



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 28, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, Municipal Hall

PRESENT: Councillor Randall Garrison
Councillor Alison Gaul
Blair Irwin
Mark Salter
Chris Zegger-Murphy
Larry Dill (Departed 9:13 p.m.)

STAFF: Marlene Lagoa – Sustainability Coordinator (Staff Liaison)
Deborah Liske – Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Terry Eckstein
Beth Sobieszczyk
Dianne Kleinman

1. CALL TO ORDER

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. LATE ITEMS

The following late item was introduced:

1. Add to Agenda item **7. NEW BUSINESS** (6) Cosmetic Pesticide Bylaw Enforcement Education
2. Move Agenda item **9. ELECTIONS** to follow Agenda item **4. INTRODUCTIONS** and renumber the agenda accordingly.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Mark Salter, seconded by Chris Zegger-Murphy, that the agenda of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of January 28, 2010 be approved with the inclusion of the late agenda item.

The motion **CARRIED**.

4. INTRODUCTIONS

Committee members provided brief introductions.

5. ELECTIONS

- (1) Elections of Chair and Vice-Chair

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison opened the floor to nominations for Chair.

Mark Salter was the only nomination received for Chair. Mark Salter was appointed to the position of Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee by acclamation.

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chair.

Larry Dill was the only nomination received for Vice-Chair. Larry Dill was appointed to the position of Vice-Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee by acclamation.

Mark Salter continued the meeting as Chair.

6. MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Garrison, seconded by Larry Dill, that the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of November 26, 2009 be approved as presented.
The motion **CARRIED**.

7. OLD BUSINESS

(1) Food Security

Food Security will be discussed under agenda item (6) Community Gardens.

(2) West Bay Outfall (Diesel) – Follow-up Report

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, provided the committee with a follow-up report on the West Bay outfall noting the trace amounts witnessed by employees conducting the follow-up inspection could be the results of run-off from the roadways.

Vice-Chair Dill reported there has been heavy smells of diesel in the area and the Department of National Defence has installed a boom to assist in containing any contaminants. Vice-Chair Dill further reported that DND has determined that chlorine has been detected coming out of the outfall. Vice-Chair Dill noted that water has been seen coming out of the outfall even when it has not rained for a number of days. Vice-Chair Dill further noted the discharge of contaminants from the outfall is an ongoing problem and the outfall is located across from the guardhouse situated on DND property.

Chair Salter questioned the obligation of the municipality with regards to this issue. Chair Salter also noted the boom installed by DND is ineffective at high and low tide.

Committee members continued discussion on this issue and requested the Engineering and Public Works Department follow-up on this ongoing issue and to also clarify whether DND is working to rectify this situation if the outfall falls within Department of National Defence jurisdiction.

Committee members continued to discuss other outfalls within the municipality and requested a map identifying all outfalls within the municipality.

Committee members would like to continue discussions on raising awareness and educating the community on the purpose of outfalls and what to do when something is not right. Blair Irwin agreed to coordinate this initiative.

Committee members requested that outfall awareness and education campaign and the outfall maps be brought back to a future meeting for further discussion.

(3) Update on Presentations to Council **(a) Plastic Shopping Bags Ban**

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, reported that Council, at its December 14th Committee of the Whole meeting, resolved to refer the plastic shopping bag resolution to the Esquimalt Chamber of Commerce for input and comments. It was noted the resolution is scheduled to appear on the February agenda of the Esquimalt Chamber of Commerce with any feedback to be provided to the Sustainability Coordinator.

(b) Bottled Water Ban

Councillor Garrison reported that Council resolved to refer the committees bottled water resolution memorandum to the Director of Parks and Recreation. Councillor Garrison further noted existing contracts with suppliers to provide bottled beverages in municipal facilities are in place and facilities do not have existing adequate resources from which patrons can fill their own containers.

Councillor Gaul reported that Council requested additional information and also noted this item will be brought back to Council for additional discussion. Councillor Gaul noted that staff have been working to eliminate the use of bottled water at municipal functions.

Committee members discussed alternatives to utilizing plastic bottles for beverages, such as requesting vendors to supply cans or implementation of a levy on plastic bottles. It was noted a staff report will be presented to Council on the ramifications of eliminating bottled water in municipal facilities.

Councillor Garrison and Councillor Gaul both encouraged committee members to make additional presentations to Council at a Committee of the Whole meeting on both the plastic bag and bottled water initiatives.

Committee members discussed making a presentation to Council on the same evening Council receives the requested follow-up staff reports on bottled water and plastic bags (possible March 8th Committee of the Whole).

