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Dufferin Aggregates Milton Quarry Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Meeting Minutes

Event:	Community Advisory Panel (CAP)
	Milton Quarry
Date & Time:	Wednesday November 1, 2017 7:00 – 7:55 p.m.
Place:	Milton Quarry
Chair:	Morgan Murphy, Smithcom Limited
Participants:	CAP Members:
	Walter Heyden, Dufferin Aggregates, Site Manager, Milton Quarry
	Letty Stevenson, Dufferin Aggregates, Milton Quarry
	Shelly Varley, Neighbour
	Stephen Ng Qui Sang, Neighbour
	Colin Best, Town of Milton Councillor
	Ted Brown, Halton Hills Councillor
	Cindy Lunau, Town of Milton Councillor
	Presenters:
	Kevin Mitchell, Director of planning and property approvals, CRH Canada
	Guests:
	Amaraine Laven, Niagara Escarpment Commission
	Marion McMeeken, Neighbour
Minutes:	Corey Michaels, Smithcom Limited

Regrets:

Nancy Mott, Niagara Escarpment Commission Bryan Lewis, Halton Hills Councillor Janice Vancso, Neighbour Nancy Tilt, Bruce Trail Scott McCammon, Milton Chamber of Commerce

Minutes

Morgan Murphy calls the meeting to order. Meeting formally opened at 7:05 p.m.

Morgan: Introduced Amaraine Laven, attending the CAP meeting on behalf of the Niagara Escarpment Commission. First item of business is approval of the June 7, 2017 minutes.

Review and approve June 7, 2017 Minutes

- Walter Heyden motions approval of the June 7, 2017 minutes
- Colin Best seconds the motion
- June 7, 2017 CAP Meeting Minutes are approved

2017 Operations Update - Walter Heyden

Walter: Shared site map showing overburden removal in 2017, completed mid-August. There are three active areas of extraction. In the corner of North Quarry, extraction has stopped and not resume for a few years. In the west cell, most of the north wall has been extracted, but one small area remains. Ramp material was also removed in the middle of the summer. The most activity this year was in the East Cell. There is some extraction remaining on the upper bench over the next three weeks or so.

We are anticipating about 4 million tons of production this year, which is almost 1 million tons less than originally anticipated. We started blasting in January and will finish in the next 2-3 weeks. Shipping has been from 5:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Friday, and Saturdays based on demand.

In the community this year, we built the remaining section of trail at Darling Home, completing the loop of their fully accessible trail. The project finished late June. We continued working with Halton Healthcare Services and the ready mix drum program, continue to sponsor local minor league sports teams, send kids to camp, participate in the United Way golf tournament, the Earth Day roadside clean up, and conduct over 30 school tours.

Stephen: When do you expect to start up operations next year?

Walter: We expect to begin production mid-March, 2018.

Morgan: Seeing no further questions, the next item on the agenda is an update from Kevin Mitchell on the Gap Plan.

Gap Plan Update - Kevin Mitchell

Kevin: To introduce myself, I am the director of planning and property approvals at CRH Canada. We handle CSR at sites, stakeholder relations, out of our office in Concord. It's my understanding there were some questions on the GAP plan from the previous meeting.

When the quarry originally started in 1962, the gap was a way to get the material to the processing plant, located below the escarpment. In 2006 when the quarry extension was approved, the cabinet decision included the requirement for Dufferin to submit a plan to screen the gap. Dufferin retained MacNaughton Hermson Brittion Clarkson planning to lead preparation of the plan. Goodban Ecological and Totten Sims Hubicki provided support.

A public meeting was mandated as part of the process. Dufferin formed a GAP Advisory Committee including councilors from both Halton Hills and Milton, citizens from both towns, staff from the NEC, Conservation Halton and the Region of Halton, Bruce Trail and MNRF.

Work on the plan began in February and ended in October 2007. Plan was completed and sent to the NEC.

