

Minutes of the regular meeting of the meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION, held in the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on January 17, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Director Lefebure
Janna Jorgensen
Judy Stafford
Sophy Roberge
Larry George
Director Duncan
Tyler Innes
Pete Keber
Dave Polster

ALSO PRESENT: Kate Miller, Manager, Environmental Policy Division
Dyan Freer, Recording Secretary
Roger Wiles

REGRETS: Director Lines

CALL TO ORDER 6:00 PM

NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIR The Manager of Regional Environmental Policy called for nominations for Chair.
Janna Jorgensen was duly nominated.

DECLARATION OF CHAIR FOR 2013 There being no further nominations, nominations were declared closed and Janna Jorgensen was declared elected by acclamation as the Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District Environment Commission.

NOMINATIONS FOR CO-CHAIR The Manager of Regional Environmental Policy called for nominations for Co-Chair.
Jon Lefebure was duly nominated.

DECLARATION OF VICE-CHAIR FOR 2013 There being no further nominations, nominations were declared closed and Jon Lefebure was declared elected by acclamation as the Co-Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District Environment Commission.

ASSUMPTION OF CHAIRS Jon Lefebure and Janna Jorgensen assumed the seat of the Co-Chairs.

INTRODUCTIONS Introductions were made as there were newly appointed directors for 2013 present, Directors Lefebure and Duncan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA **It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented with the addition of R5, an update on the City of Duncan Environment Commission, and NB1, Edible Tree Planting Program Grant.**

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES **It was moved and seconded that the minutes of December 13, 2012, Environment Commission meeting be adopted as presented.**

MOTION CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

The winners of the video contest were announced and some of the participants of the 2012 State of the Environment video contest joined the meeting. All the videos were shown and the prizes distributed to those in attendance. They were received with appreciation. A list of the winners and their prizes was distributed to the commission.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES**B1****Structure and schedule of commission meetings for 2013**

Meeting schedule for the Environment Commission will change to the fourth Thursday of the month. The chairs and the manager of the Environmental Policy Division will meet to discuss overall meeting organization and schedule.

Roger Hart suggested we have a planning meeting to decide on the needs and schedules of the Environment Commission. Roger Hart will sit on the Economic Development Commission in February and a call for an Environment Commission representative to the Economic Development Commission for 2013 will be held at the next meeting.

B2

Agricultural Irrigation Project update. Kate Miller provided an update on the commission funded project to determine current and future agricultural water needs. The project is assessing groundwater and surface water usage and calculating agriculture irrigation needs based on crop type and potential.

B3**Membership**

Dave Polster and Pete Keber have requested to be reappointed for new terms. Roger Wiles has regretfully announced that he will not continue on as a member of the Environment Commission, as have Justin Straker and Rodger Hunter.

A farewell was given to Roger Wiles with many thanks for all his work for this commission.

Advertising is underway for expressions of interest for new Environment Commission members for the 2013-2014 terms. Judy Stafford, Roger Hart and Kate Miller will sit on a review committee for the applications and present recommendations to the Board.

B4

Director Duncan has tickets to the upcoming Island Agricultural Show on February 1 and 2, 2013, at the Cowichan Exhibition Grounds. Commission members are encouraged to attend this worthwhile event.

REPORTS**R1****Communications Committee – Janna Jorgensen**

The committee hasn't met this year as yet, but the branding initiative will soon be resumed. The Commission must decide on the future of the video contest for 2013. Winners have been invited to be presented to the Board in February 2013. Thank you to Janna Jorgensen for planning and chairing it so well. These videos could be used for schools or other groups as mechanisms for dialogue. How do we make them usable for others?

- R2** **ePlan Subcommittee Update** – Kate Miller
The subcommittee met and worked with the consultant and there is a draft ePlan prepared. First phase should be completed by mid-February and the subcommittee will review and provide feedback.
- R3** **Agricultural Advisory Committee** – no meeting since last update – next meeting is on January 22, 2013.
- R4** **Economic Development Commission update** - Roger Hart announced that the Economic Development Commission (EDC) is planning a meeting of the entire EDC Commission to more broadly look at how it can be more effective; this might be something that the Environment Commission may also want to consider doing.
- R5** **City of Duncan Environment Commission update** – just getting started – urban forestry strategy to be discussed as well as the integrated sustainability plan will be finalized soon. Planning their 2013 strategy next week.
- CORRESPONDENCE** none
- INFORMATION** Pilot project will begin this year in Chemainus to pick up organic waste from the school to make it a Zero Waste School.
- IN1** None
- NEW BUSINESS**
- NB1** **Edible Tree Planting Program Grant** – available across Canada to beautify our neighbourhood. A link will be provided to look at this for any interested groups.
- NB2** **February 28 Agenda** – The Environmental Strategy (ePlan) – Budget and recommendations for the work plan for 2013 will be on next agenda, as well as recycling report, solid waste plan report and an update from the Solid Waste and Recycling department.
- NB3** The Board approved the recommendation from last meeting **‘that they include, as a priority in the Corporate Strategic Plan, the actions attached to the Corporate Greenhouse Gas and Inventory & Emissions Reduction Plan.’**
- ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm
- NEXT MEETING** February 28, 2013

Chair

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____