(4) Zero Waste

Chair Salter provided the committee with an overview of Zero Waste Wednesday and noted he would like the municipality to partner with the committee to showcase an event to highlight the day.

(5) Composting – Options for Education / Bin Sale

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, reported that a staff report on the sale of composters will be going forward to Council on February 1st recommending the following:

1. Two “Composting Basics” Workshops;
2. Two “Composting for Small Spaces” Workshops; and
3. Hosting, in partnership with the Greater Victoria Compost Education Centre, a one day bin sale, with the Township of Esquimalt subsidizing the cost of each bin by \$15.00 (maximum of 200 bins).

Ms. Lagoa further reported that upon approval by Council, the workshops would be scheduled to take place in the spring (April, May, June) with a minimal registration fee. Composting bin vouchers will be made available to Esquimalt residents who register for the composting for small spaces workshop. The workshops will be conducted by the Compost Education Centre and the bin sale will be run by their volunteers. The bin sale will be scheduled to take place on April 17th, during Earth Week, in the front parking lot of the Archie Browning Sports Centre.

Committee members discussed advertising of the event and made additional suggestions such as contacting the CBC and Victoria News to run stories.

A committee member suggested that in addition to hosting the composting workshops and bin sale, other informational booths / displays / workshops be organized for the same day. It was further suggested the event be turned in to an educational fair. Contact Marlene Lagoa with additional ideas.

- (6) Community Gardens
 - (a) Task Force
 - Community Gardens Task Force, Staff Report No. ADM-10-007

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, reported the community gardens task force will consist of two representatives each from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee, Environmental Advisory Committee and the community, with advertising for community members taking place shortly.

Councillor Gaul noted the formation of a task force will assist in moving the community gardens initiative forward.

Committee members discussed the work completed by the Environmental Advisory Committee and others to develop a community garden in Esquimalt. Committee members also discussed the importance of identifying a site for the community garden. Chair Salter and Blair Irwin indicated an interest in participating on the community gardens task force.

Moved by Councillor Garrison, seconded by Councillor Gaul, that Mark Salter and Blair Irwin be appointed to represent the Environmental Advisory Committee on the Community Gardens Task Force.

The motion **CARRIED**.

- (b) 2009 Budget

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, reported that Council resolved to support the Environmental Advisory Committee's request for the allocation of \$2800 from the 2009 committee budget for a start-up fund for the community garden, to include, but not be limited to, soil, materials for raised flower beds, a garden shed and water hose.

- (7) Joint Meeting with Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, reported she has notified Scott Hartman, Director of Parks and Recreation of the request to conduct a joint meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and will report back to the committee once an opportunity comes available to meet.

Chair Salter recessed the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:53 p.m.

8. NEW BUSINESS

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

Chair Salter reviewed the Environmental Advisory Committee Terms of Reference with the committee.

- (a) 2009 Year End Final Report

Chair Salter reviewed the requirement to submit to Council a final report at the end of each year describing the committees activities and accomplishments of the previous year. Chair Salter volunteered to draft the report to present to the committee for review and approval prior to being presented 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) Meeting Schedule Dates and Times

The Environmental Advisory Committee will meet on the fourth Thursday of the month with meetings schedule for 2010 as follows:

- February 25th
- March 25th
- April 22nd
- May 27th
- June 24th
- September 23rd
- October 28th and
- November 25th

Meetings will start at 7:00 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.

(4) Agenda Items and Distribution

The Recording Secretary distributed an information sheet to committee members outlining quorum requirements, meeting cancellation notification, agenda items and agenda distribution for their review.

(5) 2010 Work Plan Discussion

This item was deferred to the February meeting.

Vice-Chair Dill departed the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

(6) Cosmetic Pesticide Education Bylaw Enforcement (**Late Item**)

Chair Salter reported PURE (Pesticide Use Reduction Education Working Group) made a presentation recently and showcased the successes of communities that have succeeded in banning cosmetic pesticides. Chair Salter noted he is interested in learning how the municipality is educating individuals about the bylaw and enforcing it. Chair Salter further discussed the concept of utilizing student environmental awareness teams for the educational component of pesticide bylaw education. It was further noted that grant funding is available for these types of initiatives.

Committee members continued to discuss the educational component of the bylaw. It was suggested Royal Roads graduate students be utilized to develop a plan for the educational component.

9. REPORT FROM STAFF LIAISON

Marlene Lagoa, Staff Liaison, reported the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Target staff report is scheduled to be presented to Council at the February 8th Committee of the Whole meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Mark Salter, Chair

This 25th day of February, 2010