

**MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT
MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 2004-OCTOBER-05
IN THE TRAINING ROOM, CITY HALL ANNEX, 238 FRANKLYN STREET.**

Present: Gail Adrienne Councillor Bill Holdom
Ron Bolin Pete Law
Ron Brown Brigid Reynolds
Allan Hawryzki

Staff
Rob Lawrance Kevin Brydges
Fran Grant (Recording Secretary)

Guest: Mike Geselbracht

Regrets: Councillor Dawn Tyndall Jackie Churchill

1. Call to Order and Introductions:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Holdom at 4:15 p.m.

R. Lawrance advised that he had received an e-mail from Jackie Churchill that she will be returning in November to her role as the Youth/School representative on ACE.

2. Approval of Minutes 2004-Sept-07 and 2004-Sept-28:

MOVED by R. Brown, SECONDED by R. Bolin, that the minutes of 2004-Sept-07 and 2004-Sept-28 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

MOVED by R. Brown, SECONDED by R. Bolin, that the Committee approve the Reports to Council on: Nanaimo Estuary Coalition Presentation, ESA Inventory, Harewood Plains and ACE's Work Plan Update.

CARRIED

MOVED by R. Brown, SECONDED by R. Bolin, that the Committee spend \$1500 from this year's budget on the Pesticide Survey as the rest of the funds may be needed for the Environmental Forum.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Agenda and Introduction of Late Items:

MOVED by R. Bolin, SECONDED by P. Law, that the Committee approve the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

There were no late items.

4. Delegations:

No delegations.

5. Correspondence/Handouts/Notices of Upcoming Events:

B. Holdom advised that an Open House on the New Nanaimo Centre is being held on Wednesday, Oct. 06, at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre from 4 – 8:00 p.m.

6. Unfinished/Ongoing Business:

a) Fall Community Forum: Report from Sub-Committee

A. Hawryzki, R. Bolin and M. Geselbracht reported that:

- Past forums have mainly been attended by members of established environmental groups.
- Would like to try and reach out and bring new people to the forum.
- G. Dauncey has been suggested as a speaker and is available on Nov. 10.
- Suggested topic for the forum is “Make Nanaimo the most Livable City”.
- There is time to do sufficient promotion in the next couple of weeks for the Nov. 10 date.
- There is no obligation to G. Dauncey at this time.
- The forum will be held at Beban Park Social Centre in the lounge.
- May need to ask the City’s senior management for approval of the topic.

Ideas from the Committee on:

Topic:

- The Committee members wondered if the subject for the forum would take away from the focus on the New Nanaimo Centre.
- They decided on a new focus and title “Preparing for a World Without Oil – Challenges and Opportunities for Nanaimo”.
- G. Dauncey will be a good speaker on this topic.

Format:

- Are we looking for feedback from the public or is it just to give out information?
- Take this opportunity to invite local businesses and deal with green buildings and related issues.
- Need a ‘hook’ to bring people in.
- Small group interaction so that people can do more than just listen.
- Do not feel that small group participation works or provides a lot of useful feedback.
- Will not be time for other groups to give presentations on their issues.
- Need some opportunity for the public to give feedback; perhaps a question and answer period or brain storm on the spot.
- Need to decide what ACE wants to get out of the forum before deciding on how to run it.
- Could use the material that results from the forum for next year’s work plan.
- One outcome would be to get more people involved in environmental issues.
- Stimulate discussion and food for thought
- How to keep people involved.
- Recommendations for actions by community groups, the City, individuals, the RDN and business.
- 45 minutes for presentation, half hour for round table discussions, 15 minutes break and then finish with a summary and closing remarks.
- Small groups would work if each is given a different question to answer.

- Have ACE members facilitate each discussion group.

Getting the word out:

- get a story in the newspaper
- newspaper ads
- posters
- ads in the City Page
- M. Geselbracht will get the information to environment related classes at MaU.

A. Hawryzki; G. Adrienne, R. Bolin and M. Geselbracht will meet again this week to work out more of the details.

MOVED by A. Hawryzki, SECONDED by R. Bolin, that \$500 plus expenses be allocated from the ACE budget for G. Dauncey to speak at the November forum.

CARRIED

MOVED by R. Brown, SECONDED by P. Law, that up to \$500 from the ACE budget be used for advertising the November forum.

CARRIED

7. New Business:

- a) Formalize Environmental Communication Role for Committee

R. Lawrance asked the Committee if it wishes to formalize the environmental community education role in the Terms of Reference for the Committee.

General comments from the Committee:

- We do some of that now with the Habitat Atlas.
- Need to be clear on which are pro-active and reactive roles.
- How does the Committee connect with the community?
- How do we get information on what issues are of the greatest concern to the residents of Nanaimo.
- Some people find it overwhelming to voice their concerns directly to Council.
- Is it possible to have inter-active web site where people can express their views and concerns?
- ACE is here in an advisory capacity, not to lobby on behalf of the public.
- Feel our role is to look at the long-term effects of planning on the environment.

After some discussion, the Committee agreed not to formalize a communication role as this type of activity can already be undertaken with the current Terms of Reference. Any specific communication project would need to be put into the work plan to be approved by Council.

8. Next Meeting:

- Next ACE meeting is schedule for 2004-Nov.-02.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.