



City of Surrey

Environmental Advisory Committee

Minutes

Executive Boardroom
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008
Time: 6:30 p.m.
File: 0540-20

Present:

Councillor Bose - Chair
B. Stillwell
C. Dragomir
M. Harcourt
A. Keshvani
H. Locke
D. Maher
A. Schulze
W. Stewart

Absent:

M. Deo
G. Sangha

Staff Present:

C. Baron, Drainage & Environment Manager
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

Agricultural Advisory Committee
Representative

S. VanKeulen

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Councillor Bose acted as Chair until the appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the ensuing year.

The Agenda was varied.

B. DELEGATIONS

1. Bill McKay

At the January 16, 2008 EAC meeting, the Committee expressed an interest in learning more about the COSMOS program and it was agreed that staff be invited to provide a brief tutorial at the February EAC meeting.

Bill McKay, GIS Coordinator, Engineering Dept., was in attendance to provide a mini tutorial on COSMOS. A simple user guide to the City's mapping online system was distributed and a demonstration on how to access the various data was given.

ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS

1. Chair for the 2008 Calendar Year

Councillor Bose called for elections.

It was

Moved by C. Dragomir

Seconded by K. Keshvani

That Bill Stilwell be elected as Chairperson

for the 2008 calendar year.

Carried

2. Vice Chair for the 2008 Calendar Year

It was Moved by B. Stewart
Seconded by K. Keshvani
That Donna Maher be elected as Vice-Chair
for the 2008 calendar year.

Carried

3. EAC Representative to the Agricultural Advisory Committee (“AAC”).

It was Moved by K. Keshvani
Seconded by H. Locke
That Bill Stewart be appointed as the EAC
representative to the Agricultural Advisory Committee for the 2008 calendar year.

Carried

B. Stilwell assumed the position of Chair.

The Agenda was varied.

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Development Advisory Committee (“DAC”) Membership

At the January 16, 2008 EAC meeting, it was noted that Francisco Perello, past EAC member, will be replaced by Herb Locke for the interim and that the DAC representative will be officially appointed at the February EAC meeting.

It was Moved by B. Stewart
Seconded by S. VanKeulen
That Herb Locke be appointed as the EAC
representative to the Development Advisory Committee for the 2008 calendar
year.

Carried

H. Locke provided an update from the most recent DAC meeting, noting that:

- it was very well attended;
- a presentation was given on drainage issues by the Drainage Planning Manager, Drainage; and
- developers commented on the increasing costs, and that 60% of residential development is now multi-family, as it doesn't work otherwise.

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**1. Environmental Advisory Committee (“EAC”) Minutes – January 16, 2008**

It was Moved by Councillor Bose
Seconded by K. Keshvani
That the minutes of the Environmental
Advisory Committee meeting of January 16, 2008 be adopted.
Carried

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**2. Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy**

At the January 16, 2008 EAC meeting, the Committee suggested that discussion around the metro planning exercises and some background on the regional planning would be beneficial.

C. Baron updated the Committee on the request for a summary from the Manager, Long Range Planning and Policy Development, to provide the Committee with a review of the Regional Plan and any potential involvement in this regard for the EAC. Comments were as follows:

- It is still very much the desire of the Committee to have, as soon as possible, the Manager, Long Range Planning and Policy Development, or an appropriate person assigned from that department, to provide a presentation to the EAC on this matter as well as a recent update on the Sustainability Charter. C. Baron was asked to arrange this presentation.
- Staff prepared a position paper on the Region’s Growth Strategy Plan, however, it was determined that more work is required in establishing what is needed for Surrey and Surrey’s role in the region. A rewrite is underway to be presented to Council. Once the rewrite has been presented to Council, the Committee would like to receive the paper as an information item, in order to see what place it plays in the Official Community Plan, which is in the process of a major update.
- In light of the recent Transit Plan announcement, it is important that the EAC be informed and able to comment on transit and transportation plans.

