



**MINUTES**  
**planNANAIMO ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 2010-JAN-19 AT 5:00 PM**  
**BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL, 455 WALLACE STREET**

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**PRESENT:**

Bill Holdom, Chair  
Carey Avender  
Allan Davidson  
Jane Gregory  
Ric Kelm  
Darwin Mahlum  
Michael Schellinck  
Joan Wagner

Brian Anderson  
Sarah Boyd  
Chris Erb  
John Hofman  
Shirley Lance  
Ralph Meyerhoff  
Randall Taylor

**REGRETS:**

Michael Harrison

Nadine Schwager

**STAFF:**

Bruce Anderson, Manager, Community Planning  
Jeremy Holm, Manager, Current Planning  
Deborah Jensen, Community Development Planner, Community Planning  
Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary  
Dave Pady, Planning Assistant, Current Planning

**OTHER:**

Representatives from the Nanaimo Poultry Collective

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

**2. Adoption of Minutes from 2009-DEC-15**

MOVED by J. Gregory, SECONDED by J. Wagner that the Minutes from 2009-DEC-15  
be adopted. CARRIED

**3. Approval of Agenda and Late Items**

MOVED by S. Lance, SECONDED by J. Wagner that the Agenda be approved as  
presented. CARRIED

**4. Correspondence**

None.

**5. Presentations**

a. Bill 27 (Greenhouse Gas Targets)

B. Anderson distributed an update on the City of Nanaimo's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction Target Setting which will be an amendment to the Official Community Plan (OCP). Under the Province's Bill 27, targets for reduction of GHG emissions are required. Staff are proposing to include a 33% reduction in 2007 GHG levels by 2020, and an 80% reduction by 2050 within the OCP. City staff are preparing a draft community sustainable action plan for target delivery, set out in five-year time frames. The proposed amendment will be brought to the February PNAC meeting for information and comments, and then in March for review and recommendation.

A corporate sustainable action plan is also being prepared by the City of Nanaimo for their facilities.

The City will also liaise with the RDN on their Community Energy and Emissions Plan for the region who are working toward the release of a proposed draft in 2011.

PNAC Comments

The Committee stressed that the RDN should be leading this initiative, and inquired how the City coordinates with the RDN.

B. Anderson advised that he and R. Lawrance, together with staff from other municipalities in the region, are liaising with the RDN's Manager of Energy and Sustainability, Chris Midgley and his staff. GHG reduction actions need to be contemplated on a regional scope. Accordingly the Regional Growth Strategy is also being redrafted to include policy on GHG emissions reduction. The Community Energy and Emissions Plan will then set out a broad menu under which municipalities can draw from in developing their Action Plans.

It was also noted that a City working group is studying green design, and that the LEED rating system was set up to expedite green development rather than relying on the Building Code. Depending where source of funds come from (i.e. government), LEED is not voluntary for certain buildings. B. Anderson advised that LEED Gold is Council's policy regarding construction of any new City building.

A suggestion was made to include surface runoff as an aspect of conserving water.

The Chair inquired what the status of natural gas is. B. Anderson advised that it depends on the pricing. A Committee member noted that natural gas is considered to be a fossil fuel, and not renewable. When considering non-renewable fossil fuels, what has the least impact and the lowest cost is considered best.

The Chair also inquired how the Province intends to enforce the GHG targets. B. Anderson replied that it could possibly be done by a financial withdrawal approach (i.e. grants), or by not considering an OCP valid if the GHG targets are not contained within it (although he has only heard this indirectly).

## **6. Information Items**

None.

## **7. Old Business**

### **a. Oceanview Master Plan – OCP51**

D. Jensen advised that Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw 2009 No. 6500.007 went to Public Hearing on 2010-JAN-14, and will go to Council on 2010-JAN-25 for potential third reading and adoption.

### **b. 446 Milton Street – OCP48**

D. Jensen advised that Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw 2009 No. 6500.008 went to Public Hearing on 2010-JAN-14, and will go to Council on 2010-JAN-25 for potential third reading and adoption.

## **8. New Business**

### **a. General Amendments**

#### **i. Urban Poultry**

J. Holm acknowledged the members of the Nanaimo Poultry Collective who were in attendance and who had presented very comprehensive information to Council. He reviewed the Staff Report dated 2010-JAN-12 on this subject with the Committee.

#### **PNAC Comments**

The Committee inquired how this relates to building schemes, where you would take the poultry if you can't keep them, and whether raccoons create a problem.

Chair Holdom replied that building schemes are private and have no City involvement.

The Poultry Collective advised that unwanted poultry can be taken to farmers, and that in order to avoid problems with raccoons, a strong fence should be used to contain them at night time.

The Committee asked whether geese would be permitted, why the limit is lower than other comparable cities, whether licenses would be required, and how the manure is disposed.

J. Holm advised that Nanaimo's proposed limit is based on lot size.

The Poultry Collective advised that geese are very loud, and Victoria requests their poultry owners to let the animal control department know they are keeping

poultry on their property. Poultry manure can be composted and used on gardens.

The Committee stated that food sustainability needs to be addressed in the OCP, in encouraging gardens and domestic animals.

Another comment was to keep the issue of food security separate from the keeping of pets.

It was suggested that an educational component be tied in, possibly as a link to the City's website, in order to provide information to people on how to build pens property, avoid raccoons, etc.

The Poultry Collective advised that they have a blog with links to educate people on this subject.

MOVED by J. Wagner, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff to recommend that Council approve the following recommendation from staff in their report dated 2010-JAN-12:

“ . . . support for the inclusion of poultry (up to four chicken, or ducks and excluding roosters) within the city on lots less than one acre (0.4 hectares) in size.”

CARRIED

The Poultry Collective representatives left the meeting.

J. Holm left the meeting.

b. Official Community Plan Amendment Applications

ii. South End Neighbourhood Plan and Newcastle + Brechin Neighbourhood Plans

D. Jensen advised that open houses, issues and opportunities workshops, and design charrettes had been held for both neighbourhood planning processes, with good attendance at all.

The workshops were facilitated by the respective neighbourhood committees, and the charrettes by the consultants. The consultants have taken the information away and are now working on built form which is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the neighbourhood committees at the end of February.

Committee Comments

The Chair inquired if staff were aware of any concerns the neighbourhoods have.

D. Jensen advised that a concern from the Newcastle + Brechin Neighbourhood Committee was with regard to the timeline of the process. There has also been differing issues from the three areas that make up the area for that neighbourhood plan.

The Chair noted that the areas were combined because they impact each other and need to work together.

The Committee also inquired how many representatives from each of the Newcastle + Brechin Neighbourhood Plan areas would be invited to attend the future PNAC meetings when it is being discussed.

Bruce Anderson replied that inviting the entire neighbourhood plan committees would be considered.

The Committee noted that the South End Neighbourhood Association only allows membership from residential sector, and inquired whether there was a way to poll industrial and commercial sectors.

D. Jensen advised that the neighbourhood plan committee formed for the South End includes business representatives, and not just members of the neighbourhood association. The Chair added that the process tries to glean information from everyone who has interest in the area.

Discussion followed on the lack of different forms of density in neighbourhoods, and how more creative ideas should be considered. Staff noted that row housing, small lots, etc. are being considered in the Zoning Bylaw update, and that neighbourhood plans provide guidance to the Zoning Bylaw.

An inquiry was made on the status of neighbourhood planning in the City's budget discussions. The Chair advised that the ones in-stream would continue but new ones would not be undertaken until Council again decides to do so.

## 9. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of PNAC is scheduled for 2010-FEB-16.

## 10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

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APPROVED:



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Chair

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2010-Feb-16

Date