

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION INDEX
Thursday, January 16, 2003**

B. ELECTIONS – Chair/Vice Chair

It was Moved by R. Wetzel
Seconded by D. Maher
That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommends to Council
that Dr. Roy Strang be appointed as Chairperson of the Environmental Advisory Committee.
Carried

It was Moved by R. Wetzel
Seconded by J. Trimble
That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommends to Council
that Dr. Tom Godwin be appointed as Vice Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee.
Carried

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

2. Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) – Terms of Reference

It was Moved by Dr. T. Godwin
Seconded by J. Grewar

That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommends to Council
that R. Wetzel be appointed as the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) representative to the Environmental
Advisory Committee (EAC.)

Carried

H. UPDATES

1. Committee Focus Reports

(a) Recycling

It was Moved by D. Maher
Seconded by Dr. T. Godwin
That the Environmental Advisory Committee urge Council to promote
the use of garbage cans rather than garbage bags because of problems of scattered litter.

Carried



Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes

14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2003
Time: 7:01 p.m.

File No. 0540-20 EAC

Present:

Dr. R.M. Strang - Chair

J. Grewal
Dr. T. Godwin
H. Locke (7:04 pm)
D. Maher
Dr. F. Perello (7:38 pm)
J. Sarwal (7:24 pm)
J. Trimble

Absent:

Councillor Bose
Bill Stilwell

Staff Present:

C. Baron, Drainage & Environment Manager
A. Zonta, Legislative Services
B. Paterson, Parks, Recreation & Culture

R. Wetzel

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Environmental Advisory Committee - Minutes

It was

November 21, 2002 be adopted.

Moved by R. Wetzel
Seconded by Dr. T. Godwin
That the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee dated

Carried

H. Locke entered the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

B. ELECTIONS

It was

that Dr. Roy Strang be appointed as Chairperson of the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by R. Wetzel
Seconded by D. Maher
That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommends to Council

Carried

It was

that Dr. Tom Godwin be appointed as Vice Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Moved by R. Wetzel
Seconded by J. Trimble
That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommends to Council

Carried

C. DELEGATION

**1. Mr. Bob Paterson, Manager, Park Development Services
Parks, Recreation & Culture Department**

Mr. Paterson was in attendance to deliver a slide presentation on Park Development and Environmental Impacts.

The Chair welcomed the delegate to the meeting and provided introductions to the committee members.

Mr. Bob Paterson introduced himself to the committee members and provided a brief history of his involvement with the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department projects and dealings.

The presentation contained slide photos of past and current projects along with the following information:

- The purpose of Surrey's Park Development and Environmental Impacts programs are to minimize the impacts of park development and to strive to enhance the natural environment whenever possible.
- Some examples would be storm water management by reducing the rate of release of storm waters into ~~creek storm systems (which could impact creeks and streams)~~ and; also incorporating energy conservation management systems when designing and constructing buildings (i.e. solar panelling, LED lighting, etc.)
- These programs are congruent with the GVRD's Green Management Plan.
- In the past, Surrey's Park Development and Environmental Impact programs included neighbourhood/community parks as well as athletic ball parks.
- Their design concepts incorporate natural habitats for wildlife.
- It was noted that if project designs cannot save or incorporate existing species plantations, then the plantations are either relocated or new variety of specimens are planted in place.
- At this time, slides of past and present projects were shown and discussed:
 - Barn Owl "Barns"(nesting habitats for barn owls.) Currently there are three locations where these barns are provided: Colebrook Road, Elgin Heritage Park and Mount Farm.
 - Phil Henderson from Strix Environmental has been contracted to perform regular monitoring of these owl barns. It should be noted that there has been evidence that other bird species use these habitats.
 - Fleetwood Dog-Off-Leash Park is one of the first off-leash areas created in Surrey. The intent of this project was to allow for pet owners to let their dogs run through circular trails in a fenced location without being restricted. It should be noted that only a few selected areas could have this feature, as most areas in Surrey are not suited.
 - Archibald Detention Pond, joint Parks/Engineering project, has been built incorporating native plantings. This provides a great natural habitat for wildlife.

