

**MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT
MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 2006-NOV-07
IN THE TRAINING ROOM, CITY HALL ANNEX, 238 FRANKLYN STREET**

Present: Ron Brown
Councillor Bill Holdom

Pete Law
Charles Thirkill
Caroline Read

Staff
Rob Lawrance
Fran Grant (Recording Secretary)

Kevin Brydges

Regrets: Steve Earle
Scott Northrup
Chris Zamora

Guest: Michael Geselbracht

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chair B. Holdom at 4:20 p.m.

2. Adoption of Minutes from 2006-Oct-03:

MOVED by R. Brown, SECONDED by P. Law, that the minutes of 2006-Oct-03 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Agenda and Late Items:

a) Eco Village Youth Conference Report (M. Geselbracht)

MOVED by P. Law, SECONDED by C. Thirkill, that the Agenda be adopted with the addition of one late item.

CARRIED

4. Budget:

R. Lawrance will e-mail out the updated budget information to the Committee.

5. Delegations:

a) Eco Village Youth Conference

M. Geselbracht gave a short presentation on the Conference and noted that:

- Eighty-five people attended including environment students from the University of Victoria.
- Focus of the conference was sustainable ways of living.
- Afternoon break out groups did hands-on work at the village (cob building, composting and gardening).
- Want to build on the success of this event and are planning to hold another Conference in May 2007.

b) OCP 10 Year Review – update (Gail Adrienne, ACE representative on Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee)

G. Adrienne was not able to attend the meeting.

6. Correspondence, Handouts, Notices:

- a) Enhancing our Capacity for Healthy Communities on Vancouver Island -2006-Nov-21, Providence Farm.

R. Lawrance circulated for information.

- b) Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs) update:

R. Lawrance noted that:

- City of Burnaby is looking at this issue. They want to raise awareness and are asking other municipalities to send letters of concern to the federal government representatives.
- Circulated a report from Burnaby's Environment Committee.
- Will look for more information and draft a letter for ACE's consideration at the January meeting.

7. Ongoing Business

- a) ACE Environment Awards Luncheon – Thursday, Nov. 09

R. Lawrance gave a brief overview of the Awards luncheon agenda and noted that:

- Being held in the Beban Park Social Centre lounge starting at 11:30 a.m.
- Passed around the newly designed Green award.
- All Committee members are encouraged to attend.
- D. Tyndall is the M.C.
- A news release has been sent to media outlets.

- b) ACE Environmental Forum – Wednesday, Nov. 15

R. Lawrance gave a brief overview of the Forum agenda and noted that:

- Being held in the Beban Park Social Centre lounge starting at 6:00 p.m.
- This will be an introduction for residents and environmental groups about the 10 year OCP Review.
- Was not able to line up the speakers so there will be presentations by myself, Kevin Brydges and Kirsty MacDonnald (Parks Planner).
- Have invited environmental organizations to put up displays if they wish.
- Light refreshments will be provided.
- Will ask those in attendance what they feel are the issues and concerns they would like to see addressed in the OCP Review process.
- Looking at partnering with the Vancouver Island Health Authority to build ties and begin a dialogue between the health and environment sectors.
- Circulated copies of the questionnaire to the Committee and asked for their comments.

B. Holdom added that

- The first OCP 10 Year Review public conference is be held on Saturday, Nov. 18, at Malaspina University-College from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Morning session presentations will be held in the Theatre.
- Afternoon round-table sessions are in the cafeteria.
- All members of ACE are welcome to attend and can register with City staff.

- c) Airplay Website - Air Quality Health Index – Follow-up on adding it to City website

R. Lawrance noted that C. Scott (E-Government and Communications Officer) Looked into this but found it was not feasible at this time until a dynamic icon is developed by the province first.

8. New Business:

a) Third Street Trail:

P. Law advised that:

- Received a call from the Friends of the Catstream regarding a concern about the location and size of the pedestrian trail.
- Also had calls from people concerned about the removal of beaver dams by the City and asked if this goes through due process with the required permits.

C. Thirkill added that:

- Also concern about the trail being used by motorized bikes leaving oil slicks which could be washed into the marsh.
- The size of the gap between the posts is too large and needs to be modified.
- Is the City liable for any conflict between pedestrians and motorized bikes?

K. Brydges replied that:

- A study was done in 1981 that found there was a need for water storage for flood protections of the downstream homes.
- Berm was designed at 15m wide for that purpose.
- Province regulations prohibit planting of trees on this type of berm.
- Parks Dept. decided to put the trail on the top of the berm since it already exists.
- Spoke to the Parks Dept. about the gap between the posts and this concern is being addressed now.
- As this trail is part of the Trans Canada trail, it has to be paved.

Comments from the Committee:

- Would like to see ACE working more closely with Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Culture Department. (R. Lawrance will look into this.)
- Should have a 'park zone' that designates some parks not for public use that can be set aside for wildlife.
- Hope that ACE will be included in any process to develop park zoning.

b) Burn It Smart 2006/07 – January 30th Workshop

R. Lawrance noted that

- Burn It Smart workshop held last year was well received.
- Planning to hold another one in January 2007.
- Cost for the presenter is \$850.

Comment from the Committee:

- Could ask the RDN and Lantzville if they are interested in partnering with the City and share the cost. (R. Lawrance will look into this.)

9. Next Committee Meeting:

- The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2006-Dec.-05 (followed by annual dinner).

10. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.