



**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**  
**MINUTES**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, March 19, 2009  
7:00 p.m.  
Council Chambers, Municipal Hall

**PRESENT:** Edwin Hubert – Vice Chair  
Councillor Randall Garrison  
Councillor Lynda Hundley  
Mark Salter  
Eileen Palmer  
Jo-Lee Bertrand  
Larry Dill  
Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki (Arrived 7:07 p.m.)  
Beth Sobieszczyk (Arrived 7:10 p.m.)

**STAFF:** Marlene Lagoa – Manager of Communications and Sustainability (Staff Liaison)  
Deborah Liske – Recording Secretary

**REGRETS:** Mayor Barbara Desjardins

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Hubert called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**2. LATE ITEMS**

The following late items were introduced:

1. Move Agenda item (7) Work Plan Discussion under **NEW BUSINESS** to Agenda item (8) and add Agenda item (7) Sustainability Budget

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Hundleby, seconded by Councillor Garrison that the agenda of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of March 19, 2009 be approved with the inclusion of the late agenda item.

The motion **CARRIED**.

**4. INTRODUCTIONS**

Each committee member provided a brief introduction of their environmental background and activities.

**5. GREETINGS FROM MAYOR DESJARDINS**

Mayor Desjardins regretfully could not attend the meeting.

Councillor Garrison thanked past members of the committee for their dedication of service and welcomed new members.

**6. MINUTES**

Moved by Eileen Palmer, seconded by Vice Chair Hubert, that the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of November 20, 2008 be approved as presented.

The motion **CARRIED**.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

(1) Review of Committee Terms of Reference (TOR)

The Committee Terms of Reference were reviewed with discussion focusing on the following:

- Scope and purpose of the committee;
- Whether sustainability also includes density;
- Overlap / need for overlap and communication with other committees;
- The need to develop an avenue to recognize / award people who foster environmental awareness.

Moved by Beth Sobieszczyk, seconded by Larry Dill that the Environmental Advisory Committee Terms of Reference be received and approved.

The motion **CARRIED**.

(a) 2008 Year End Final Report

Vice Chair Hubert will prepare the year end final report for 2008. Committee members are requested to provide any suggestions for the report to the Vice Chair via email.

Vice Chair Hubert will forward a draft of the report to committee members via email for feedback. The completed report will be presented to the committee for adoption prior to the report being forwarded to Council.

(2) Membership List Contact Information

A confidential membership contact list was distributed to committee members with the request that any revisions be provided to the Recording Secretary for updating prior to redistribution.

(3) Committee Member Interests – What Each Member Brings to the Table

Vice Chair Edwin Hubert is a cyclist who cycles to work everyday, takes pride in his community to make it a better place to live and is very passionate that he is able to take his children to explore the wide areas of nature. Vice Chair Hubert noted that the driving force behind his initial interest in joining the committee was to work towards the implementation of the pesticide bylaw and improvement to cycling lanes in the community.

Councillor Hundley believes very strongly that a sustainable environment and community is needed. Councillor Hundleby sits on the Capital Region Water Supply Commission and is very proud that Esquimalt has adopted a pedestrian charter.

Councillor Garrison chose to live in Esquimalt because it is a beautiful walkable community. Councillor Garrison noted that he requested to participate on the committee and will be focusing on transportation issues from an environmental standpoint through other external committees which he is involved in such as the Save the Sidney / Anacortes ferry and the Bay Street Bus Service Route. Councillor Garrison is also a Council liaison to the Esquimalt Advisory Planning Commission.

Mark Salter is an organic master gardener with a goal to make his home as sustainable as possible. Mr. Salter walks and cycles everywhere and when it is required, drives a smart truck. Mr. Salter noted that the committee fits into his lifestyle.

Jo-Lee Bertrand is interested in issues of the environment and how they relate to health. Ms. Bertrand walks, cycles and runs, and is very interested in transportation and the environment. Ms. Bertrand is in the process of starting a not for profit group to create a car free Friday to get people out of their cars at least once a week. Ms. Bertrand previously sat on Sannich Bicycle Advisory Committee.

Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki cycles everywhere and assists with bike to work week. Ms. Nygaard-Ishizaki believes that environment, health and happiness all go together. Ms. Nygaard-Ishizaki also believes in many environmental initiatives, among them, the pesticide bylaw and community gardens.

Eileen Palmer believes that communities and people are all linked to the environment. Ms. Palmer is interested in assisting Council and the community in becoming carbon neutral.

