



MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ACES)
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2013-SEP-11 AT 4:30 PM
BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE (411 DUNSMUIR STREET)

Members Present:	Diane Brennan, Chair Chad Dalrymple Ted Perry Sheri DeBoer	Glenda Hunter (alternate for Michele Patterson) Shelley Serebrin (alternate for Chad Dalrymple) Wally Wells Suzanne Andre
Members Absent:	Michele Patterson Jan Hastings Anne Kerr	Calvin Tant Snuneymuxw First Nation Rep
Staff:	Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner Alan Kemp, Urban Forest Coordinator Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary	

1. Call to Order

Chair D. Brennan called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items

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

- a) In place of presentation on Successful Cities initiative: A. Kemp, Urban Forest Coordinator, Tree Management and Protection Bylaw – Review & Changes
See Item 5a).
- b) B. Merilees Proposed Workshop with ACES on Riparian Area Setbacks
For information. Staff informed the Committee that B. Merilees is interested in hosting a workshop and inviting ACES members to discuss Riparian Area setbacks. The Committee decided not to participate at this time.
- c) Inspire Nanaimo Special Event – Rejuvenating Our Cities with Keynote Speaker Todd Latham
For information. W. Wells noted that keynote speaker Todd Latham is speaking in the Shaw Auditorium on 2013-SEP-17 from 4:00pm to 5:00pm. The event is free and everyone is welcome to attend.
- d) Harbour Fair – South Downtown Waterfront Initiative
For information. As part of the South Downtown Waterfront Initiative, a high level long term planning process to look at the south downtown area, a Harbour Fair will be held 2013-OCT-05 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm on Front Street (across from Port Place Mall) in order to gain public input on an overall vision. The event will include informational displays, site tours, prize draws, etc. The event is free and everyone is welcome to attend.

3. Adoption of Minutes (2013-JUL-11)

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

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. Staff reported 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 Ministry of Environment (MOE) also visited the site and took samples for testing. R. Lawrance will contact MOE and ask about the results of the testing.

b) Odour in the Regional District of Nanaimo – Update

For information. The Committee had asked to receive an update on this item. The investigation has been undertaken and a draft report is currently being reviewed internally. The report will go forward to a future RDN Board Meeting.

5. Delegations

a) Tree Management and Protection Bylaw – Review & Changes (A. Kemp, Urban Forest Coordinator)

For information. D. Brennan welcomed A. Kemp to the meeting, who attended in order to update the Committee on the proposed changes and updates to the Tree Management and Protection Bylaw. A. Kemp began his Powerpoint presentation, summarizing the major changes made to date. It was emphasized that public education for professionals and homeowners plays a large role and is always ongoing. Examples of public education efforts to date include newspaper advertising, TV segments, public workshops, etc. As well, the bylaw now includes a fine schedule.

In summary, the number of updates that have been made should help to reduce the number of trees damaged or needlessly removed. It also more clearly lays out the guidelines for removal / replacement of trees both on development sites and residential properties.

D. Brennan thanked A. Kemp for his presentation. He left the meeting at 5:20 pm.

b) School District 68 – Energy Use (C. Dalrymple, Energy & Capital Projects Manager)

For information. C. Dalrymple began a Powerpoint presentation regarding the energy use throughout SD68. Some key points included: average building age is 50 years; achieved a savings of up to \$5,000,000 over the last ten years by making small upgrades (switching light bulbs, adding timers, etc.); avoided almost 9,000 tonnes of CO² over the last 10 years; current upgrades include replacement of light bulbs at 16 more sites, initiating behavioral programs, replacing equipment (i.e. fridge replacement program), etc.

D. Brennan thanked C. Dalrymple for his presentation.

6. Correspondence, Handouts, Notices

a) Building Local Resilience – Presentation and Tours (2013-SEP-19 to 2013-OCT-05)

For information. The RDN is holding a series of presentations and tours throughout the region on topics such as, rainwater harvesting, renewable energy, etc. For more information, visit www.rdngetinvolved.ca or call 1-888-828-2069 to register.

7. Ongoing Business

a) Riparian Area Setback Variance Policy Review – DPA Review Update

At the last Committee meeting, the Committee made comment on the timeline and recommended the options presented. A revised timeline was presented to members via email prior to the meeting. R. Lawrance noted that several recommendations are being implemented through a revision to DPA1 (Watercourses) and DPA 2 (Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs)). The other initiatives, such as ESA mapping updates, an update to Parks and Public Works guidelines for working around ESAS, will need to be done after the revisions are complete. For now, there will be a focus on draft guidelines and DPA revisions.

R. Lawrance noted that the draft recommendations will be sent to ACES members with the October agenda package, to be discussed at the October ACES meeting. City staff will also review the draft with a group of Qualified Environmental Professionals (QEP) and the City's Development Process Review Committee (DPRC).

b) Invasive Plant Management Strategy – Draft for Review

At the last meeting, the Committee was asked to review the draft Invasive Plant Management Strategy, and to submit their comments prior to 2013-SEP-01. A revised version was sent to members via email prior to today's meeting. Staff reviewed the changes with the Committee.

Committee Comments:

- Include something that addresses the sale of invasive species at a provincial level. Staff explained that the City is working with a regional body (Coastal Invasive Species Committee) who work regionally with the province. Maybe there is a solution at a local government level to establish a higher standard of regulation with nurseries.
- The sale of invasive species is a growing problem– it's only referenced in the beginning of the document.
- Ensure that the recommendations and measures of success are reflected in each other. For instance, it says "regional partnership with nurseries to remove invasive species" in "measures of success", but not in "implementation".
- Include more references to the appendices.
- Reference the list of "potential partners" at the front of the document.

It was moved and seconded that the Committee endorse the document with the above-noted amendments. The motion was carried.

8. New Business

a) Watercourse Restoration Projects – SFN Consultation

For information. It has been communicated to neighbourhood groups that all restoration and stewardship work within City parks and along watercourses will be suspended until further notice. The City is working on improving its consultation and communication around stream stewardship projects in the City. This includes finding an appropriate way to move forward with stream stewardship that addresses cultural and heritage issues while improving habitat values for fish and other wildlife.

9. Council Update

None.

10. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting is 2013-OCT-09 at 4:30 pm in the Service and Resource Centre (411 Dunsmuir Street).

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date