

**MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL MANITOULIN
CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE
MINUTES – October 28, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Climate Action Committee was held on October 28, 2020 by video conference with the following in attendance:

Mayor R. Stephens, Councillor Scott, Cori Davy, Autumn Davy, Mike Wilton, Climate Change Coordinator (CCC)

Regrets: Katie Gilchrist

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 3:36p.m.

MOTION: C. Davy and R. Stephens

That the agenda be approved with no changes...carried

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest.

MOTION: M. Wilton and C. Davy

That the minutes of the last regular Climate Action Committee meeting of September 23rd, 2020 be approved as presented....carried.

MOTION: D. Scott and C. Davy

To appoint Dale Scott and Cori Davy as co-chairs of the CAC...carried.

Following a resignation CAC chair between September/October meeting, D. Scott advises the CAC that Property Committee indicated that it would be up to the CAC to appoint a new chair. In consultation with CCC, D. Scott and C. Davy propose a Co-Chair structure for the committee.

MEP Grant – Update from CCC

- MEP Milestone 5 report with Appendix A attached to these minutes for review
- Appendix A of MEP report outlines costs to date incurred for creating the Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP) and proposed costs for conducting a community survey

FCM Grant – Update from CCC

- FCM grant report due mid-November – FCM has granted an extension for this report and is aware we are behind on project deliverables by about 3-6months
- FCM sent CCC a survey this week to outline why we are behind, Covid and staff turnover – see MEP report for details
- FCM has advised that we are not the only municipality behind on these grants due to Covid and they are actively negotiating with Federal government to extend grant period
- We will know by December if an extension will be granted

MOTION: C. Davy and M. Wilton

The CAC recommends that Council accept proposal from Ethelo under a letter of intent for 45 days and consider allocating Central Manitoulin's portion (\$2,495) of costs to conduct this survey to Covid19 fund.....carried

D. Scott – requests clarification:

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- What would training for this program look like?
- If we did decide to do this survey “in house” how much time would the CCC need to spend reaching out to individuals in the community? Is there enough time left in the contract?

CCC Response:

Received clarification from Ethelo right before meeting on training as follows:

- Training is 6 hours with our configuration lead - broken up over a few days
- You can have up to 6 staff participating.
- includes full configuration/setup for both of your engagements, you have an unlimited license to use us for additional engagements (ie. bylaws, OCP reviews, etc)

Training on how to set up our own configuration would be beneficial for CCC and for other municipal staff to participate in because once we purchase this tool for engagement we can use it again for other engagements like budgets, policies, other big projects etc. We may also want to conduct a follow up engagement/survey on climate change following the initial survey – so learning how to configure the system would ensure we get the most out of the initial investment.

R. Stephens agrees that outside help would be beneficial, and time is of the essence

C. Davy normally the committee would have the time to do this and CoVid adds additional concerns because we can't do face to face engagements like we had planned for the project

D. Scott we just can't call a townhall meeting in Covid – which is good point – perhaps the funds that the municipality would need to contribute could be logged under the Covid fund?

M. Wilton requests that we ask for a better price – lots of businesses have been impacted by Covid and we might be able to negotiate something better

CCC – agreed – will work with D. Scott and meet with Ethelo before next meeting to see if we can get a better price

MOTION: D. Davy and M. Wilton

Move forward with partnership with Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve (GBBR) to sign a data share agreement so Central Manitoulin can access energy data for Central Manitoulin Residents.....carried

CCC has been in contact with GBBR and has confirmed we can use the Carbon Calculator for free. We had planned on using this tool and adapting to fit on the Central Manitoulin website but the time and cost was prohibitive. Instead, the CCC has negotiated with GBBR that we can advertise the tool to our residents and if they use we can access the data from GBBR for free. We will need to sign a data sharing agreement outlining that we will adhere to privacy standards and GBBR will not be providing specific identification of users.

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M. Wilton expresses concern over agricultural sector not being included in the Carbon calculator right now. We need something to help measure this.

CCC agrees – the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) standards for measuring GHG emissions is still emerging and has not been included in the current version of the Partners in Climate Protection (PCP) standard that we are currently following. That said, we did try and apply it in our GHG inventory and acknowledge more work is required in this area.

