



A G E N D A

Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, September 14, 2026

4:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

- 1. Call Meeting to Order and Land Acknowledgment**
 - Chair Ashley Nordlund
- 2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**
 - All members to declare any pecuniary interest
- 3. Adopt Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Motion #1 -
That the Minutes of the Regular Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting held June 1, 2026 be confirmed as written and filed.
- 4. Previous Action Items**
 - Update the Action Plan tracker
 - Litta trap project
- 5. New Business**
- 6. Next Meeting Date**

The committee will not meet until the new appointment process.
- 7. Adjournment**



MINUTES

Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, June 1, 2026
City Hall Council Chambers
4:00 p.m.

Present: Ashley Nordlund
Kim Mowrey
Brie McCardle
Peter Kirby
Stephanie Charles
Ashley Shouldice
Rory McMillan
Lisa Devlin
Councillor Lisa Moncrief

Regrets: Craig Debbo

City Staff: Greg Breen, Director of Infrastructure & Operations
Heather Pihulak, Deputy CAO/City Clerk
Andrew Smith, General Manager of Recreation & Culture
Paul Wills, Solid Waste Manager

1. Call Meeting to Order and Land Acknowledgment

Ashley Nordlund, Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and read a Land Acknowledgment.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Kim Mowrey declared a pecuniary interest regarding Harvest Kenora

3. Adopt Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion #1 - Moved by R. McMillan, Seconded by K. Mowrey & Carried: -

That the Minutes of the Regular Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting held May 11, 2026 be confirmed as written and filed.

Councillor Moncrief will let Fabian know that we have put a decision on hold for one year.

4. Previous Action Items

- a) **Jones Road Landfill Operation** – Peter asked for an opportunity for a tour of the Jones Road Landfill operation. At that time, Greg Breen suggested we bring the Manager of the landfill in and explain the operation. Paul Wills, Manager of Solid Waste was present answering questions from the committee.

Paul provided an overview of the operation. From the day the landfill is built, we worry about the day it will close. It has a projected lifetime of 30 years. It is licensed for 1.6 M cubic meters of airspace. We try to do it as economically as possible. We have done some measuring this spring through drones and engineering surveys,

and we are writing a report this summer to develop a mathematical formula and feel we are in about the 50% range which we anticipated an 80% capacity at this stage. There have been equipment purchases in the past few years which are likely extending the lifetime of the landfill. It is not state of the art landfill with no liners and are all clay base. We do not do methane capture and do not generate the volume of trash that would allow for methane capture. We employ 5-6 people there as operators and own an adjacent piece of property which we obtain top cover from which was a former pit. We have the tools and physical and equipment resources to produce our own cover material.

With the MOE, Conservation and Parks they would now require state-of-the-art, liners, methane capture and it would be nothing less. They are not issuing permits for new landfills and the expansions are state-of-the-art.

We are at 50% capacity and up to 2009 our garbage was still being transferred to Brady landfill. Up to 2014 all records were manual and we don't have any records to establish how much material was brought to the landfill. We will take the tonnage from this year and measure from this year to try to calculate it this year. Q3 we will have a projection to establish what life is left in the landfill and will gauge what a future landfill timeline will look like. This will help us establish rates today to prepare for the next landfill.

The committee thanked Paul and Greg for the presentation.

b) Harvest Kenora request

Dayna Dobriansky and JoAnne Villeneuve from Harvest Kenora attended the meeting to answer questions regarding the funding request for Harvest Kenora.

The group had a one-on-one with Peter and there were good questions asked at that meeting. They have a fully fenced garden with committed volunteers. They have been building onto things that they can provide and build each year. They started the market to ensure there is no food waste. Not everyone would take produce, and they decided to put the market stand together and do provide pricing. It has grown and they have added baking which is open for only one hour. There is a desire for it and those are the people who can't come down to volunteer so they would rather donate and get fresh produce. The Market stand shed was through a grant with the Community Foundation. Currently there are two fridges in the shed. They use them for excess produce and baking. They are going to move everything and they require power (solar) for the new shed.

They have a great deal of outreach such as girl guides, mini gardeners. They are not charitable, just not-for-profit. They have 10-12 who are involved in everything which includes a Board and some will just volunteer on specific projects. Different people come for different reasons, and many are still learning. Community members come because they want to learn and they may not return. Some community members have different abilities as well. They will be looking for another Community Foundation grant in 2027. Everything they make from the proceeds of the garden sales goes back into the program. They discuss various fundraising initiatives and it's just to find the time through volunteers to conduct the various fundraising plus do the work of the garden.

It was questioned how much each project is. They have purchased the building and they are working on the foundation and the only thing in the quote is the solar equipment \$6,140 and timber frame. The building is going up regardless. They purchased the building through fundraising which was \$1,800.00.

Peter had a discussion last Thursday with Joanne and Dianne. It was questioned what the difference is with what they do and an individual family does. We are subsidizing the food the volunteers are consuming so it was questioned why we wouldn't subsidize everyone in Kenora who wants to grow a garden. We should expect them to contribute to the project and would like to see them do more outreach and educate people on how to garden.

They are asking for \$8,288 and the budget balance of the committee is \$9,245.

This committee is trying to expand, and this committee would like to see them form another garden. The cost of the overall project they are covering for the purchase of the building, and they are asking for the solar component. We would like to hear about the deliverables and what we did for them. It is volunteer driven, community based and the project is shared. The community has the opportunity to access it if they wish to. A lot of people cannot have a garden in their yard and so this is an opportunity to grow their own food but not have the challenges of gardens in their own yards.

Moved by R. McMillan, Seconded by B. McCardle & Carried:-

That the committee support Home Run Gardens request for project funding in the amount of \$8,288 for the solar project for the new shed at Home Run Gardens.

Peter Kirby requested to be recorded as opposed.

- c) **2026 Communities in Bloom** – The Committee was provided the forms in advance and took time to prepare in advance. Ashley created a draft of the questionnaire, and shared with the committee in advance.

Andrew Smith advised that they have met with the judges now and they shared with the committee what they will be looking for. We will be submitting one package to indicate what the Sustainability Committee does and what they have done, versus what the form outlines.

Ashley Shouldice will reach out to Allyson Smith who is Andrew Smith's contact at KCDSB to provide information on her program at TA. St. Louis School also has a program that we donated to a few years back that should be included.

The City has an Adopt-A-Block Program which has active participation. Lake of the Woods Marina is the only certified blue marina in Kenora.

Reuse, recycle and giveaway day should also be included.

5. New Business

LOWDSA is having a tree planting on July 23rd if anyone is interested in participating. They have three shoreline clean up events left. There are students until August 22nd.

It was questioned if there is any work that has to be done with the litter trap project and Greg Breen indicated there is not.

Eco Superior posted on Facebook about their litter traps and they have estimated data on what they are removing from the lakes. Their next step is as they analyze the waste they are working with the City to install cigarette butt containers as that is what they are finding is primarily going into the water.

6. Next Meeting Date

Monday, September 14, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.