

Present:

A. Schulze - Chair
Councillor Bose
B. Burnside
M. Deo
C. Dragomir
M. Harcourt
G. Sahota
G. Sangha
B. Stewart

Regrets:

B. Campbell
K. Keshvani

**Agricultural Advisory
Committee Representative:**

S. VanKeulen

Staff Present:

C. Baron, Drainage and Environmental
Manager
O. Croy, Manager, Parks
P. Heer, Planning and Development
M. Kischnick, Planning and Development
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was Moved by C. Dragomir
Seconded by G. Sangha
That the minutes of the Environmental
Advisory Committee meeting held on March 24, 2010, be adopted.
Carried

B. DELEGATIONS**1. Mairi Welman, Director of Communications and
Jordan Best, Research & Policy Coordinator
Recycling Council of B.C. (RCBC)**

Further to the Committee's involvement in reviewing the current solid waste management plan, Mairi Welman, Director of Communications, and Jordan Best, Research & Policy Coordinator, Recycling Council of B.C. (RCBC), were in attendance to provide a brief presentation on waste reduction and recycling initiatives. Comments were as follows:

- RCBC is a registered charity; a non-profit information services organization.
- RCBC services the whole province of BC in promoting the principals of zero waste through information services, research and the exchange of ideas.
- Recycling collection services are not provided by RCBC.
- Although it may sound idealistic, it is not unreasonable to predict a British Columbia in which 100% of product waste is managed through EPR (extended producer responsibility) programs, and 100% of compostable material is diverted to beneficial end-use in accordance with the 3Rs hierarchy.
- The RCBC hotline handles in excess of 170,000 enquiries annually. Additionally, an on-line searchable database for recycling queries ("Recyclepedia") has been established at www.rcbc.bc.ca.
- The majority of the work done by RCBC is in policy research and development (e.g. working closely with BC MOE and CCME, various working groups, white

papers, specific task forces, etc.), administration of the B.C. Product Stewardship Council and various other sector specific initiatives such as the Reel Green and Reel Reuse film industry pilot projects.

- According to a 2006 MOE study of waste flow in BC, waste produced by a single family residence (to disposal) consists of 39.7% organics, 38.3% paper, plastics and multi-material (packaging), and 22% textiles and rubber, wood, glass and other metal.
- Organics and the materials that typically make up consumer goods packaging are the two biggest categories at 78% combined. Many local governments are now bringing organics collection programs on-line so this number will start to change over the next few years.
- A closed loop system, in which Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is the management model, is the best option to address and remove that 38% of waste made up of packaging materials, etc.
- When industry becomes responsible for managing their products at the end of life, this sparks some changes in the system: consumer goods will be made so that they are more easily recycled; they will likely contain more recycled content; a cleaner manufacturing process will develop; and it will spark something called design for environment, where product designers think about end of life management when they are initially designing the product.
- There are some EPR programs in BC already. They started out diverting the materials with toxic ingredients and are now working to reduce the amount of overall waste going to disposal.
- It makes sense for organics to be handled locally and for the rest of consumer related waste to be regulated under EPR programs. The BC government has publicly stated that more EPR programs are coming.

The following RCBC papers were circulated:

- Examining the Waste-to-Energy Option (October 2008)
- On the Road to Zero Waste: Priorities for Local Government (June 2009)
- Organics Working Group Report: Recommendations for Residential Collection (September 2009)

Some further discussion ensued regarding the thousands of manufacturers of products from overseas and their recycling practices.

The Committee was thanked for the opportunity to provide information on the Recycling Council of BC and were directed to their website at www.rcbc.bc.ca or telephone 604-RECYCLE for further detailed information on the various recycling initiatives, membership and volunteer opportunities and upcoming events such as the 36th Annual Zero Waste Conference, May 26 and 27, 2010 in Whistler, BC.

2. **Preet Heer, Planner and Markus Kischnick, Planning Technician, Long Range Planning & Policy Development**

At the October 21, 2009 EAC meeting, Preet Heer, Planner, Long Range Planning and Policy Development, provided a presentation on the findings of an environmental study that was initiated as part of developing the Neighbourhood Concept Plan (NCP) and preliminary land use options being considered for the Anniedale-Tynehead area in South Port Kells. An update to that presentation was again provided by Preet Heer, Planner and Markus Kischnick, Planning

Technician, including discussion on the Anniedale-Tynehead Cluster Housing Designation, the various edge treatments along the ALR and options for more effective buffers. Opportunities to implement some strata maintained buffers, where appropriate, were also discussed. Additional comments were as follows:

