

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**CITY OF OXFORD**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**August 4, 2021**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

Environmental Commission members in attendance at the Wednesday, August 4, 2021 meeting were: Chair, Mr. Jon Ralinovsky; Planning Commission Representative, Mr. Jason Bracken, Mr. Andor Kiss, Mr. Justin Fain, and Ms. Heather Barrett. A quorum was present. Mr. Steven Elliott had previously notified the Commission that he would not be present at the evening's meeting. Vice-Chair and City Council Representative, Ms. Chantel Raghu, had contacted Chair Ralinovsky earlier indicating that she was still at work and likely would not be at the meeting.

Mr. Bracken moved for approval of the minutes from the July 7, 2021 Environmental Commission meeting; Ms. Barrett seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**Discussion:**

A) Oxford Comprehensive Plan Input Project: Public Participation Meeting(s)

In an upcoming meeting, the Commission needs to include a public input session, with a report of the results of the public input due to Oxford's Assistant City Manager by October 30, 2021. Tentatively, the Commissioners would like to include the public input in the September 1, 2021 Environmental Commission. Mr. Ralinovsky is to contact Ms. Jessica Greene, Oxford's Assistant City Manager, and inquire about publicizing the opportunity to the public. Mr. Bracken indicated that he believed there may be upcoming larger public meetings with several Boards and Commissions present.

B) Stormwater BMPs/Riparian Buffers for Pending Development: Definitions

Staff had revised the text of the Commission's stream setback areas of undeveloped land adjacent to waterways. Based upon the Commission's discussion during the July meeting, ephemeral channels were specifically referenced in the text, with a lesser distance of 25 feet for the stream setback area along an ephemeral channel proposed. Definition of terms were also included in the revision. The Commissioners agreed that requiring a setback along an ephemeral channel would be desirable and that 25 feet seemed appropriate. Staff was instructed to incorporate the revisions into the formal text. The Commission intends to vote on recommending the stream setback requirements

during the September meeting, and forwarding them to the Planning Commission for their consideration.

C) “Solarized Oxford” Update

With Ms. Raghu’s absence, none of the Commissioners were aware of the status of the installations of roof-mounted solar panels on seven residences and one church in Oxford by PRO Lighting, Inc. Staff mentioned that solar panels were observed being installed at a residence by the intersection of Hester Road and Dufour Lane earlier in the week, but Staff did not know if this was associated with the PRO Lighting, Inc. project.

**Other Business**

Staff updated the Commission on the monthly emission monitoring event of the landfill’s 23 passive gas vents for July. At approximately 185 metric tons (MT) total carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) for the entire landfill, July’s monthly total value was above the monthly average value of approximately 149 MT since October, 2020. The two previous month’s monitoring had yielded total CO<sub>2</sub>e values that were below the running monthly average. Six of the 23 passive vents contribute approximately 78% to the total CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions to date, with one vent (gas vent #23) contributing almost a third of the total CO<sub>2</sub>e values by itself.

Staff provided a summary of the on-going residential food scraps drop-off program. Since the program started in April 2019 and through the end of July, 2021 (121 weeks), approximately 88,200 pounds (44.1 tons) of food scraps have been collected for composting. This is 729 pounds per week on average, with the program’s expense continuing to be \$0.31 per pound. For 2021, a total of just under 24,550 pounds (12.3 tons) has been collected in 29 weeks, with a weekly average of 846 pounds, and a program’s expense of \$0.27 per pound.

**Adjournment**

Commissioners concluded discussions at 7:40 p.m. The next regularly scheduled monthly Environmental Commission meeting is tentatively scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on September 1, 2021, in the Municipal Building’s first floor conference room.