J. Sarwal entered the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

- Mud Bay Park is a long linear park that has a bike route which connects Surrey with Delta by use of gravelled pathways on dykes. Bike bafflers have been incorporated to inhibit people from impacting wildlife and surrounding landscapes. Along some pathways it is fenced to keep pedestrians and pets from impacting environmentally sensitive areas.
- Kiyo Park has been built to enhance and protect natural salmon spawning creeks from local residential developments.
- Guildford Heights Park, ~~joint Parks/Engineering project, is where has built a man made pond was constructed incorporating fisheries & wildlife habitats to create habitats for wildlife.~~ Natural materials were used to create structures and barriers (i.e. natural barriers using willow reeds and large woody debris.) There are circular pathways as well for people to walk around the pond. The park is still young but is maturing successfully.
- Also, through the ability to partner with the Engineering Dept. and pool funding, a use of Drainage DCC's Surrey Parks and Recreation were able to build a sports field and small recreational areas was able to be constructed nearby.
- Surrey Lake houses an abundance of salmon. There is also a marsh area that houses wildlife such as otter and deer. This project is another example of a joint Engineering/Parks project.
- Brownsville Bar Park features a popular fishing bar for salmon and local fish species. The intent was to create a space where people could access the Fraser River from a City site.

- Other projects involve designs for urban landscaping through street beautification (i.e. landscaped medians)

The Chair thanked Mr. Paterson for his presentation.

Dr. F. Perello entered the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

D. DISCUSSION OF DELEGATION

The Chair asked if solar panels were incorporated into the building designs for energy conservation and management systems. Mr. Paterson responded that there is a building that houses solar panels with an auxiliary system, which is located at the foot of Beecher Street. He also mentioned that the province is promoting and supporting planners to build buildings using environmental design concepts. This has been reinforced with the increasing concerns and affects of poor indoor air quality. Also, he noted that the GVRD is spearheading the "Green Building" idea.

R. Wetzel inquired about LED lights and the use of them in low-lit areas or areas that operate on solar panels (to provide backup lighting when not enough solar energy is stored.) C. Baron stated that there is a joint venture within the City with BC Hydro to switch traffic signals from conventional lighting to LED lighting in order to conserve energy.

Following up to this inquiry, H. Locke asked about the City's progress researching LEDS technology. Mr. Paterson responded that there is a document being created that outlines this inquiry. Also, he noted that the LEDS technology has a certification system similar to ISO's certification programs. It is based on obtaining gold, silver and/or bronze status when meeting certain requirements.

D. Maher asked if she could receive a copy of the document when it is finished. Mr. Paterson stated that it would be ready by February 2003 and be available on disk and hard copy. The Chair asked Mr. Paterson if copies of this document could be emailed to the committee members once it is made available.

The Chair thanked the delegate for his presentation and commended the Parks Division on their accomplishments, projects and their pursuit regarding the promotion of these environmental activities.

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chair asked the committee if it was possible for him to pose questions regarding the last meeting minutes since he did not attend and needed further clarification on certain issues. The committee members briefly reviewed these minutes as per his request.

1. 2003 Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

Dr. Strang requested that a copy of the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting schedule for 2003 be provided to him by Legislative Services.

2. Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) – Terms of Reference

At the November 21, 2002 meeting, there was discussion with respect to the appointment of an Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) representative to the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC.) A motion was passed to Council recommending this appointment. It was adopted by Council at the December 9, 2002 Regular Council meeting.

It was

Moved by Dr. T. Godwin

Seconded by J. Grewar

That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommends to Council that R. Wetzel be appointed as the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) representative to the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC.)

Carried

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Development Application No. 7901-0184-00 8140 – 168 Street - Drinkwater Creek

Mr. Paterson reviewed the letter dated December 2, 2002, which was sent to the Environmental Review Committee outlining the results of the inspection that was completed on November 25, 2002. He stated that:

- Steve Whitton, Park Development Coordinator has reviewed the site with Envirowest Consultants.
- It has been Envirowest Consultants that has designed the ~~reparation~~ riparian works and also carried out the inspections on behalf of the City.
- He stated that most of the work has been completed and also that the deficiencies listed in the letter has been completed and signed off.
- He expressed to the Chair that an invitation to attend the inspection was offered however it did not reach him.
- The site has been fenced in on both sides to protect the habitat. ~~These~~is are standard procedures for ~~creek riparian reparation~~ zones.

