

Minutes of the regular meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION held in the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on May 19, 2011 at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Director Giles – Co-Chair Rodger Hunter
Dave Polster Bruce Sampson
Roger Wiles Director Kent
Alternate Director Paterson Director Walker
Pete Keber Chris Wood

ALSO PRESENT: Kate Miller, Manager, Regional Environmental Policy Div
Dyan Freer, Recording Secretary
Director Duncan

REGRETS: Justin Straker, John Morris, Judy Stafford, Bruce Fraser,
Kevin Visscher

GUEST: Kim Van Bruggen, ACUMEN Communications
Suzanne Wilkinson, prospective commission member

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented with the change of order of NB1 to first item of business.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION
OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the April 21, 2011, Environment Commission meeting be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

**DELEGATIONS
NEW BUSINESS
NB1**

No delegations

Engineering and Environment (E&E) Department Overview – Brian Dennison, General Manager of E & E services gave an overview of his department with a PowerPoint presentation showing all divisions and their responsibilities. Discussion ensued. The question was asked ‘How can the Environment Commission help? GM will bring that forward to his division managers for discussion. A third party viewpoint would be helpful. Dave Polster offered to help revegetate the old incinerator sites by sharing his expertise.

Introduction of Kim Van Bruggen who gave a presentation on the upcoming launch of the Zero Waste Challenge that is going out to the residents of CVRD soon. Results of the latest poll of residents showed overwhelming support for this initiative. On-line promotions and teams in the community will be prominent emphasizing ‘The 5’R’s: refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle, and recover’. Discussion ensued on how to accomplish this. Positive participation and opportunity will be part of it. Community members will be asked to help as well in an advisory capacity. There followed a brief discussion on the vision of the South Cowichan Eco Depot .

**BUSINESS ARISING
OUT OF MINUTES
B1**

Call for volunteers for Ecostravaganza - Chris Wood

Held on June 4th, 2011 from 10 am – 4 pm. Needs three teams to staff

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the booth. Will bring a laptop for presentations and show the State of Environment Report as well as Phil Kent will prepare presentations on sustainability. Volunteers: Chris and Rob Hutchins will take set up and the first shift; Roger Wiles and Pete Keber for Noon to 2 pm shift; Phil Kent possibly with Kevin Visscher for last shift and take down.

ACTION: Dyan to send email out requesting volunteers for third time slot to be filled.

B2

Ecole Mill Bay Ecostravaganza funding request – Kevin Visscher

It was moved and seconded

That the Environment Commission support, to a sum no greater than \$500, the Ecole Mill Bay Ecostravaganza funding request.

MOTION CARRIED

B3

Ipsos Reid Survey – good indication of local government opinion in the community.

CORRESPONDENCE

Email from Bruce Sampson dated April 21, 2011, announcing his resignation. Chair presented a gift and thanked him for the time and effort made to the Environment Commission. He and his knowledge will be truly missed and were an asset to the commission. Members shared their perceptions of working with Bruce and his wealth of knowledge and experiences that he brought to us.

REPORTS

R1

Land Committee – Dave Polster No report

R2

Communications Committee – Chris Wood

A joint meeting with Economic Development Commission is planned for June. A sub-committee of Environment Commission is meeting with an Economic Development and Social Planning sub-committee to discuss the agenda for this meeting. Topic will be 'to make the notion of sustainability more meaningful'. The commissions can provide positive input to help define the term and the framework of how to put this plan into effect. Will work with the planning department as well.

It was moved and carried

That the Environment Commission communications working group enter a discussion with the Economic Development Commission, Social Planning Cowichan and other interested groups to develop with partners a program of targeted events for the September to November period, to raise awareness among decision-makers and the public of the direct link between land-use decisions and the sustainability goals of the CVRD Strategic Plan, the EDC Sustainable Economic Development Strategy, Vision 2020 and 12 Big Ideas.

MOTION CARRIED

i. Draft Economic Development Sustainability Plan - A good framework to work forward.

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R3 **Water Committee – Rodger Hunter** - No report. Questions where the Air Committee should be included? A study should be done as a follow up re hospital admissions of youth to our District hospital. No air emissions study for this year. What would that cost? We need to pay attention to this issue.

ACTION: Manager, Regional Environmental Policy Division will find out cost to do a study.

R4 **Climate Change, Energy and Smart Growth Committee** - Pete Keber met with Phil Kent. This committee overlaps all other committees. Thought the main thing needed is to reinforce the message that climate change is real and to show what local government is doing already to mitigate climate change. His committee needs to be involved with the communication group. Should it be included in any other group?

ACTION: Each group Chair to discuss with their group if they can include climate change as a subject to be part of their plans. Rodger Hunter stated that Climate Change group can be included with the water or land committees to make a larger group.

**INFORMATION
IN1**

PMFL – Chair has sent a letter asking to speak to the Minister of Forest and Lands and Natural Resource Operations. No appointment as yet. Domenico Iannidinardo, Manager of Environment and Resource Integration, TimberWest Forest Corp will be presenting to the Regional Services Committee May 25 at 6:00 pm re. Overview of TimberWest’s Watershed Management Program and Operating Plans. It is posted on the CVRD website under Agendas/Regional Services Committee/May 25, 2011. It has become an issue throughout the different forest companies and they are all discussing it. Commission members are invited and the land committee will try to attend. This issue is going to UBCM in the fall.

IN2 Town Hall meeting with Director Giles in Cobble Hill on June 23rd, 2011. Subject will be water and water management. Pete Keber and Rodger Hunter will give a presentation of the State of Environment Report.

NEXT MEETING Thursday, June 16, 2011 @ 6 pm

ADJOURNMENT **It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.**

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Chair

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____