

MINUTES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT
TUESDAY, 2007-SEP-04, TRAINING ROOM, CITY HALL ANNEX

Present:	Joy Cameron, Chair	Steve Earle
	Margaret Henigman	Pete Law
	Charles Thirkill	
	<u>Staff:</u>	
	Rob Lawrance	Kevin Brydges
	Cindy Hall (Recording Secretary)	
Regrets:	Ron Brown	Geraldine Manson
	Scott Northrup	Caroline Read
	Chris Zamora	

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:25 p.m. without a quorum. Margaret Henigman, who will be replacing Pete Law as the Ministry of Environment representative, was welcomed to the Committee. Pete was thanked for his past work on the Committee.

Rob will send out an email to Committee members requesting a volunteer as ACE's alternate representative on PNAC.

2. Adoption of Minutes of 2007-Jul-03:

Deferred to next meeting.

3. Approval of Agenda and Late Items:

The Agenda was approved with the addition of:

- Corporate Climate Change Plan Report to Council; and
- Convening for Action on Vancouver Island (CAVI).

4. Budget:

\$1,932.65 remains in ACE's regular budget.

5. Delegations:

None.

6. Correspondence, Handouts, Notices:

None.

7. Ongoing Business:

- a) Corporate Climate Change Plan Report - R. Lawrance advised that this report, which recommends Council approve *Corporate Climate Change Plan 2007*, will be going to Council on Monday, Sept. 10. The Corporate Climate Change document is a 5-year plan which includes all City departments.

S. Earle advised of a 300 sq. ft. bio-diesel processing plant that requires a site to locate on. Rob will look into this and get back to Steve.

- b) Cosmetic Pesticide Report / Bylaw Review - A draft Report to Council was considered in which Council approval is requested for ACE to conduct an update and review of cosmetic pesticide regulation and education programs in Canada, and provide recommendations to Council on whether Nanaimo should change its current position on cosmetic pesticide use. Rob circulated information on other municipalities that have pesticide bylaws and discussion followed.

Rob will bring a draft strategy back to the next meeting on how to proceed with this issue; i.e. whether to seek public input, or proceed directly to preparing a bylaw for Council's consideration.

- c) ACE Fall Forum - The Committee discussed the objective of the Forum and possible dates:
- If 'Sustainability' is chosen as the topic, a speaker already coming to Nanaimo to give a presentation to Council and staff would be available for the Forum also. This might be timely with the RDN presently working on a community-wide plan regarding climate change, and the City's OCP Review having a sustainability focus.
 - Urban Forestry is another possible topic.
 - Initially, the Forum was a gathering of environmental groups to hear what they had been doing and to get some "cross pollination".
 - Inviting funders to the Forum might assist in coordination of funding in order for the funds to be used more effectively.
 - The Forum is also a good way to get members of the public, who are interested in assisting the various groups, together with them.
 - Some possible ways to advertise the Forum are:
 - email invitations to environmental organizations;
 - newspaper ads;
 - notice on City's website;
 - notice at Mal-U;
 - announce at a Council meeting; and
 - ACE members to contact groups they know of and ask those groups to also pass the word around.

Rob will book the Beban Lounge for an evening in November, and will prepare a draft schedule for the Forum for consideration at the next meeting.

8. New Business:

- a) 2007 Green Nanaimo Awards - The draft nomination form for 2007 was circulated and Committee members were asked to review the criteria for each award for clarity, and email any changes they would like to suggest back to Rob. It was noted that one award will be given from each category if possible, and not to all who meet the criteria. The awards luncheon will be held on Wed. Nov. 8th at 11:30 a.m. at Beban Lounge. Possible ways to advertise the awards in order to receive more nominations are:
- newspaper ads;
 - notice on City's website;
 - notify schools and Mal-U;
 - interviews on CHLY Radio and the A Channel;
 - ask last year's winners to nominate someone; and
 - announce at Council meeting and Chamber luncheon.
- b) Station House Property - C. Thirkill advised that this property located is up for sale and wondered what the process is for the City to consider purchasing it. As the property is located just above the Estuary, it is very sensitive and would not be economically viable

to develop. The property also has heritage value as it is the site of the first hydro plant in Nanaimo, constructed in 1917. The building has been demolished but the foundation remains and could be the site of an interpretive centre. It was also noted that for development purposes, access to the property would be very difficult. Staff noted that the property was previously considered for purchase but did not proceed, and that there may be pockets of contamination remaining on the site. Rob will contact the staff liaison for the Parks and Recreation Commission and advise that ACE would like to suggest the Commission consider acquisition of the property and the unsurveyed property next to it

- c) River's Day - C. Thirkill noted that a celebration will take place on Sunday, Sept. 30 at 1:00 p.m. at Jinglepot Marsh with the Young Naturalists of Canada, and will be an opportunity to do some wildlife interpretation.
- d) CAVI - R. Lawrance advised of a tour of the Oliver Road Community Centre, Inland Kenworth site, and Cottle Creek Estates to be held on Friday, Sept. 14 being organized by the RDN. P. Law advised that Convening for Action on Vancouver Island: Leadership in Water Sustainability (CAVI) focuses on innovative storm water or rain water initiatives relating to land development. Rob added that the tour will be a "shoulder check" as to what worked and what didn't.

9. Next Committee Meeting:

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2007-Oct-02.

10. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.