



## **Minutes**

Coordination Committee

Monday, May 11, 2020, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

WebEx

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### **Present:**

Bruce Newbold, (Chair)  
Giuliana Casimirri, Green Venture  
Ed Cocchiarella, HIEA  
Denis Corr, Corr Research  
Dan Dobrin, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Lubna Hussain, MECP  
Trevor Imhoff, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton  
Brian Jantzi, Citizen  
Joel Kaushansky, Health Canada  
Heidi Levitzky, HIEA  
Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton  
John Lundrigan, ArcelorMittal Dofasco  
Andrea McDowell, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton  
George McKibbon, McKibbon Wakefield Inc. /University of Guelph  
Shelley Rogers, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton  
Fran Scott, McMaster Institute for Health Equity, McMaster University  
Andy Sebastian, Stelco  
Tiffany Singh, Planning and Economic Development, City of Hamilton  
Natalie Stacey, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Nico Strabac, Mohawk College Sustainability Office  
Sara Yonson, Hamilton Port Authority

### **Regrets:**

Rob Conley, Environmental Services, City of Hamilton  
Barry Duffey, Citizen  
James Kaspersetz, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority  
Sandy Herkimer, Niagara College  
Chuck Hostkovsky, Citizen  
Kerry LeClair, Councilor Nann's Office, City of Hamilton  
Karen Logan, HIEA  
Paul Panabaker, Energy Dimensions  
Jeedhu Sarra, HIEA Coop Student

Myles Sergeant, Trees For Hamilton

## **1. Introductions & Welcome**

## **2. Approval of March 9, 2020 Minutes**

Approved

## **3. COVID-19 Impact Round Table Discussion (30 minutes) All**

### Bruce Newbold, McMaster University

Clean Air Hamilton may need to hold future meetings virtually. McMaster is all online, all exams, and Spring and Summer programs are online. Moving toward virtual classes for the fall. No research right now on campus. Restructured how they do their work at McMaster.

### Andy Sebastian, Stelco

Stelco is continuing operations but from the Environmental Department, working from home. If they go in, they have to follow certain protocols. Seems to be working at this stage.

### Dan Dobrin, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

MECP are all working from home. When there is a need to go to the office, practice disinfecting and physical distancing protocols. They check the mail and phones on a regular basis remotely, business isn't as usual, but still operating.

### Lubna Hussain, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Continues to be busy, they continue to be working and available as needed.

### Natalie Stacey, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Air Monitoring activities – lots of monitoring and essential services. They are still responding to incidents. They are still responding to the public. HAMN has been continuing and they are still overseeing it. Most of that work uninterrupted.

### Ed Cocchiarella HIEA

He was working from home before, so that hasn't changed. Clients have been deferring work and that has been a decrease in work that he would normally get.

### Fran Scott, McMaster Institute for Health Equity, McMaster University

The institute is quiet and they are trying to help students with online practicum, research will come out in summer instead of spring.

### George McKibbon, McKibbon Wakefield Inc. /University of Guelph

He has noticed business has been slowing. Has noticed tribunal hearings are taking long amounts of time and he noticed that the Province is trying to expedite these, and it will be interesting how that will move forward. He's surprised at how quickly things are moving forward. OPPI has moved meetings to Zoom. He thinks it's better than

teleconference, and almost better than in person meetings. Participated in a conference over Zoom and thought it was better than being at a conference

Heidi Levitzky, HIEA

HIEA has moved their meetings to Zoom, still meeting on a regular basis, working on plans to move forward. Doing things virtually, lots of things they can do virtually. Annual meeting that was April 29<sup>th</sup> will be rescheduled for the Fall. She's still meeting with Karen L regularly.

Joel Kaushansky, Health Canada

Things have been going well at Health Canada, mostly business as usual, but a lot of them have taken over voluntary rolls, he took on Contact Tracing with Public Health Ontario, he feels great to be able to give back in a meaningful way. Working from home.

Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton

All staff are working from home. They are trying to figure out how to do their work because a lot is in the community. Community environmental monitoring is happening. Wants to know if people are digging into this in CAH. They are also talking a lot about transitioning into a Post-COVID world. Shifts to active transportation and tackling the Climate Crisis.

Nico Strabac, Mohawk College Sustainability Office

Mohawk, all working from home. People in CCCM are finishing off projects. The office is reimagining how to spread environmental stewardship to College students and engage them at home in meaningful matters, trying to figure out what business as usual will look like when they go back. Like paperless environments.

Shelley Rogers, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton

Redeployed for COVID work. Andrea McDowell has been continuing on with the Air Quality and Climate Change group's work.

Sara Yonson, Hamilton Port Authority

Port work is mostly essential, they are moving forward with some of their projects. They are continuing, sorting through their amalgamation. Working from home right now.

John Lundrigan, ArcelorMittal Dofasco

On high level, Steel has remained an essential service, have lowered production, but have been operating. It is unknown when they will return to work in the office. They have a roll out plan, but they don't know when that will begin and how that will move forward. Developing policies and regulations.

Denis Corr, Corr Research

Like everyone else it's been an interesting time. Surprised how everything shut down. FAFK is completely shut down. Will be teaching at Mohawk in the fall. There will be a lot of work to switch to virtual teaching. They won't be allowing students to do labs, will have to film themselves doing the labs and send that to the students. Doing a lot with

Rotek and cleaning of tire fire site. Lots of virtual meetings. Finding the first month everything was shut down, the last few weeks, things are going again virtually.