- The Madrone study as well as the EMS, provided for ecological corridors and a more holistic view Surrey wide which enables prioritization of where to place types of passive and active green spaces and cluster designation. There is some infrastructure in place already.
- Looking at cluster designation to transfer the density and provide greater green space allowance.
- There is more of a physical separation moving east and a stronger change in topography on the east side of 176 Street with a ridge line and farm land below (perhaps an opportunity to be maintained by Parks).
- The idea is to maintain a bigger buffer and develop on the north side of the buffer. There will be patches of trees kept which would need to be maintained.
- The larger buffer would be ideal for a meandering trail.
- With regard to the *Wildlife Act*, Environment Canada is reviewing the wildlife corridors based on certain widths, etc. There are a number of wildlife corridors under Highway 1 that the ministry is currently working on; including one north of the Anniedale triangle, and a wildlife culvert corridor at 160 Street.
- The corridors will consist of riparian and green space buffers with every effort made to encourage wildlife and fish movement.
- Traditionally development under existing policy guidelines would provide 2-4 units per gross acre (UPGA) with a 15m buffer on private lands adjacent to the ALR.
- The Anniedale-Tynehead NCP concept plan, will provide "Cluster Designations" whereby residential units are grouped together through a density transfer to provide an improved site design, tree preservation, more efficient building placement, increased community green or open space (40-45% of the site area), increased buffering and corridors (50-100 meters from ALR), and other natural amenities that might not be obtainable or manageable through conventional lower gross densities.
- Gross densities of these sites should not exceed prescribed NCP Land Use Designation levels, however Net densities (dwelling units within that designated use area, exclusive of roads or open space/buffer areas), may be increased by density transfer to provide smaller dwelling unit forms and footprints (small lots/multi-unit housing/row housing etc) and reviewed on a site by site and application by application basis.
- Hoping to have stage one of NCP complete by the summer; A report to Council is anticipated for May, followed by a public open house and a further report to Council, if possible, before the end of July.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**1. Corporate Report R078 - Pesticide Control By-law**

File: 5280-23

At the Regular Council Public Hearing meeting held on April 12, 2010, Corporate Report R078, Pesticide Use Control By-law, was received. An update was provided by Councillor Bose. Comments were as follows:

- The bylaw has been introduced as it appears in Corporate Report R078, however it is different from what the Committee was proposing. The old section 4 is now section 5, the inserted section 4 adds two exemptions purged from the EAC's final draft version forwarded to Council, and there is a change in the definition of "Private Lands".
- The original by-law defined "Private Lands" as lands designated as a separate and distinct parcel on a legally recorded subdivision plan or deed filed in the records of the Lands Titles Office, used for residential purposes. Whereas the current version of the by-law includes the same wording and continues: "... Office, containing four (4) or less dwelling units used for residential purposes, and in this definition the term "dwelling unit" shall have the same meaning as in Surrey Zoning By-law, 1993, No. 12000, as may be amended from time to time." In essence, private residential lands has been changed to private single family residential lands.
- The by-law adopted by Council is the version with the above noted changes.
- It should be an equal playing field for everyone. What was introduced was not an equal playing field.

Discussion ensued regarding the steps taken throughout the year in drafting the by-law and an overview of the shirt sleeve session with Council, in July 2009, was also provided. Consideration for moving the by-law forward was further discussed with the understanding that adjustments/amendments can be pursued once the by-law is in place. Comments continued:

- Although the vast majority of properties in Surrey are single family, multiple housing now makes up more than 50% of new construction in this city, it is a growing stock. Sooner or later the use of these cosmetic pesticides on multiple housing units will need to be addressed.
- Concern has been expressed by various commercial landscape groups.

After a lengthy discussion, the Committee passed the following motion:

It was

Moved by B. Stewart

Seconded by B. Burnside

That the Environmental Advisory Committee

note their support of Council with the adoption of the Pesticide Use Control By-law.

Carried

Enforcement issues were discussed. Comments continued:

- In the last two years, the City has used less than 2 litres of pesticides and/or herbicides for over 200 acres (with the exception of the bowling green).
- Staff are planning an information campaign to elevate information. A full page advertisement, which will point to the City's website (which has various links to other organizations for healthy alternatives) will run in the local papers once the by-law is final.
- Education for the public is absolutely key. It is suggested that the Committee should consider what an appropriate education program would look like in order to prepare for the funding that may be required.
- The implementation of community gardens, one day courses (offered in locations throughout the city), information display racks and possibly having an ISMP person to provide information, are suggestions for providing as much education to the public with regard to non-use of cosmetic pesticides.

The Committee was congratulated for their patience, valuable contributions and serious thought given to strategies throughout the development of the pesticide use control by-law, recognizing that it was, at times, a frustrating exercise for the the Committee.

