparison to other factories.

Sammie Orr questioned if with the Climate Action Plan going to Council and a climate emergency declared, should Stratford be considering a factory that will be polluting the environment? Stratford should be thinking about their carbon footprint and start moving forward as a community to lower emissions.

Mike Jorna has reviewed all the reports and still does not feel that the numbers look good for Stratford. Just merely meeting emissions standards, does not mean the impact of a factory this size won't create a huge load into the atmosphere of the City and on the water supply and sewer system. Recycling the water and reclaiming the heat could also reduce the plant's natural gas consumption. The plant will create employment and possible light industries around it. The City of Stratford should not be satisfied with the company meeting minimum environmental standards. The glass company has this opportunity to be a leading

example of how a factory can be environmentally responsible if they make the choice to do so.

Geoff Krauter would like to know if they can somehow recycle the large amount of water they will be using as opposed to evaporation. He can appreciate that the company has made some effort to be more transparent this time. He does not know if citizens will be comfortable accepting living with the minimum standards developers are proposing and can citizens trust that they will in fact even meet the minimum standards.

Anita Jacobson added that they are emitting too much carbon and it does not make sense to support this industry during a climate emergency. If the company can find a way to make their industry more carbon-neutral, such as an electric furnace, it would be a better option to reduce their carbon footprint

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Anna Stratton

THAT the Energy and Environment Advisory Committee requests Xinyi be required to submit a greenhouse gas emissions report prior to Council making a final decision;

And THAT Council rejects the glass plant proposal based on the current standards proposed by Xinyi due to environmental concerns.

Carried

Motion by Mike Jorna, seconded by Anna Stratton

THAT the Energy and Environment Advisory Committee recommends that Council directs Xinyi to investigate ways to evaporate less water and a plan to reclaim a larger amount of heat.

Carried.

Climate Change Community Survey – Emily Chandler

The survey is now available online. Emily Chandler encouraged members to participate and share the link with others. Anna Stratton suggested sending out to organizations to share with their memberships to boost participation.

(b) Provincial Blue Box Program – Anna Stratton

Councillor Burbach previously shared information with the committee regarding Ontario's blue box program. Anna Stratton noted that feedback on the website is being accepted until midnight tonight. Ms. Stratton inquired what specifically is the concern for Stratford and what feedback should be shared on the platform? Councillor Burbach stated it is mostly the scope of the program that affects Stratford which could end up costing Stratford more money if additional items are being put in the trash because they are no longer accepted in the blue boxes.

(c) Webinar Plans – Sammie Orr

Sammie Orr updated the committee that the Climate Momentum group is looking at doing a webinar some time in the New Year regarding green recovery and how to create your own climate action plan. She inquired if this is a project that E&E would like to get involved with or have any suggestions for her. Members were supportive of the project.

