



City of Surrey

Environmental Advisory Committee

Minutes

Executive Boardroom
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2006
Time: 6:34 p.m.

Present:

R. Wetzel - Chair
C. Dragomir
K. Keshvani
D. Maher
Dr. F. Perello
S. Li
Councillor Bose

Absent:

H. Locke
S. VanKeulen
R. Gray
B. Stilwell
S. VanKeulen

Staff Present:

C. Baron, Drainage & Environment Manager
J. Reimer, Legislative Services

Agricultural Advisory Committee
Representative

S. VanKeulen

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes – July 19, 2006

It was

Moved by F. Perello

Seconded by K. Keshvani

That the minutes of the Environmental
Advisory Committee meeting of July 19, 2006 be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Environmental Advisory Committee Organizational Planning Retreat

Councillor Bose commented on the “Summary of Organizational Planning Retreat January 26, 2006” report prepared by Peter Abrams of Peter Abrams Consulting Services (February 2006).

He provided the following comments:

- He outlined the relationships between the Mayor and other governing bodies (TransLink).
- Section 2.3 was for the benefit of those that were at the meeting, and should be deleted from the report.

- The request was made that staff contact Peter Abrams and request Section 2.3 be deleted from report. Following this action, the amended “Summary of Organizational Planning Retreat January 26, 2006” report would be forwarded to Council for information.

It was

Moved by Councillor Bose

Seconded by F. Perello

That the Environmental Advisory

Committee request Peter Abrams to delete Section 2.3 from the “Summary of Organizational Planning Retreat January 26, 2006” and that the amended report be forwarded to Council for information.

Carried

**2. Two Development Lots in the Area of 128th Street and 20th Avenue
File No.: 7900-0025-00**

A Committee member brought this item forward. The following comments were provided:

- 4 or 5 large trees have been marked off for preservation in this area.
- A backhoe was digging right up against the trunk of these trees.
- Genex owns this property.
- One of the properties is on the northeast corner of 128th Street and 20th Avenue, and the second piece of property is a smaller piece of land being developed to the south, along 128th Street.
- There is a possibility that Genex may have sold the lots and it could be the new property owners that are digging or the developer.
- R. Epp, Landscape Architect, Planning & Development, deals with issues regarding trees.
- A recent newspaper article quoted Mayor Watts discussing stiffer penalties for tree cutting.
- People have not been made aware of the penalties or the penalties are not stiff enough to prevent the cutting of trees.
- There has only been one successful prosecution in the last 10 years since the existing by-law was adopted.
- The penalties are insignificant due to the rising price of land.
- Information pamphlets or packages presenting a synopsis of by-laws could be produced in different languages to educate developers. These could be given out at the permit stage.
- The City Page could also state that Surrey has a new Tree By-Law and list some of the important points.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

**1. Elgin Creek Base Flow Augmentation Project and Lower Chantrell Creek Re-Alignment Project Update
File: 4806-307**

A copy of Corporate Report R155 was attached for information and the following comments provided:

- The City has met with concerned residents at a public open house to discuss Elgin Creek base flow augmentation project and Lower Chantrell Creek Realignment Project.
- Projects were outlined, and issues were discussed.
- The results of this public open house will be going before Council.

**2. Recommendation in Minutes of Environmental Advisory Committee Accepted by Council
Corporate Report R102
Green City Initiatives
File #: 6300-01**

A copy of the minute mounting from the Regular Council – Public Hearing meeting is attached for information.

- Shrubs, wild flowers and grasses are self managed and should also be considered in areas where practical throughout the City of Surrey.

3. Surrey Futures Program

Councillor Bose provided information on the Surrey Futures Program.

- Surrey Futures program addresses issues of transportation and other important community issues.
- These issues should go to the public on a regular basis.
- A copy of the Surrey Futures Program should be included on the next agenda for the review of the Committee.

4. Memo to Planning & Development regarding the document “Guidelines for Legislated Landslide Assessments for Proposed Residential Development in British Columbia”.

In the meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee held on July 19, 2006, it was requested that a memo be sent to Planning & Development Department

enclosing a copy of this document. A copy of the memo was attached for the Committee's information.

**5. Letter to B C Hydro
File #: 0540-20 EAC**

A copy of the letter to B. C. Hydro expressing concern over distances of right of ways between residential areas and high power voltage areas is attached for information.

**6. Environmental Assessment of South Port Kells Area 1: Anniedale "A"
Neighbourhood Concept Plan
File #: 6520-20 PKS/1**

A copy of the memo was attached regarding the meeting on September 14th, for information only.

7. Resignation from EAC

A discussion ensued and the following comments were provided:

- New appointments are not normally made until next year.
- An expression of interest will be posted in October. Applications could also be solicited by Committee members.
- Membership will remain as is for the remainder of the year.
- An update on the status of members should be addressed at the next meeting.

H. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

1. Sediment Testing

- Sediment testing is being conducted by BC Hydro at Surrey Lake.
- The sediment basin at Surrey Lake is being cleaned by the City.
- Different species of fish in the lake will be determined when salvaging happens prior to basin cleaning.

2. Next EAC Meeting

As this is the last year for the Chair to serve on the Committee, and due to the fact that he will be away for the month of November, a suggestion was made to cancel the meeting in November and meet on December 6th. This was received favourably by the Committee.

It was Moved by Councillor Bose
Seconded by C. Dragomir
That the meeting of the Environmental
Advisory Committee be cancelled for the month of November, and the December
meeting be held on December 6th.

Carried

3. Public Transit in the City

- Public transit is an important component of a community.
- The Committee should have a discussion regarding public transit.
- There is a Transportation Committee, and they deal with many diverse issues.
- A non-profit group is promoting Heritage Rail in Surrey, and they are introducing Community Rail project.
- The BC Electric Railroad Company started as a non-profit organization. Many communities developed around this electric tram rail line.
- There are plans to re-instate the community rail.
- A double track would be required for a community rail.
- Hydrogen fuel cells would boost the power of the current flywheel technology.
- This is a project that should be supported by the Committee.
- There is a major review of transit services south of the Fraser River.

4. Nature Matters Program

- The ShaRP and SNaP programs are finished for this year.
- Some participants were kept on contract for ongoing events.
- A lot of planting and agricultural work was done.
- Over 40 students were hired this year for these the programs
- Staff are continuing with Nature Matters initiatives through the winter and spring.

5. Campbell Heights Meeting

- C. Dragomir attended this meeting.
- Issues surrounding the planning of this area were discussed. A community event was planned to plant one of the slopes of the new creek.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

L. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by R. Wetzel
Seconded by D. Maher
That the meeting of the Environmental

Advisory Committee now adjourn.

Carried

The Environmental Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Margaret Jones, City Clerk

Chairperson
Environmental Advisory Committee