2. Committee Presentations to Council

At the March 24, 2010 EAC meeting, it was determined that a presentation from the EAC will be provided to Council on the same date as the final adoption of the pesticide control by-law (possibly May 3, 2010). The Committee agreed that the presentation to Council will be brief, noting the presentations received and efforts made by the Committee in drafting the by-law and their appreciation of Council moving forward with the by-law.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Recycling Centre

Recent newspaper articles regarding delay/postponement of a recycling centre for Newton/South Surrey, were discussed and the following was noted:

- It should be a priority to encourage the development of the eco-centres.
- At the time of the regional management plan 15 years ago, part of the agreement struck was that two or three recycling transfer stations would be provided. That agreement has not been properly honored, so the whole matter is under active review by the senior staff. More information is needed.
- 15 years ago it was a simple question of transfer stations, it made sense. However, time brought changes in how solid waste is handled. With a move to eco-centres and recycling, etc., there is the conundrum that the original agreements do not apply very well to the current thinking about solid waste.
- The other challenge is to get support.
- It is further suggested that the report to Metro Vancouver was not accurate; some figures may be inflated.

It was Moved by Councillor Bose
Seconded by B. Stewart
That the Environmental Advisory Committee
receive the information regarding recent newspaper articles pertaining to a
recycling centre for Newton/South Surrey.
Carried

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) Update

An update from the AAC meeting of April 1, 2010, was provided. The following was noted:

- The City is planning a pilot project at Mound Farm Park (168 Street south of Hwy. 10) to investigate whether hedgerows may be used in an operating farm environment to increase biodiversity without undue negative impact on farming. The AAC did not appear to be in support of the project, giving the unfortunate history of the Serpentine Fen as an example of the need for ongoing hedge maintenance and associated costs.
- P. Heer and M. Kischnick provided an overview presentation on the Anniedale-Tynehead cluster housing designation options, as noted above in item B.2.
- The proposed commercial composting facility in South Surrey was again provided to the AAC with the consultant on hand to answer questions. Despite the changes to the plans, the AAC did not rescind its January 2010 resolution “that the AAC sees no agricultural merit in the proposal; it is not an agricultural facility and is better suited for an industrial site.”
- The AAC passed a resolution asking the Mayor to proclaim May 29, 2010 “The Day of the Honey Bee”.

2. Development Advisory Committee (DAC) Update

A brief update from the DAC meetings of February 25, March 25 and April 22, 2010 was provided. The following was noted:

- S. McKinnon, Manager of Arts, provided a further delegation to the DAC to propose a program for private sector developer contributions. There was a great deal of discussion and it was requested that a detailed proposal, with a clear budget, be provided for further consideration.
- There was also discussion on long range planning of the Official Community Plan relating to sustainability and Metro Vancouver.

3. Pesticide Spraying Concern

The Committee was informed of a recent situation at Bayridge Elementary School (1730-142 Street), where residents were not properly informed of the school's intention to spray for ants. Fortunately, the only notice (nailed to the back of the building) was seen in time to prevent the spraying, however there is serious concern regarding the form of notification. The parents want the Surrey School Board to come up with a policy that ensures proper notification in order to avoid sending their children to school under those circumstances. Comments were as follows:

- The product to be sprayed causes nerve damage to ants.
- The School Board has already been notified of this concern.
- The City has no authority to regulate the use of pesticides in these cases.

It was suggested that the matter be discussed further at the Committee's meeting in May.

The Committee was informed and encouraged to attend an upcoming screening of the film 'A Chain Reaction' on May 6, 2010, 6:30 p.m., at Earl Marriott Secondary School. The film is about the passing of the first by-law for pesticides.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Stewardship/Stakeholder Groups

Following discussions at the February and March EAC meetings regarding the creation of a list of the stewardship/stakeholder groups in Surrey, a recently updated list was provided for review. As a 'living document', the list will be reviewed periodically for updates.

2. Cosmetic Use of Pesticides Public Consultation

Copies of the results of the public consultation on the cosmetic use of pesticides, prepared for the Ministry of Environment by C. Rankin & Associates, were circulated to the Committee for review and/or comment.

It was
Moved by Councillor Bose
Seconded by Bill Stewart
That the Environmental Advisory Committee
receive the document entitled "Cosmetic Use of Pesticides Consultation, Summary
of Public Comments", by C. Rankin & Associates, dated March 2010.

Carried

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on May 26, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by B. Stewart

Seconded by B. Burnside

That the Environmental Advisory Committee

meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Environmental Committee adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Al Schulze, Chair

Surrey Environmental Advisory Committee