Beth Sobieszczyk is a former bike tour leader and is interested in the workings of carbon, food security and community gardens. Ms. Sobieszczyk has a background working with environmental issues.

Larry Dill is a professional ecologist who has concentrated on conservation issues; utilizing his training to work for the public to address critical environmental issues. Dr. Dill would like to focus on the marine environment in Esquimalt, education and public awareness.

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, is the Manager of Communications and Sustainability for the Township of Esquimalt. Ms. Lagoa is currently working on the required commitment of the municipality to be carbon neutral by 2012 as outlined in the BC Climate Action Charter. Ms. Lagoa believes in buying locally and that people need to be informed in order to reduce their environmental footprint.

(4) Meeting Schedule Dates and Times

The Environmental Advisory Committee will meet on a monthly basis on the fourth Thursday of the month. Meetings will start at 7:15 p.m. and will be held in the Council Chambers. As per the committee terms of reference, the committee will not meet in the months of July, August and December.

(5) Agenda Items and Distribution

Alternatives for agenda distribution were discussed. It was requested that committee members provide the recording secretary with the option that they prefer. It was noted that all agenda items must be submitted to the committee Chair for approval prior to inclusion on the agenda. It was also noted by the recording secretary that committee members will receive a monthly reminder via email of the agenda item submission cut-off date and agenda distribution date.

(6) Committee Accomplishments: 2006 – 2008

- (a) 2006 / 2007 Committee Activities Accomplishments Memo [Distributed for information.]
- (b) Pesticide Bylaw [Distributed for information.]
- (c) Pedestrian Charter [Distributed for information.]
- (d) Community Gardens Update

The committee started discussion on their level of involvement with any sewage treatment issues. This item will be discussed further during committee work plan discussions.

The Manager of Communications and Sustainability provided the committee with an update on the status of community gardens. This item is currently being reviewed through the budget process. A site has been determined and the Acting Director of Parks and Recreation will be preparing a report to present to Council upon final approval of the budget.

(7) Sustainability Budget (**Late Item**)

The Manager of Communications and Sustainability reviewed and distributed a copy of the sustainability budget presented to Council on March 17, 2009. Sustainability is a key component of the strategic plan and needs to be a top priority. Sustainability initiatives include completion of an energy audit of all municipal buildings and parks by the fall of 2009 and to work on a corporate

climate action plan in order to fulfill the commitment that municipal operations be carbon neutral by 2012 as outlined in the BC Climate Action Charter. In addition to the noted initiatives, the municipality will be working towards fulfilling requirements of Bill 27, which outlines greenhouse gas reduction targets. Action and policy development is required to decrease community emissions as outlined as an objective of the Official Community Plan.

Councillor Hundleby and Councillor Garrison noted Council's desire to proceed with sustainability issues.

(8) Work Plan Discussion

Work plan discussion will take place at the next meeting.

(a) Sub-committees

New committee members were provided with a brief overview of the subcommittees. A copy of the minutes from the April 17, 2008 meeting when the subcommittees were formed will be distributed to committee members for review.

Urban Landscape – garbage reduction; develop ways to reduce the quantity of items that are placed at the curb, whether it is garbage or recycling.

Pesticide Reduction – development and implementation of a pesticide bylaw.

Gorge Discovery Centre – provided assistance for the Nature House to get off the ground; reported back to committee on educational program offerings.

Driving Reduction – reducing SOV trips; cycling initiatives and increasing bike lanes.

Sustainability – engaging the community to be more sustainable.

Climate Change – development of a greenhouse gas survey.

Solid Waste – reviewed the use of solar garbage trash compactors.

Promoting Successes of Committee – explored options for promoting the accomplishments of the committee.

**8. COMMUNICATIONS**

- (1) Letter from the Recycling Council of British Columbia, dated November 3, 2009, Re: Plastic Bags

Moved by Councillor Hundleby, seconded by Mark Salter that the communications item be deferred to the next meeting.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

**9. ELECTIONS**

- (1) Elections of Chair and Vice-Chair

Moved by Councillor Garrison, seconded by Councillor Hundleby that Edwin Hubert be nominated for the position of Chair.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

Mr. Hubert accepted his nomination. No other nominations were received. Edwin Hubert was appointed to the position of Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee by acclamation.

Moved by Lorraine Nygaard-Ishizaki, seconded by Eileen Palmer that Mark Salter be nominated for the position of Vice Chair.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

Mr. Salter accepted his nomination. No other nominations were received. Mark Salter was appointed to the position of Vice Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee by acclamation.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Edwin Hubert, Chair

This 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2009