D. NEW BUSINESS**1. Campbell Heights / Sustainability Charter**

A recent article regarding a meeting that was held pertaining to issues in the Campbell Heights area was discussed. It was questioned whether or not this meeting was the postponed follow-up meeting to the walkabout that was held in November.

It was further noted that information on the development of the Sustainability Charter has not been provided to the EAC in some time. As the Committee was appointed the lead committee for the Sustainability Charter, and as the Committee wants to be involved, there was question as to the lack of communication and the EAC's role.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

It was Moved by B. Stewart
Seconded by C. Dragomir
That Council consider that the EAC was appointed to provide advice to Council on environmental matters. The EAC would like to continue to be consulted routinely on all important environmental issues, including the Sustainability Charter and significant developments such as Campbell Heights. In light of the recent press releases in the local newspapers on these matters, the EAC requests that Council approve a timely meeting with Mayor and Council to clarify the role of the EAC.
Carried

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

**1. Corporate Report R013
2008 Salmon Habitat and Restoration Program: "SHaRP"**

As advised at the January EAC meeting, the above report was provided to Council at the February 11, 2008 Regular Council – Public Hearing meeting. Council requested a copy of the report be provided to the EAC.

It was Moved by B. Stewart
Seconded by C. Dragomir
That Corporate Report R013, 2008 Salmon Habitat and Restoration Program: "SHaRP", be received.
Carried

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Employment Land Strategy meetings.

B. Stilwell provided the Committee with a brief update from the recent Employment Land Strategy meetings/open houses he attended. Comments were as follows:

- During the period 1996 to 2006, the City of Vancouver has seen a drop in employment from 24% to 14% in their area, with an increase to all other local government areas. The consultants that are gathering this information are expected to be providing a further report that will identify where these employees are working (Surrey, Coquitlam, etc.).
- Statistics were given on the anticipated land requirement for industrial, institutional, etc., noting that, by 2031, there will be a shortage of two square miles of what will be needed. Various scenarios on how to address this were discussed.
- A report given at the Employment Land Strategy meeting noted the growth of the trucking industry, of which Surrey is absorbing 46%. Given the fact that Surrey represents 25% of the region's growth, this is a disproportionate amount of truck traffic. This has real environmental and social impacts.
- Traditionally, Surrey has only had half of the jobs needed for its citizens. This issue impacts on what is seen on our streets; people driving long distances, the impacts on environment in a broad sense. This may be something that the Committee would be interested in.

It was

Moved by H. Locke

Seconded by K. Keshvani

That the EAC invite the Employment Land

Strategy consulting firm to make a presentation to the EAC at the earliest convenience.

Carried

2. Sustainability Brochures

C. Baron, Drainage & Environment Manager, provided the Committee with copies of the recently created "Sustainability and You" brochures. It was noted that there is a series of five brochures, done with the Nature Matters program, to target the various sustainability issues (e.g. "what to do in gardens", "what to do at home") and the simple things that can be done to make a difference. The brochures were developed for Surrey and made in Surrey.

3. GLOBE 2008

C. Baron, Drainage & Environment Manager, provided information regarding the Globe 2008 event to be held in Vancouver March 12-14, 2008. The following was noted:

- Surrey will have a display on what is being done in the community.
- Councillor Hunt is one of the speakers at the event.
- Trade show passes are available for those members that would like to attend.
- Further information at www.globe2008.ca.

H. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

1. EAC 2008 Priority Items & Work Plan

At the January 16, 2008 EAC meeting, the 2007 Priority Items & Work Plan was reviewed. Changes and updates that were given at that meeting in establishing the 2008 Priority Items & Work Plan were again reviewed as a guideline for the Committee meetings for the ensuing year. It was agreed that this item will be an ongoing agenda item, for review and updates, at all future meetings.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the EAC will be held on March 19, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by D. Maher
Seconded by S. VanKeulen
That the Environmental Advisory

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Environmental Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Margaret Jones, City Clerk

Bill Stilwell, Chairperson