



**MINUTES**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2011-MAY-11 AT 4:30 PM  
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM, 455 WALLACE STREET**

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<b>Present:</b>	Anne Kerr, Chair Charles Thirkill Jim Kipp	Meg Savory Michael Schellinck Shelley Serebrin
<b>Staff:</b>	Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner	Rebecca Tubbs (Recording Secretary)
<b>Regrets</b>	Jeff Thomas Wally Wells James Redford	Joan Wagner Michele Patterson

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**1. Call to Order**

Chair A. Kerr called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

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

The agenda was approved as presented with the addition of the following items:

- a) CIPC Forum (C. Thirkill):  
The CIPC Forum will be held 2011-MAY-19 at VIU's Deep Bay facility. Members are welcome to attend. C. Thirkill will send out more information via e-mail after the meeting.
- b) News Article: Cosmetic Pesticide Issue at Provincial Level (R. Lawrance):  
R. Lawrance distributed an article regarding issues between NDP leader Adrian Dix and BC Premier Christy Clark, regarding the handling of pesticides at a provincial level.
- c) RDN Growth Strategy Survey (R. Lawrance):  
R. Lawrance reminded members that the RDN's Growth Strategy is being reviewed and that there is an online survey being promoted at [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca).
- d) Economic Development Strategy - Green Industry Profile (R. Lawrance):  
The Economic Development Department is currently conducting research on green business and industry as part of the development of its Economic Development Strategy. They have asked if ACES would be interested in reviewing and endorsing candidates for a green business directory.

MOVED by M. Savory, SECONDED by M. Schellinck, that ACES pursue the idea of creating a green business directory as part of the Economic Development Strategy, in conjunction with the Economic Development Department.

CARRIED.

**3. Adoption of Minutes (2011-APR-05)**

MOVED by M. Savory, SECONDED by C. Thirkill, that the 2011-APR-05 Minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

Amendment to 2011-MAR-09 Minutes:

R. Lawrance requested that an amendment be made to the 2011-MAR-09 minutes in reference to a delegation to Council:

*"A delegation to Council noted their concerns regarding wood burning ~~and the need to ban woodstoves, and also noted that ACES had been informed of these concerns in the past.~~ R. Lawrance noted that ACES' 2011 Work Plan includes a recommendation to explore regulatory options for woodstoves."*

MOVED by R. Lawrance, SECONDED by J. Kipp, that the 2011-MAR-09 minutes be amended as noted above.

CARRIED.

#### 4. Items Arising from Minutes

a) Issue of Product Care Program (PCP) presented to Council:

J. Kipp noted that this was mentioned at a pre-council meeting but was not followed up due to the fact that some Council members feel that product care should be handled provincially. It was recently announced by the Province that they are considering a provincial pesticide regulation; therefore, it was suggested that ACES wait to see what happens with the provincial regulation before exploring this further.

M. Schellinck arrived at 4:39 pm.

b) Pesticide Drop-off Event – Status Update:

M. Schellinck explained that the big issue with holding a drop-off event is the substantial cost of disposal and that there is no way to pre-determine what the cost will be. An event held in a district similar to Nanaimo cost approximately \$70,000.

Both the City and RDN feel that this is a provincial issue that should be dealt with through a provincial stewardship program. M. Schellinck explained that the province has an agenda to create a herbicide/fertilizer stewardship program sometime in 2015, which would provide adequate time for them to implement the program.

Some members of the Committee would like a stewardship program to be implemented prior to 2015. J. Kipp suggested that he bring the topic of the stewardship program to the UBCM as an item for discussion. If UBCM supports the initiative, it could help to push the province's implementation date forward.

S. Serebrin arrived at 4:49 pm.

ACTION: M. Schellinck and R. Lawrance to prepare and forward information on the pesticide stewardship program to J. Kipp to mention as an item of discussion at the UBCM.

c) "Ask a Gardener" Online Q&A Feature:

R. Lawrance noted that the online Q&A feature has been added to the City's website and has already been utilized by a few residents.

d) Delegation Invitation to Transportation Committee:

R. Lawrance noted that Engineering staff are interested in attending a future ACES meeting to discuss the Transportation Committee and the Transportation Strategy. They suggested a time for later in the year, possibly Fall.

#### 5. Budget (\$2,319.67)

#### 6. Delegations

a) City of Nanaimo Zoning Bylaw (Dave Stewart, Planner):

The Committee welcomed D. Stewart to the meeting, who attended the meeting to provide members with an update via Powerpoint regarding the changes made relating to sustainability in the new zoning bylaw. Some of the changes that were discussed included density bonusing, urban food gardens, landscape requirements and next steps.