CCC send AFOLU protocol to Dale/Wilton – done – sent Thursday October 29th, 2020

LED Lighting Project – Update from CCC

- CCC has been handling communication on LED project on behalf of municipality since Municipal Coordinator position is currently vacant
- Installation completed the week of October 9th 2020
- Quality check completed Tuesday October 27th, 2020
- CCC reported several lights of concern to RealTerm and these lights were added to the quality check
- Received quality check report on Wednesday October 28th, 2020
- All of the quality checks passed and lights were confirmed to be installed correctly
- Concerns primarily because LED lights are brighter and whiter not because they have been installed incorrectly
- The municipality has received an equal amount of comments expressing appreciation for the new lighting
- 3 lights need to be installed by HydroOne because upon contractors visit, it was determined the poles are too close to high voltage lines
- 1 light is not working because hydro is not running to the pole – again HydroOne needs to be called to fix this
- CCC to coordinate with HydroOne and Sarah Bowerman (municipal front office) to complete this work
- there may be a cost associated with HydroOne installing lights within high voltage lines

R. Stephens received a telephone call concerning the light across from Harbour Centre in Providence Bay. CCC can follow up to investigate if it is issue with installation but per note above, new lights are slightly brighter.

Project closing meeting scheduled for November 3rd, 2020

- RealTerm will deliver project closing report with revised payback period details
- Warrantee information will be included
- We currently have 3 spare lights which can be installed if a light burns out
- The burnt out light, if still under 10yr warrantee can then be sent back to manufacturer to we will receive a new one
- It is important to use warrantees if lights burn out within 10yr period as this will maintain operational cost projects for these assets

MOTION: C. Davy abd M. Wilto

It is the recommendation of the CAC that Council step back from the ReThink Green Regional Energy and Emissions Plan (REEP) project to prioritize the completion of our own Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP).....carried

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R. Stephens is this motion really required? Rethink Green is almost finished this project. We have already stopped corresponding with them on the REEP?

CCC correct – the reason for motion is:

- Since providing feedback about our dissatisfaction on consultation process:
 - not delivering the energy mapping and;
 - energy audit as promised and
 - the proposal of terms of reference for Project Advisory Team that was not inclusive to all participants in the region
- we have stopped corresponding with ReThink Green about the REEP
- The most recent correspondence with the Executive Director (ED) of ReThink Green was on September 28, 2020
- The ED attached letters of support that Central Manitoulin submitted had to ReThink Green on August 13, 2018
- Since this time, our relationship with ReThink Green has changed and this motion would serve as Council record so that ReThink Green does not use the letter of support (from 2018) to apply for any further funding for the REEP on our behalf, unless they obtain a new motion of support from our Council
- We are still interacting with the organization as they continue to provide educational and capacity building support in the region which is part of their grant from FCM
- Stepping away from the REEP at this time does not mean we will stop interacting with ReThink Green on other potential projects
- The CCC made a presentation at MMA on Wednesday October 21st suggesting that we consider forming a collaborative climate change planning group amongst several municipalities on the island – since this meeting 2 other municipalities have expressed interest in participating in something like this

Update: Climate Emergency Declaration

D. Scott:

- The property committee discussed this following a presentation in September and did not to accept this as written, referred it back to CAC
- CM did not declare an emergency for CoVid19 and some comments from property committee included questions about what declaring a climate emergency would commit the municipality to?
- With CoVid19, the municipality had guidelines for what declaring an emergency would commit the Council to

C. Davy:

- As a committee do we still want to pursue this?
- Does it need to be reworded?
- Can the public accept it?
- Is Central Manitoulin ready for this?
- Does the committee still want to work with this document?

D. Scott:

- speaks for including this in the Ethelo community engagement to see if community would accept this
- We have time to think about this and include it in the survey

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Question: Will Ethelo help with the wording of questions about declaring a climate emergency?

CCC: yes

They will help configure our survey so we can ask a number of questions to our residents about what they think we should do about climate change and whether or not they think the municipality declaring a climate emergency would be helpful.

No motion required at this time – will include in survey

New Business

Update: Provincial government Blue Box Announcement

- New producer responsibility was announced last week and there is currently a 45day consultation period which can be accessed here: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-2579>
- Municipality will ensure continuation of service
- Producer responsibility overview done last week during Waste Reduction Week events

November 5th – producer responsibility webinar – CCC following up to get link for registration and can send to CAC

CCC to send out power point done during Waste Reduction Week that provides a short overview of producer responsibility regulations

Correspondence: Electric Vehicle Charging Station

- CCC explained why this program was considered beneficial for Billings over purchasing and operating an EV station:
 - a) Risk of obsolescence/technology changing within 5yrs is high and OPG will absorb this risk in the contract
 - b) None of the small businesses in Billings are considering purchasing an EV charger but several have expressed interest in contributing financially in exchange for advertising at the site
 - c) Central Manitoulin already has a business that is considering the installation of an EV charger
 - d) CCC will be completing a brief report to share with MMA and First Nations providing a comparison between the program and purchasing a Level 2/3 charger – report expected by mid-November
- Gore Bay has signed a Letter of Intent with OPG

MOTION: to adjourn made by C. Davy at 5:37pm