



**MINUTES**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ACES)**  
**MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2013-OCT-09 AT 4:30 PM**  
**BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE (411 DUNSMUIR STREET)**

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<b>Members Present:</b>	Diane Brennan, Chair Anne Kerr Calvin Tant	Sheri DeBoer Suzanne Andre Shelley Serebrin (alternate for Chad Dalrymple)
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Michele Patterson Chad Dalrymple Jan Hastings	Wally Wells Ted Perry Glenda Hunter (alternate for Michele Patterson)
<b>Staff:</b>	Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner	Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary

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**1. Call to Order**

Chair D. Brennan called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm with no quorum present.

**2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items**

The agenda was approved as presented with the following late item:

a) Stream to Sea Program – After School Workshop (2013-OCT-23)

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is hosting a workshop targeted to local educators and designed to provide opportunity for watershed education. The workshop will be held 2013-OCT-23 from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm at NDSS Meeting Room A. Registration is required. For more information, contact Christy at 250-754-0330.

**3. Adoption of Minutes (2013-SEP-11)**

Discussed under Item 7a.

**4. Items Arising from Minutes**

a) Linley Valley Oil Slick – Update

For information. The Committee had asked to receive an update on this issue when more information became available. The last report stated that the City's Bylaw Department had conducted a site visit and analysis and had concluded that the oil sheen was likely due to a natural source such as vegetation composting. The City is still waiting to hear the test results collected by the Ministry of Environment (MOE). When details are received, they will be forwarded to Committee members as information. The item can be removed from the agenda.

**5. Delegations**

None.

**6. Correspondence, Handouts, Notices**

a) Harbour Fair (2013-OCT-05) – South Downtown Waterfront Initiative

For information. As part of the South Downtown Waterfront Initiative, a Harbour Fair was held 2013-OCT-05 to gain public input on an overall vision for the area. The event included informational displays, site tours, prize draws, etc. About 300 people attended the event. A design charrette has been planned for November. The process for selecting at-large participants will be advertised publically. Staff will forward the application to ACES members once it is advertised. More information is available at [www.southdowntownwaterfront.ca](http://www.southdowntownwaterfront.ca).

b) RDN Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Program:

For information. The RDN is hosting a series of workshops and presentations on drinking water and watershed protection (2013-OCT-10,17,23,29). Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, visit [www.dwwp.ca](http://www.dwwp.ca) or call 250-390-6560.

## 7. Ongoing Business

a) Riparian Area Setback Variance Policy Review

The Committee received copies of draft DPA1 and DPA2 for review and comment. The Committee reviewed the documents and made the following comments:

- Regarding the “recommended options” table provided with the draft DPA – Watercourse, floodplain and ESA mapping should be an overlay on all neighbourhood plans.

Staff noted that watershed mapping or dealing with flood plains could be addressed in other sections of the OCP. The ESA mapping is part of a tool for identifying what is and what is not included.

- Change “or get a variance” to “for example”.
- Should they be called something other than “options”?
- Education and public awareness should be expanded to include general OCP awareness, awareness on the DPA1 and DPA 2 changes, etc.
- Some of the wording is ambiguous or questionable.

One recommended option is to revise the DPA; each recommended option contained within the document has its own process that must be followed. Staff will be meeting with a group of Qualified Environmental Professionals (QEPS) on Friday to get their feedback on the document. The Committee decided to defer review of the document until the next meeting.

S. Serebrin arrived at 5:18 pm. Quorum now present.

It was moved and seconded that the 2013-SEP-11 Minutes be adopted as presented. The motion was carried.

b) BC Hydro Powersmart Forum (2013-OCT-22) – Update

For information. R. Lawrance will be attending the Powersmart Forum to give a presentation with Rob Grey on the Realtor Energy Efficiency Program (REEP). The mayor will be attending the forum as well, in order to discuss community and corporate efforts to reduce GHG emissions. Staff will provide a summary of the event at the next meeting.

## 8. New Business

a) Adaptation Tools for Coastal Communities Workshop (2013-OCT-09) – Debrief

For information. A couple of Committee members attended this workshop. The workshop was focused on preparing coastal communities for the impacts of climate change and sea level rise. The workshop provided information on sea level rise projections, examples from other communities to prepare, information on the green shores program; tools for local governments ([www.plan2adapt.ca/tools/planners](http://www.plan2adapt.ca/tools/planners)); a broad range of speakers, etc.

b) Bird Death Study (CBC Report)

For information. A Committee member was asked by a resident that this item be discussed; to consider recommending a policy or bylaw for the licensing of cats. The Committee reviewed the report and seemed to feel this is an important issue. Should this be considered in a future work plan? A Committee member noted that Calgary has been successful with their pet licensing bylaw. Staff asked S. Andre to forward any information that she has regarding Calgary’s bylaw to the rest of the Committee.

Staff noted that Buttertubs Marsh has a co-management agreement between the City of Nanaimo and the Nature Trust of BC (land owner). The management of dogs and cats has been difficult to enforce by the City of Nanaimo, as there have been problems with the City's Bylaw Department enforcing rules contained in the Buttertubs Management Plan. It was suggested that the Committee take a closer look at the Buttertubs Marsh case before making any sort of recommendation for a bylaw or policy (to develop an agreement between the City and Nature Trust). A smaller, defined area with a clear conservation mandate could serve as a good model to be used elsewhere in the city.

## **9. Council Update**

D. Brennan provided an update on some recent items presented to Council, including; the RDN well-water wellness program (homeowner incentives to cap wells); a report that maps out island-wide water supply, location of aquifers, etc.

## **10. Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is 2013-NOV-13 at 4:30 pm in the Board Room of the Service and Resource Centre (411 Dunsmuir Street).

## **11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.

APPROVED:

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Chair

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Date