- Committee Discussion / Suggestions:

- Bike & Recreation Storage: Add something that excludes "ATVs" or other motorized vehicles.
- Site Selection: Change the term "retail store" (too broad) to "grocery store" (more specific). What about restaurants? What about markets?
- Retention of Natural Features: Does this apply more to the number of trees or the total volume of vegetation? Suggested using a numerical number, such as a 10-20 cm caliper tree to replace a larger sized tree.

- Parking: Consider extra small parking spaces – smaller than what is currently being proposed.
- Building Materials: Increase “used” building materials to the same point level as “recycled” to encourage the use of the used materials.

J. Kipp left the meeting at 5:49 pm. Quorum no longer present.

Comments on the new zoning bylaw can be sent to D. Stewart via e-mail prior to the end of the week. M. Savory thanked D. Stewart for all of the work being put into the new zoning bylaw and for attending the meeting.

D. Stewart left the meeting at 6:09 pm.

## **7. Correspondence, Handouts, Notices**

- a) T.I.P.S. – Invasive Plant Council of BC
- b) News Article “Carbon Cuts Have High Cost”

## **8. Ongoing Business**

- a) Earth Day Event - Debrief:  
The event was an outstanding success with over 1,000 people in attendance.
- b) Woodburning Stoves:  
DEFERRED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.
- c) Green Nanaimo Awards & Luncheon (2011-MAY-18) Update:  
R. Lawrance provided the Committee with a draft agenda for the Awards luncheon. It is scheduled to take place Wednesday, 2011-MAY-18 from 12:00 noon to 2:30 pm in the Salal Room at the Oliver Woods Community Centre (6000 Oliver Road). A catered lunch will be served. All members are welcome to attend. The cost of the awards is approximately \$900 and will be taken from the Committee's budget, with the remaining costs being covered by Community Planning.
- d) Sustainability Action Plan:  
R. Lawrance has received the draft CEES report from Stantec but noted that changes are likely to be made once it has been reviewed by staff. He will forward the document to members via e-mail after the meeting.

### - Community Meeting:

R. Lawrance is considering inviting Stantec to the next “community” check-in (tentative June 9), not only to review the CEES report with the community stakeholder group, but to hear their initial reactions and input on its recommendations.

A. Kerr suggested challenging the attendees to contribute their ideas by providing them with the background information beforehand and asking them to identify actions that they are willing to commit to, or to come up with their own proposals.

R. Lawrance agrees that is a good idea and suggested narrowing the information down into sections that require public support, as some of them are corporate-driven. R. Lawrance will chat with B. Anderson about setting the agenda.

**ACTION:** Given the input, R. Lawrance will chat with B. Anderson on developing an agenda for the check-in, and will send it via email along with an outline of intent to the community stakeholders. He will also send out some date suggestions to gauge the availability of attendees and to determine the best date to hold the event.

### - Need For Invasive Species Strategy?

The creation of an invasive species strategy was previously on the Committee's work plan but was removed because the Committee had felt the issue was the responsibility of the Parks Department. However, there are multiple management issues taking place outside of

the Parks Department's realm (enforcement nuisance bylaw, dumping of garden material, sale of invasive plants, etc.)

What can the City do to address the spread of invasive species comprehensively?

C. Thirkill noted that the City does not have the money or manpower to tackle the issue of invasive plants in City parks on their own. He envisions an outdoor classroom that is used by high school students to attain graduation credits and reconnect with nature. He suggested that the City provide things such as lockers and equipment and that the students provide the manpower. There are many different groups that do these types of things, but all work separately. The City has the resources that are needed to bring all of those groups together without having to contribute any money or manpower.

A. Kerr suggested that this be pursued in conjunction with the Parks Department. S. Serebrin noted that there is a program for students at John Barsby called "Greenscapes" that has generated a lot of interest.

R. Lawrance suggested that either this item to be added to next year's work plan or to the current work plan through a report to Council.

ACTION: As there is no quorum present, this item will be deferred until the next meeting.

## 9. New Business

## 10. Council / Committee Update

- a) 2011-FEB-11 Council Meeting: No report.
- b) 2011-MAY-02 Council Meeting: No report.
- c) PNAC Meeting: No report.

## 11. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **2011-JUN-08** in the City Annex Training Room at 4:30 pm. M. Schellinck will act as Chair.

## 12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

APPROVED:

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Chair

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Date