



SUMMARY REPORT: Environmental Commission

Date: August 3, 2022

Location: Municipal Building, 15 South College Avenue, first floor conference room

Time of Meeting: 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Vice-Chair and City Council Representative, Ms. Chantel Raghu; Mr. Justin Fain, and Mr. Steve Elliott. A quorum was not present.

Staff present: David Treleaven, Environmental Specialist, Staff Liaison

Public present: Ms. Suzanne Zazycki, Oxford Climate and Sustainability Intern, Ms. Reena Murphy, and Mr. Abdul-Mujib Mumuni, a Miami University Graduate Student who is to assist Oxford with its community-scale greenhouse gas inventory

As a quorum of Commissioners were not present at the August 3rd meeting, the approval of the meeting's Agenda nor the approval of the Minutes from the July 6, 2022 meeting was not done.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Ms. Zazycki, Associate Director of Miami University's (MU's) Institute for the Environment and Sustainability (IES), was in attendance to decide upon the design of a professional service project (PSP) during the upcoming academic year by IES students. The Commission is requesting the PSP investigate options for increasing recycling volume and/or establishing recycling programs for local multi-family housing. The proposed PSP will tentatively consist of two sub-groups of investigation. One will survey the current availability of recycling at multi-family housing, with potential interviews of property managers to assess how their programs operate. The other sub-group will research case studies of other communities to determine existing/past efforts for multi-family unit recycling across the nation to try and determine what did or did not work, what is needed to have the recycling program succeed, and finding successful programs in communities similar to Oxford. As a quorum of Commissioners was not present, the Environmental Commission could not formally commit to being the client for this PSP.

Staff informed Commissioners that Mr. Ralinovsky had contacted Mr. Steve Sullivan regarding the Managed Natural Lawn Area (MNLA) ordinance or resolution. Mr. Sullivan indicated that he was willing and able to make a presentation to City Council regarding the MNLA. Mr.



Sullivan indicated that he will coordinate the scheduling of the Council presentation with Ms. Raghu and Mr. Jason Bracken.

Staff informed Commissioners that Ms. Peggy Branstrator had indicated there was a tentative meeting of relevant people associated with establishing up to three pollinator gardens at the Oxford Community Park scheduled for late August.

Staff updated the Commission on the monthly emission monitoring event of the landfill's 23 passive gas vents for July. The total estimated carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) for the entire landfill during the month was 196 metric tons (MT). This was above the 22-month average monthly estimate of 152 MT CO₂e per month. This value is still some 60% lower than the USEPA's model estimate for the closed landfill emissions (392 MT) that was used in previous calculations of the inventory of Oxford's greenhouse gas emissions.

Staff provided a summary of the on-going residential food scraps drop-off program. Through the end of June (173 weeks since April 2019), the total weight of collected food scraps was approximately 129,550 pounds (64.75 tons), averaging 749 pounds per week. For the year 2022, a total of approximately 24,000 pounds (12 tons) had been collected in 30 weeks, averaging 801 pounds per week.

Commissioners concluded discussions at 7:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled monthly Environmental Commission meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on September 7, 2022, in the Municipal Building's first floor conference room.