



MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2011-JAN-12 AT 4:30 PM
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM, 455 WALLACE STREET

Present:	Jeff Thomas Jim Kipp Joan Wagner, Chair	Wally Wells Anne Kerr Shelley Serebrin Meg Savory
Staff:	Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner	Rebecca Tubbs (Recording Secretary)
Regrets:	Charles Thirkill	

1. Call to Order

Chair J. Wagner called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items

The agenda was approved with the following change and presented with the addition of the following late items:

- a) Change Agenda Item 8C from "Draft Committee Funding Policy" to "Draft Committee Expense Guide".

b) Late Item: Update on Cosmetic Pesticide Education:

With regard to the educational efforts being made to promote awareness and education on the cosmetic pesticide bylaw (coming into effect in April 2011), staff will be writing a report to Council that outlines the efforts currently in place, how the bylaw will be implemented and enforced, etc. G. Pasaluko of the Parks Department will attend the February ACES meeting to discuss Parks' cosmetic pesticide education efforts to-date.

It was requested that a summary of the cosmetic pesticide education efforts to-date be provided to members prior to the February meeting to ensure adequate time to review the information and prepare questions.

ACTION: Staff to send out a summary of cosmetic pesticide education efforts to ACES members as a February meeting attachment. G. Pasaluko to attend the February meeting to discuss cosmetic pesticide education.

c) Late Item: Earth Day Event with NALT:

The Parks Department, in conjunction with NALT, will be holding an Earth Day event at Maffeo-Sutton Park. The event will be focused on pesticide alternatives and will feature a variety of speakers, presentations and information booths. It was suggested that the City host more pesticide-related information sessions prior to both Earth Day and the cosmetic pesticide bylaw's implementation. Committee members will be provided with more details once they become available.

ACTION: Information only. To be discussed at a later date.

d) Late Item: Format of Committee Minutes:

Due to concerns regarding accuracy of language as well as ensuring the Minutes represent a collective record of what was said (and not individual), it was suggested that the meeting Minutes be reduced to include only pertinent discussion, motions and actions required. The Committee noted that they would still like the Minutes to include the "essence" or "varying points of view" of the conversation (helpful to refer to at later dates). Each item to be finished with a clearly stated action.

M. Savory arrived at 4:38 pm.

MOVED by J. Kipp, SECONDED by M. Savory, that Minutes include only pertinent discussion, motions and actions required.

CARRIED.

3. Adoption of Minutes (2010-DEC-08)

Adoption of the Minutes was deferred until S. Serebrin arrived. The following amendments were made:

- Remove the following statement from Item 9A: "*S. Serebrin disagrees.*"
- Remove the following statement from the end of J. Wagner's comment under Item 9A: "*....because there are always "new" things happening.*"

MOVED by J. Kipp, SECONDED by W. Wells, that the 2010-DEC-08 Minutes be adopted as amended.

CARRIED.

4. Items Arising from Minutes

5. Budget (to be determined)

6. Delegations

7. Correspondence, Handouts, Notices

8. Ongoing Business

S. Serebrin arrived at 5:05 pm.

a) ACES Membership Nominations:

Thirteen applications were received for the two vacant community at-large positions. Michele Patterson, VIU's Manager of Environment & Sustainability, was also recommended to represent Vancouver Island University. These positions are for a term ending 2012-MAR-31.

A report will be made to Council requesting the selection of two at-large candidates, as well as approval for representation by the VIU rep. New members should be selected prior to the February meeting. Committee members requested that staff look into the feasibility of a "staggered membership", similar to PNAC's.

ACTION: Staff to explore feasibility regarding a "staggered" Committee membership.

b) Engaging the Public on Climate Change – Workshop (Debrief):

The event was well-attended by approximately 30 representatives from a variety of organizations. The main question that came out of the meeting was "what is next?" It was suggested that an additional half-day workshop be held in the near future to help determine the next steps.

Staff are currently compiling the workshop notes and will distribute them, as well as a copy of the facilitator's presentation, to Committee members and workshop attendees (via e-mail).

Staff is also currently waiting for the results from Stantec's Community Energy and Emissions Study (CEES).

ACTION: Staff to prepare notes from workshop and distribute to members prior to the February meeting.

c) Draft Committee Expense Guide ~~Funding Policy~~ – Revised:

Committee comments from the last meeting were taken into account for the new draft document. A revised version of the guide was distributed to members. The following changes were suggested:

- Remove "2. Purpose of Budget".
- Add "which includes the budget of the Committee" at the end of "3. Annual Workplan".

- Add “at that meeting” to the end of the third bullet under “Use of Committee Funds by Committee Members”.

The majority of the Committee agrees that workplan-related expenses take precedence over expenses not on the workplan, or related to an individual's education.

MOVED by A. Kerr, SECONDED by J. Kipp that priority will be given to implementing items in the workplan, and bringing speakers in for workshops in the community will take precedence over sending individual Committee members to workshops or conferences outside the Nanaimo area.

CARRIED.

ACTION: Staff to revise committee expense guide as discussed and distribute to members as information.

9. New Business

a) 2011 Workplan:

The majority of items in the 2010 workplan have been completed, except for the Economic Development Strategy Review and Habitat Atlas Update. Members were advised to bring ideas for the 2011 workplan to next month's meeting.

ACTION: Staff to draft a Council report prior to the next meeting. Draft report and workplan to be reviewed and discussed at the February ACES meeting.

b) Green Nanaimo Awards – Nominations (2011-MAY-18, tentative):

The City will be holding their Community Excellence Awards this year, which includes Green Nanaimo Awards. Members can start thinking of potential candidates. This item will be revisited in March.

ACTION: Information item. Discussion deferred until March meeting.

10. Council / Committee Update

a) 2011-JAN-10 Council Meeting:

No environmental issues to report on.

b) PNAC Meeting:

PNAC will be making a recommendation on the Newcastle + Brechin Neighbourhood Plan at their next meeting. In summary, the Plan is proposing a high-density neighbourhood along certain areas of the waterfront; an issue which has been controversial among the neighbourhood.

M. Savory is seeking advice on what to recommend (as a representative of ACES). If members have any comments on the relationship between the environment and high-density development, send them to M. Savory via e-mail.

11. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2011-FEB-09 in the City Hall Board Room at 4:30 pm. S. Serebrin will act as Chair.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date