

the Regional Board by Roger Wiles and Chris Wood. We could return to Board if they have more questions. CD's of the SoE report were distributed. Report is available on the web pages as well. The municipalities have asked to be provided with a similar presentation.

Action: Letter will be sent with invitation to municipalities.

B3 Budget of Environment Commission – discussion of 2010 allocation of budget. Handout was distributed.

Action: Chris Wood will prepare a draft budget from the results of the communication committee meeting for discussion at September 16th meeting.

B4 Environment Commission Work Plan Thank you to Bruce Fraser and Chris Wood for putting together the work plan elements and communication strategy. Sub-committee reported as follows:

i. **Land Based** – Roger Wiles. Decided to include biodiversity, invasive species and species at risk. Will consult known experts and community groups already working on land based issues. Should be open to new possibilities, criticism and comments from public. Get feedback on SoE and suggestions on strategy from public. Advertising for public meetings would give more SoE feedback info as well.

ii **Water and fish** – Rodger Hunter distributed handouts. Plans to prepare small summaries of SoE report for the public and our own group. Where does CVRD have influence and what actions could we do? We could list individual aquifers and tell public what is their state. General theme will be outreach. Determine priorities. Tim Kolchyski gave a report at another meeting on levels of toxins in shellfish and first nation's people who eat large quantities of them. Would like to have him present this to us. Also have a series of stories in paper, always on same page, is one idea – with different stories to promote the knowledge we are gaining and with the aim to increase public awareness.

iii. **Air Quality** – Lori Iannidinardo. Have primarily used VIHA stats. Children have asthma in very high levels here. There are 20% more admissions for respiratory ailments in Cowichan than elsewhere in the province. Why? Is it from wood stove smoke? We can get results from Engineering Environmental Technologists re their air quality testing. Also a bylaw for burning is being introduced. Use these resources. Smog (and noise) from boats on Cowichan and Shawnigan Lake is another problem. Data gaps are huge and we have only two monitoring stations in this valley. Try to interlink province, local government, and public. Discussion ensued.

iv. **Agriculture** – Judy Stafford No report.

v. **Climate Change** – Pete Keber. Transportation emissions cause most damage in valley. Zoning – smart growth – is a priority.

How do we communicate this? Province needs to be in agreement before solutions are implemented. Can encourage various players to work together and achieve some results.

B5 Communication Plan and Strategy - Outreach – We could do a piece on each of the themes. Press release on SoE got good coverage. Paid advertising another possibility. We will place this material on our web site. Get an invitation to comment out there.

Listening – comments back will give that public knowledge.

Should use Ipsos poll – ie. A) Should we be preparing a readiness plan for climate change or b) should we be looking at other progressive communities for guidance? Outreach and education component coupled with survey will lead to a public meeting or meetings. Plus meet with municipal leaders and give presentations. Need to take our 12 things and have them integrated in daily living. Will develop recommendations on how to do this in plan. Also keep our brand visible in all things.

Volunteers for **communication strategy committee** – Roger Wiles, Phil, Kent, John Morris, Rodger Hunter, Klaus Kuhn

B6 Web pages are live

The commission was shown how the pages are now live behind the 12 things.ca home page. They have a lot more information for users. Also showed that the SoE is on front page of CVRD web page and available to the public.

B7 Ipsos Reid survey questions - to be developed by the communication strategy committee. A copy of the old survey shows the committee what questions were used last year. Chair will ask CAO when the deadline is for submissions and how many questions we can contribute.

7:45 pm Rodger Hunter left meeting

NEW BUSINESS

NB1 Possible presenters or guests for the fall to provide education and information. 35-45 minutes. We could shorten dinner hour perhaps to have more time for speakers. First two fall meetings will have speakers and 3rd meeting can be business only if needed.

- i) Nature Conservancy of Canada
- Salish Sea or Cowichan Conservation Strategy
- ii) Forestry – Bruce Fraser or Private Forest Land Council
- ii) Flood Plain – Northwest Hydraulics
- iii) Invasive Species
- iv) Species at Risk – Bruce Fraser – can talk about issues as he chairs a BC task force. Plan for the November meeting
- v) Cowichan Roundtable – 100 years plan for recovery

- vi) James Van Hemert, Director of Development Services (Planning) at the City of Duncan — on a Sustainability database used in the US
- vii) Justin Straker – Modeling for sustainability planning
- viii) Transition Cowichan
- ix) NGO's of the region

Action: Chairs and Manager of Regional Environment Policy, will meet and discuss scheduling.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CAO will present an Environment Lens update to Environment Commission at September 16th meeting.

A. Six actions identified for immediate action during 2010 are:

1. Implement a sustainability checklist review system for new development applications;
2. Implement the Cowichan Regional Area Agricultural Plan;
3. Develop a plan to ensure that the CVRD complies with the BC Climate Action Charter by the year 2012;
4. Develop and implement a green subdivision servicing bylaw;
5. Develop a green team corporate employee engagement plan;
6. Establish an EcoDepot in South Cowichan to promote recycling and responsible waste management.

B. Also the Board passed a resolution that a regional sustainability planning process be initiated as the first phase of the establishment of the CVRD's Environmental Lens process.

C. And thirdly, the Cowichan Watershed Board will host four workshops.

INFORMATION

Housekeep regarding attendance and mileage tracing for commission members.

NEXT MEETING

September 16, 2010

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Chair

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____