Screening at the gap began in the late 1970s, with approximately 1,500 seedlings planted. There was a nearly 20-year freeze until more tree planting took place during the 1990s, including 2,500 seedlings and bigger trees greater than 1.5 m including white spruce and silver maple. In 2001, a gabion structure was built to increase the height the trees could grow.

Photo from 2003 – trees have covered the gabion baskets. In 2017, trees have grown further. A number of large trees were also planted in 2008 when we got serious about this plan. We also removed a number of invasive species that were planted in the 1970s and replaced them with large stock. The slope is now fully vegetated, and trees are maturing.

The short-term plan required all of these plantings – bigger trees, well maintained. The longer-term plan calls for a narrowing of the opening. It is still one of the only ways to access the site and will remain, otherwise we would be landlocked, so a smaller (10 meter wide) access road will remain. The emergency secondary haul route will be reforested.

Stephen: You've basically put a slope in front to hide the road? The pedestrian bridge will remain?

Kevin: Right – that's the long-term idea. The pedestrian bridge is part of the Bruce Trail and is inspected every year.

Cindy: Was the pedestrian bridge always a plan for the gap?

Walter: It was added in the late 90's – the Bruce Trail used to have to detour around the quarry, a 20km detour.

Cindy: It's my understanding when the cut was put in, there was quite the backlash – led by Ann McArthur, teacher at Halton high school. She was so frustrated, someone encouraged her to run for mayor and she became the first female mayor of Milton. As a result of that and her lobbying against the hydro line, we ended up with the creation of the Niagara escarpment commission, which she was one of the first members of.

Kevin: In 1962, there were no regulations. One of the first things the NEC did was initiate a prohibition on cutting in to the outer face.

Morgan: Thank you Kevin. The next item on the agenda is an update from Colin Best.

Official Plan Review Update - Colin Best

Colin: It is quite a lengthy document, we passed it last month at regional council. The official plan review is a three-year process with a significant communication roll out. There will be a lot of work looking into the environmental implications of the plan. The Places to Grow Act indicates Halton Region should grow by 220,000 people over the next 25 years. You'll be seeing a lot of notices and public meetings on the region website, local paper. We need to engage people and highlight the environmental and economic consequences. It's going to be an interesting process – you can see these reports at halton.ca.

Walter: The provincial plan also includes significant densification targets, correct?

Colin: Right – it calls for 25-30 story buildings, which is a significant change for our town. The whole idea is to use less farmland. First public meeting will be sometime in the next year.

Stephen: Colin, how are they expanding the roads to accommodate the transportation?

Colin: It's about increasing the modal split, which is encouraging intensification, public transit, bikeways, HOV lanes, etc. We will see significant changes in terms of trying to link various transit systems together, including work with Metrolinx.

Morgan: Thank you Colin for the update. Let's move to open forum and committee discussion.

Marion: It seems there were only six blasts in September, what happened?

Walter: There was a significant drop in production, down to one shift. It's the earliest shutdown for us since 2009.

Colin: One question for Kevin regarding rehabilitation – what are the timelines in terms of when production is finished in terms of dismantling the plant, crusher, etc? How will things be projected?

Kevin: I would assume it would be shortly after production ends – roughly a 3 to 5 year timeframe. We will remain on site actively for many years after the end of production – won't drag it out because we want to proceed to rehabilitation. Equipment may be used on another site.

Stephen: You mentioned you'll still have some property holdings. Would you still use the infrastructure here to develop an adjacent parcel?

Kevin: That's unlikely – there is one parcel owned by Lafarge (another company) without outside access. The rest of the site has environmental features that would prevent use for quarry.

Marion: Was there an indication of when the guarry would be depleted?

Walter: It's still an 8 to 10 year timeframe depending on depletion.

No other business to discuss.

Proposed future meeting date: March 7, 2018

Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- 2018 Operations Plans
- Tremaine road update

Morgan Murphy requests a motion to adjourn the meeting

• Colin Best motions to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.