



City of Surrey

Environmental Advisory Committee

Minutes

Executive Boardroom
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2008
Time: 6:44 p.m.
File: 0540-20

Present:

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

Absent:

K. Keshvani
G. Sangha
S. VanKeulen, Agricultural Advisory
Committee Representative

Staff Present:

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

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Environmental Advisory Committee (“EAC”) Minutes

It was Moved by Councillor Bose
Seconded by C. Dragomir
That the minutes of the Environmental
Advisory Committee meeting of October 23, 2008, be adopted.
Carried

B. DELEGATIONS

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Pesticide Use

At the Council-in-Committee meeting held on Monday, July 28, 2008, Council referred the information provided by LEEP and the Surrey/White Rock Pesticide-free Coalition to the EAC for further investigation and a report back to Council.

Further to the information provided to the Committee in this regard and the delegation of Heide Hermary, Gaia College, the EAC passed the following resolution on October 23, 2008: *“That the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of November 19, 2008 be solely for the discussion of pesticide use and alternatives.”*

Owen Croy, Manager Parks, was in attendance to discuss the process to be followed for reviewing the proposal to ban the use of pesticides for cosmetic

purposes in the City, in order to prepare a report back to Council, complete with recommendations.

The various levels of regulation (Federal and Provincial Governments) of pest control products in Canada, including use, transport, sale, storage and disposal, certification, licensing, training, etc., was reviewed. Comments were as follows:

- The City reports to the Province yearly on our use of pesticides and whether we are in compliance with our Integrated Pest Management Plan.
- The *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act* permit municipalities to pass bylaws restricting the use of pesticides by homeowners and pesticide companies. A memo from the City Solicitor will be provided to the Committee providing legislation information for municipal governments.
- In 1991, Hudson, Quebec passed a bylaw banning cosmetic use of pesticides. Two companies got involved (producer and applicator) and took Hudson all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada in 2000, which upheld the bylaw. Thereafter many communities across Canada went down the road of studying or enacting their own bylaws.
- Copies of the City of Burnaby, City of Vancouver and District of North Vancouver's bylaws regarding pesticide use were passed out. Exemptions can be made to the prohibition, e.g. Burnaby had a list of permitted pesticides that are found in nature included in their bylaw. Interestingly enough, injected tree treatments were allowed.

O. Croy provided a brief update of a seminar he attended at Kwantlen College, represented by both the federal and provincial governments. It was noted that the BC Centre for Disease Control (BC CDC) has commissioned a study by Environmental Health Scientist Vanita Sahni, Environmental Health Services Division, to provide an evaluation review of cosmetic pesticide bylaws.

Ms. Sahni has agreed to provide a presentation of the findings of her review to the Committee, if requested. Comments continued:

- Dr. Len Ritter, from Ontario, jointly appointed at the University of Guelph and University of Toronto, as well as being on several different panels looking at issues, is conducting a seminar on integrated management in Richmond. He studies the health affects of pesticides. O. Croy noted that he will be in attendance for the seminar and will be able to provide any notes and/or any published material to the Committee.
- Dr. Richard Mathias, Faculty of Medicine at UBC, recently wrote to the Mayor and Council of Richmond offering to make a presentation on the facts around the usefulness of a bylaw restricting the use of pesticides, on the basis of it leading to health affects. O. Croy has written to Dr. Mathias to see if he will be interested in presenting to the Committee.
- From the discussions, the following process was proposed:
 - o That EAC receive a delegation and report from BC CDC (Jan);
 - o That EAC receive delegations from medical researchers (Jan./Feb);
 - and
 - o Staff to present current services and programs, both operational and educational (Feb).

- If after hearing from various presenters that this Committee chooses to recommend a bylaw, Staff will host a forum to invite the community and stakeholders to receive feedback.

Discussion on limiting to residents or to everyone ensued.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved by Councillor Bose
Seconded by C. Dragomir
That the Environmental Advisory
Committee recommends that Council direct Staff to present the Environmental
Advisory Committee with one or more draft bylaws, as a template for
consideration for a ban of the use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes in the City.
Carried

It was Moved by Councillor Bose
Seconded by M. Deo
That a presentation to the Environmental
Advisory Committee be requested from one or more of the following, if available:

1. Richard Mathias, Professor, School of Population and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia;
2. Vanita Sahni, Environmental Health Scientist, Environmental Health Services, BC Centre for Disease Control;
3. Teresa Clarke, B.Sc., M.D., InspireHealth Integrated Cancer Care, Vancouver, BC.; and/or
4. Len Ritter, PhD, Executive Director, Canadian Network of Toxicology Centres & Professor of Toxicology, University of Guelph.

Carried

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved by Councillor Bose
Seconded by C. Dragomir
That the Environmental Advisory
Committee recommends that Council direct Staff to further pursue the idea of
demonstration projects of organic land management (pests, weeds, etc.) to report
back to the Environmental Advisory Committee.
Carried

2. Erickson Creek Integrated Stormwater Management Plan

The Chair advised the Committee of his attendance at the Erickson Creek ISMP Public Open House on Monday, October 27, 2008 noting that it was very well attended (standing room only) and well presented with a good representation of what is going to take place. Only a few questions followed after the presentation as it seemed that those in attendance were quite satisfied.

3. Recycling

Further to delegation of Rob Costanzo, Deputy Operations Manager, at the October meeting, it was requested that the EAC be kept informed with any developments regarding recycling.

D. NEW BUSINESS

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Campbell Heights

It was noted that Campbell Heights is experiencing problems with ATV/ 4x4 riders on the site. . It is difficult to keep up with the trespassing; they are offloading vehicles in private areas and then accessing the newly planted areas. They have cut the chainlink fences, taken in ramps, etc. and have damaged the recent plantings on the property. Additionally, they are going there at night and going to Latimer Lake. There has been substantial spending in order to keep the trespassers out in an effort to get the riparian area going again.

G. CORRESPONDENCE

H. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

1. Proposed 2008 Meeting Dates

File: 0540-20 EAC

The memo from the Deputy City Clerk, dated November 14, 2008, regarding the proposed 2009 meeting dates, was reviewed. The Committee reviewed the dates and approved as follows:

January 21	May 20	September 16
February 18	June 17	October 21
March 18	July 15	November 18
April 15	August – no meeting	December 16

It was further agreed that there would no meeting of the EAC in December 2008.

2. Boundary Bay Ambient Monitoring Program Workshop

Metro Vancouver is hosting the Boundary Bay Ambient Monitoring Program Workshop on December 9 and 10, 2008. As only one member can attend on behalf of the EAC, it was noted that Kurban Keshvani would attend. Councillor Bose also asked to attend separate from the EAC delegate.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the EAC will be held on January 21, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The Environmental Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Margaret Jones, City Clerk

Bill Stilwell Chairperson