

**MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT  
MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 2004-DECEMBER-07  
IN THE TRAINING ROOM, CITY HALL ANNEX, 238 FRANKLYN STREET.**

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**Present:** Gail Adrienne  
Ron Bolin  
Ron Brown  
Jackie Churchill

Allan Hawryzki  
Pete Law  
Councillor Dawn Tyndall

Staff  
Rob Lawrance  
Fran Grant (Recording Secretary)

Kevin Brydges  
Graham Savage

**Guest:** Mike Geselbracht

**Regrets:** Brigid Reynolds  
Councillor Bill Holdom

**1. Call to Order and Introductions:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dawn Tyndall at 4:10 p.m. D. Tyndall welcomed J. Churchill back to the Committee and introductions were made around the table.

**2. Approval of Minutes 2004-Nov-02:**

MOVED by R. Brown, SECONDED by R. Bolin, that the minutes of 2004-Nov-02 adopted as presented.

CARRIED

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

- The Committee approved the Agenda as presented. The Chair recognized M. Geselbracht, who requested to speak to the Committee on the issue of First Nations representation on the Committee.

**4. Budget Update:**

D. Tyndall gave a brief update of the Committee's budget as follows:

Current amount	\$2,980.15
Committed:	
Pesticide survey	\$1,500.00
360° Imagery for Habitat Atlas	\$ 975.00
Forum (Guy Dauncey)	\$ 500.00
Remaining	\$ 5.15

**5. Delegations:**

R. Lawrance introduced Richard Harding, Manager of Parks

R. Harding distributed copies of an overview of what an urban forest plan is and how it functions in the City of Portland. R. Harding gave a presentation on current plans for the

City of Nanaimo's Tree Bylaw and a proposed Urban Forestry Management Plan (UFMP) and also noted that:

- The Tree Bylaw was adopted in 1994.
- One problem with the Bylaw is that it is a bylaw without a plan.
- City of Portland has the most pertinent UFMP plan which the City of Nanaimo hopes to use as a framework for their own.
- Steep slope and riparian setbacks could be included in the UFMP
- Hope to start on the UFMP in early 2005.
- ACE will be included in the process.
- UFMP would include more public education.
- To achieve the overall vision for a green city, we need an overall plan.
- Trying to naturalize vegetation in some of the City's park.
- There is and always will be an issue with views versus trees.
- Cannot save every large tree so we try and concentrate on larger area parks.
- Street trees are now being seen as an asset and selling feature.
- Working on interpretive public education signs for City parks.
- Lanarc Consulting is working as the consultant on this project and they are also working on a similar plan for North Vancouver.
- Will identify areas that can be protected.
- The public will be involved in the process.
- Focus will be on the public domain then private land when development occurs.
- Once the plan has been adopted, one thought is to have a steering committee of stake holders set up.
- The Tree Bylaw will be revised to fit the vision of the UFMP.

R. Harding's gave the following answers to questions from Committee members:

- Will do a presentation to ACE in the spring of 2005 on the Parks Master Plan.
- Currently, the focus is on boulevard planting.
- Planting fruit trees is one of the suggestions being looking at but there is a concern with upkeep.
- The applications to rezone the MacMillan Bloedel arboretum was give 3<sup>rd</sup> reading but not final approval so it did not go forward. The property is currently for sale.

Comments from Committee members:

- May be usefull to have Nanaimo Area Land Trust Society participate in the urban forest plan as it may be possible to tie different properties into a more complete greenway picture.
- NALT is hoping to save 640 acres of Linley Valley as green space.
- Could have an interpretive urban forest so people can see the different kinds of native trees they could plant on their property.
- Fully support this initiative and feel it is long overdue.
- The public needs to see the value of trees and not just of views.
- There is an application in to move DL56 inside the Urban Containment Boundary. This application will probably be controversial with the neighbourhood.

## **6. Correspondence/Handouts/Notices of Upcoming Events:**

a) ACE Forum News Article:

D. Tyndall distributed copies of the article to the Committee for information.

## **7. Unfinished/Ongoing Business:**

## a) Fall Community Forum – Update:

R. Lawrance asked for any feedback from ACE members on the Forum held on 2004-Nov-10. The Committee made the following comments:

- People who attended said they found the Forum very informative.
- Very pleased with the number of people who attended.
- A. Hawryzki advised that he has a DVD on the same topic (world without oil) that could be used by ACE if the Committee wished to show to the public.

## b) Wood Burning Appliances: Burn It Smart Workshop

R. Lawrance gave a brief update on the Nov. 30 Workshop and noted that:

- ACE hosted the Workshop.
- Approximately 40 members of the public attended.
- Zigi Gadomski, a consultant hired by WLAP to work on the Burn-It-Smart Program gave a presentation as well as a demonstration on efficient burning wood techniques and appliances.
- The City of Nanaimo Fire Department was represented and had set up a display.
- It would be worthwhile to host another of these workshops in the future.

**8. New Business:**

No new business.

**9. Late Item:**

## a) First Nations Representative for ACE

M. Geselbracht suggested to the Committee that ACE may wish to add a representative of the Snuneymuxw First Nations to the Committee.

A final decision on this motion is to be confirmed during the January meeting.

Discussion:

- Many other groups have a First Nations representative on them. They do have a voice on many issues which is distinct from other ethnic groups.
- Would be a pro-active step.
- Would they represent the interest of the whole City?
- The First Nations would represent a sector of society just as our environmental, business etc. reps on ACE represent their interest groups.
- They have a long history with this area.

## b) NALT Event:

G. Adrienne noted that:

- NALT is holding an event on Dec. 09, 7-9 p.m. at the Nanaimo Art Gallery, for the launch of their CD.
- NALT will be holding a bottle drive on Jan. 08 in support of their Mt. Benson fund.

**10. Next Meeting:**

- Next ACE meeting is schedule for 2005-Jan-11.

**11. Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

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