

- B3** State of the Environment report update. Edits have been received and made and the report will be reprinted. Discussion on how many copies should be printed in order to provide enough copies for distribution to high schools, VIU and local libraries, etc. Copies on CD can be made available to many people, as well as it is available on the web.

It was moved and seconded to spend up to \$3000 to reproduce the State of Environment Report.

MOTION CARRIED

- B4** Gas Tax project – LiDAR acquisition will enable us to look at strategic development. \$375,000 has been approved towards that program – the market price of this project is actually \$1.4 to \$1.8 million. Environment Manager was able to procure a lot of partnership support for this project including UVic through their graduate studies work.

REPORTS

Sub- Committee Reports

- R1** Budget amounts for consideration from sub-committee
- a) **Communications** – Chris Wood A series of advertorials running in Citizen, Ladysmith and Lake Cowichan Gazette, plus radio ads until Christmas. The plan is to keep Environment Commission before public eye on a fairly consistent basis. Question - Could papers perhaps run editorials to accompany some of this large ad run? Chris will look into this.
 - b) **Agriculture** – Judy Stafford distributed an article on the Benefits of Biodiversity. Request for speaker, Jill Clapperton, PhD, to come to address our agricultural community to give a more thorough understanding of diversifying cover crops for soil maintenance which will improve nitrogen in soil, and help prevent soil erosion and failure. Budget would be \$4250.00 to allocate towards this. Discussion ensued.

It was moved and seconded to invite Jill Clapperton to speak to the Cowichan Valley Agricultural Society members in December for the sum of \$4250.

MOTION CARRIED

- c) Land – Dave Polster would like a budget consideration of \$5000 to hold a session focusing on the Coast Douglas Fir species.

It was moved and seconded to allocate up to \$5000 for a session on land and biodiversity on the protection/strategy/conservation of the Coastal Douglas Fir.

MOTION REFERRED TO THE NEXT MEETING

DELEGATION

Neal Dawe, RPBio. Introduced by Rodger Hunter: Mr. Dawe represents the Qualicum Institute and is a wildlife biologist, ecologist, and children’s book author. His presentation promotes sustainability. Ecosystems are the foundation on where sustainability stands. Economic growth does not lead to sustainability. We need Resiliency, Adaptability, and Transformability. The truth is we have to change or earth as we know it will change it for us!

Sub-Committee Reports

R1c

c) Air – Lori Iannidinardo. Would like to take to the public the danger to public health posed by indoor and outdoor air contaminants. Funding available on air quality study which staff could apply for.

It was moved and seconded that \$5000 for a public awareness campaign related to the dangers to public health posed by indoor and outdoor air contaminants be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

d) Water and Fish – Rodger Hunter

It was moved and seconded that the remainder of unallocated commission funds be directed to water conservation and aquatic habit funding.

MOTION CARRIED

To ensure financial/logistical efficiencies the Commission sponsored agricultural cover crop soils initiative could be coordinated with the water conservation workshop (Ted Van der Gulik).

R2 2011 Environment Commission Budget

It was moved and seconded to have the current Environment Commission budget remain at the 2010 level.

MOTION CARRIED

R3

Species at Risk – Kate Lindsay, new staff member of the Regional Environmental Policy Division, introduced herself to the Environment Commission. She is the Senior Environment Tech. Her report from was tabled to next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

NB1

Environment Commission membership terms – expiration dates
Please consider your membership and if you would like to continue on. We will need to post requests for new members if we have vacancies.

INFORMATION

IN1

10-10-10 Huge inspirational and successful global environmental initiative day. CGC planted over 100 trees – over 35,000 trees were planted throughout 88 countries in the world on 10-10-10.

IN2

Gas Tax discussion deferred until more is known about timing.

IN3

Our next speaker for November will be Bruce Fraser speaking on

Species at Risk and BC Forest practices and Warren Jones regarding the CVRD strategic plan and Environmental Lens update.

- IN4** Judy Stafford would like a discussion on how contracts are decided upon. Chair explained it more fully.
- IN5** Fundraising dance at Cowichan Cultural centre \$25.00. Theme is 'Return of the Swans' with money going to the Somenos Marsh Society.

CORRESPONDENCE

- C1** Request from Geoff Millar, Economic Development Division, inviting the Environment Commission members to participate in a focus group on a Sustainable Economic Strategy for the CVRD on Tuesday, November 2nd to meet to work on the Economic Development Strategy. Please rsvp to D. Freer by Friday, October 22.
- C2** Request from Peter Nix re Earth Day 2011 and the Environment Commission's possible participation. This request will be taken under consideration.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 18, 2010

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned 9:15 pm.

Chair

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____