Tiffany Singh, Planning and Economic Development, City of Hamilton

PED Community Planning, working from home, they are allowed in the office if they need to be, but take precautions. Day to day business as much as possible, had engagement activities planned for spring, but seems like they may not be happen. Looking at how to move forward with this new situation. Looking at how to engage with individuals online. An equitable lens is difficult online. She's trying to think of creative ways to move projects forward with an equitable lens.

## **Presentations:**

### **4. Provincial Policy Statement 2020, (15 minutes) George McKibbin**



Adobe Acrobat  
Document

#### Questions/Discussion

Discussed gaps that arise between Ministry and Municipalities with land use compatibility.

Recommended that this topic is revisited when new guidelines are put into place and to make comments if there is an ERO process. Recommended to look at other jurisdictions to see successes and to use as a model for new approach.

## **Updates:**

### **5. Dust Group Update (10 minutes) Heidi Levitzky**

April meeting was cancelled, next meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup>, they are working on a dust manual to be attached to demolition and home owner permits for when they are doing projects at home. Manual is almost complete, Heidi is creating a user-friendly version that will be presented at the May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **6. Upwind Downwind Conference (10 minutes) Bruce Newbold/Shelley Rogers**

Had to cancel UWDW in June. Now the question is: what do we do next?

#### Questions/Discussion

Group discussed various options for rescheduling the Conference. Decided to push the conference to June 2021 and have a hybrid of in person with an online presence.

Discussed safety, where the economy will be, travel of participants and the importance of in person networking,

#### **Action:**

Trevor I and Shelley R to work with the Convention Centre and let Bruce know what we hear from them.

## **7. Review of Feedback for Future Actions and Discussion (30 minutes) Bruce Newbold**

Members were asked to comment on different aspects at our last CAH meeting. Bruce recapped.

1. Education – consensus was that community recognition was important, thought we should be at appropriate community events. Working with partners around the table to identify events where we should have a presence. Also included working with Council and educating them, we could have hand out material around dust control, anti idling, car pooling. Being a facilitator for information.
2. Research – CAH should facilitate research, but not do the research. We recognize that we are a safe space. ERO comments could continue to be submitted.
3. Funding – mixed support for seeking funding, is it research? Outreach? Other? Would it create funding conflict? Might be best to link with other organizations, one suggestion is BACCC. One suggestion to include Climate Change in rebranding.

No recommendation to move forward with Research or Funding other than partnership. Education is the most proactive, maybe create an outreach and communication committee, explore how to better support partners, create handouts, engage Council after each election cycle, “Air Quality 101”. Work with Health Canada and Environment Canada, they have great content, but have Hamilton specific Content. One thing brought up is the History of Clean Air Hamilton, how we came to be where we are now. The committee could create an online calendar to communicate events. Ways of getting information out into the public of who we are and what we do.

### Questions/Discussion

Suggested to have group chat about what we do and want to say to the public and put that on the website. Important to state that CAH is a “safe space for people to speak”. Suggested to add to the website and add more information and insight that people maybe looking for.

Agreed that relationship between Climate Change and Air Quality should be identified to exist, but should not be the focus of Clean Air Hamilton.

Suggested to look at COVID and highlight this in the local context and that it will be interesting to see what air quality looks like right now and look at that and highlight this place in time.

It is asked if air quality really has improved through the COVID shutdowns. There have been examples outside of Hamilton, but we don't know yet if any have been seen in Hamilton. Annual reporting may show this. HAMN has not shown improvements. Suggested to look at past successes and apply to future actions such as green recovery.

Discussed looking at the History of Clean Air Hamilton and how we want it to appear. A textbook might not get the information out, we should have further conversations about how to move forward.

Many members have been around for a while and can speak to key decision points

#### Clean Air Hamilton Funding Applications

Trevor I – Clean Air Hamilton Funded projects will not be able to run as usual due to COVID. Opened discussion for feedback from members as to how to move forward. Suggests sending an email request to the applicants asking how this project looks in a post COVID world with contingencies.

Members agree that changes are possible and that applicants should have the opportunity to provide updates to their applications.

#### **Action**

Trevor I and Shelley R to send out email requests for asking for contingency plans.

#### **8. Member Updates**

##### Denis Corr, Corr Research

Just chaired the Ruetgers virtual meeting. There has been a lot of work done with Ruetgers and Golder, public liaison group and ministry are frustrated. One thing that came up with that PAH and Benzene monitoring done within the community. They are comparing their data with HAMN data, but HAMN is far away. Looks like the Benzene is trending up, but the PAH is trending down. Suggested a flow diagram with the processes identified.

##### Nico Strata, Mohawk College

Mohawk College's Sustainability Report has been released. They have achieved a 63% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions. To view the report, visit:

<https://sustainabilityreport.mohawkcollege.ca/>.

#### **Action Items**

1. Trevor and Shelley to work with the Convention centre and let Bruce know what we hear from them.
2. Trevor I and Shelley R to send out email requests for asking for contingency plans.

#### **Next meeting**

**June 8, 2020**

**3:00-5:00pm**

**Location TBD**