



MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ACES)
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2013-MAY-08 AT 4:30 PM
BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE (411 DUNSMUIR STREET)

Members Present:	Diane Brennan, Chair Anne Kerr Ted Perry Suzanne Andre Chad Dalrymple	Calvin Tant Sheri DeBoer Shelley Serebrin (alternate) Susan Allen on behalf of Wally Wells
Members Absent:	Jan Hastings Michele Patterson	Glenda Hunter (alternate) Snuneymuxw First Nation Rep
Staff:	Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner Gord Foy, Traffic/Transportation Engineer Chris Jackson, Manager Community Planning	Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

D. Brennan called the meeting to order at 4:44 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Adoption of Minutes (2013-APR-10)

It was moved and seconded that the 2013-APR-10 regular and IC Minutes be adopted as presented.
The motion was carried.

S. Serebrin arrived at 4:46 pm.

4. Items Arising from Minutes

- a) Eco-Justice re Draft Plan for Protecting Vulnerable Species:
For information. EcoJustice considers the Province's Draft Five Year Plan for Species at Risk in BC (www.env.gov.bc.ca/atrisk/5_yr_plan) contains no new measures, and uses strategies not much different than what previously existed.
- b) Tour of Newly Acquired Buttertubs Marsh West:
Based on the Committee's request at the last meeting, staff have arranged for members to take a tour of the newly acquired Buttertubs Marsh West. They proposed a date of 2013-MAY-09 but members were unable to attend. Staff will look into setting a new tour date in the next month.
- a) Linley Valley Oil Slick:
Staff has still not heard the results of the investigation. More information will be provided as it becomes available.
- b) Smell in the Regional District of Nanaimo:
The RDN is working to determine the source of the smell. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

5. Delegations

a) Community Sustainability Action Plan – Update: Transportation Master Plan:

R. Lawrance welcomed G. Foy, Traffic / Transportation Engineer, to the meeting. G. Foy attended the meeting to give a presentation on the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) process to date, and to discuss how the TMP contributes toward the recommendations of the Community Sustainability Action Plan (CSAP). He introduced himself and began a Powerpoint presentation (introduction, travel characteristics, observations, opportunities, etc.).

Community consultation has been taking place throughout the community over the last several months. During consultation, a variety of very helpful information was gathered and collected (statistics, surveys, etc.). It was acknowledged that transportation will play a dominant role in Nanaimo's GHG emissions and diversifying our mode share can offer significant GHG reductions in the future.

The next opportunity for input is at a workshop scheduled for 2013-MAY-16, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre. Committee members are welcome to attend and can RSVP to staff by email. For more information, visit www.nanaimo.ca/goto/transportationplan.

6. Correspondence, Handouts, Notices

a) News Article re City Committee Gets Pat on the Back:

For information. A letter to the editor (Daily News, 2013-APR-13) was submitted to acknowledge and congratulate the City's decision to begin the Riparian Area Variance Setback Review.

b) Bike to Work Week (May 27 – June 2):

For information. Posters have been distributed to city facilities, local media outlets, libraries, etc. Advertising will take place through online, newspaper and radio advertising. The poster includes a list of events planned for the week, including community rides and celebration station locations. More information is available at www.biketowork.ca/nanaimo.

7. Ongoing Business

a) Riparian Area Setback Variance Policy Review – Update:

Staff provided members with a draft discussion paper of issues and options, noting that the same summary will be provided to the Development Process Review Committee (DPRC) at their next meeting. Staff asked that committee members review the draft summary of options and provide comment by email prior to 2013-MAY-15.

Staff will use the comments received to draft a report to Council. The draft report to Council will be presented back to ACES and DPRC in June, then to Council. It will include recommendations from staff, ACES, and DPRC (which may or may not be the same).

The discussion paper identifies areas of improvement within the existing development permit area for watercourses. In order for staff to proceed with implementing any actions, they need endorsement by Council. ACES and DPRC will continue to be consulted as implementation of the recommendations proceeds. The report will present Council with a range of options and will ask how to proceed.

S. Allen left the meeting at 6:06 pm.

b) Green Nanaimo Awards – Awards Luncheon (2013-MAY-22):

Letters of award have been sent to recipients of the Green Nanaimo Awards. The luncheon will be held Wednesday, 2013-MAY-22 from 12:00 noon to 2:30 pm and all members are welcome to attend.

c) Invasive Plant Awareness Month (May):

For information. Invasive Plant Awareness Month is May, 2013. Parks staff has been planning a series of neighbourhood plant pulls in City parks, group plant pulls at local malls, training sessions, and invasive plant “drop off zones”. Advertising is being done through newspaper, website and radio advertising. Posters have been distributed to City facilities, malls, City parks, nurseries, etc. The “drop zone” was held 2013-MAY-04 and seemed to be a success, with about ten yards of material collected.

Groups interested in participating can contact the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department at 250-756-5200. More information is available at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/invasives. As well, a link to the provincial “report a weed” application has been added to the City’s website.

d) Earth Day Celebrations – Debrief:

For information. The City had an information booth set up in the park during the celebrations. It was quite the success, with booths of all varieties, people of all ages, a full parking lot, etc.

8. New Business

None.

9. Council Update

None.

10. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting is 2013-JUN-12 at 4:30 pm in the Service and Resource Centre (411 Dunsmuir Street).

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date