C. Baron added to Mr. Paterson's comment regarding fencing the zones by explaining the process on how to maintain and oversee newly planted species in this type of habitat. She noted that a contract is in place for the maintenance of plant species and that the City is working on educating residents living near/by the habitat on how to protect this environment through awareness programs and concepts (i.e. not dumping lawn clippings onto embankments, etc). Currently, there are some of these programs in place that are coordinated and run in the spring and summer both in the Parks and Engineering Departments.

C. Baron mentioned that the initiatives for the 2003 calendar year are to increase awareness for people encroaching on environmental sensitive areas such as Drinkwater Creek.

Dr. Strang posed a question on how residents could reduce the amount of lawn clippings thrown in Drinkwater Creek. C. Baron responded that they are working on solutions to this problem through education, informing public on curbside recycling and enforcement if required-

The Chair thanked Mr. Paterson for his attendance. Mr. Paterson left the meeting at 7:47 pm

G. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

H. UPDATES

1. Committee Focus Reports

(a) Recycling

R. Wetzel asked the Chair if they could discuss the use of garbage bags and their potential concerns that they pose to the environment during garbage collection. It was decided by the committee that they would discuss this issue in this report section.

R. Wetzel noticed that neighbours are not being responsible when packaging garbage for waste removal. He noticed that some people do not tie their garbage bags adequately nor do they put them

in garbage cans. This causes birds and animals to tear the bags when searching for food, spilling garbage throughout the neighbourhoods. He suggested that neighbours should use garbage cans instead of just black garbage bags when disposing of garbage. This could eliminate the littering problem.

D. Riley noted that from an operational standpoint for waste management companies, garbage bags are easier to move around than garbage cans.

R. Wetzel commented that a brief article should be placed on the City Page to inform and provide solutions/alternatives to residents regarding this issue.

J. Trimble asked what the mandate is for garbage pickup operations regarding broken garbage bags. A proper response could not be provided.

It was
Moved by D. Maher
Seconded by Dr. T. Godwin
That the Environmental Advisory Committee urge Council to promote the use of garbage cans rather than garbage bags because of problems of litter scattered.
Carried

The Chair will prepare a memo to place on City Page regarding this concern.

(b) Bicycle Paths

There was nothing to report.

2. Outstanding Action List

Arsenic in wells in Surrey – 2001/10/18

There was an inquiry regarding response letters that were to be sent by the Fraser Health Authority to the committee. The committee has not yet received a response and to date, there have been three request letters sent to the health authority since 2001.

It was suggested that another request letter should be sent by the committee indicating that they have sent three letters since 2001 and are awaiting a reply.

Sumas 2 Project – Update

The Chair asked the committee if they have heard any recent updates regarding this issue. Nothing to date has been released formally.

The Chair also asked committee members if they should eliminate completed items from the list once they are completed. It was requested by committee members to keep action items (completed or not completed) for a calendar year.

C. Baron mentioned that the Bylaws Division ~~is enforcing~~ ~~have passed a bylaw~~ bylaw limiting the where they cannot washing of commercial trucks on truck parking areas. ~~trucks.~~ The Chair suggested that the lack of truck washing facilities/locations would become apparent with the implementation of this ~~new~~ bylaw. If the need arises to create special truck washing facilities, ~~Engineering will assist businesses~~ will likely begin to ~~building appropriate~~ these facilities.

I. CORRESPONDENCE

It was Moved by D. Maher
Seconded by Dr. T. Godwin
That the Environmental Advisory Committee receives the
correspondence items 1 and 2.

Carried

1. Letter dated November 21, 2002 from Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District

2. Memo Dated December 11, 2002 from the Agricultural Advisory Committee- – Regular Council
December 9, 2002

J. INFORMATION ITEMS

It was Moved by R. Wetzel
Seconded by J. Trimble
That Information Items 1 to 4 be received.
Carried

1. Emails from Fraser Basin Council regarding:

- (a) 2002 Sustainability Awards
- (b) BC Climate Exchange
- (c) The Fraser Basin Conference & Workshop

2. Letter dated December 19, 2002 from the Ministry of Water, Land & Air Protection regarding B.C. Rail Pest Management Plan Approval

3. Government of B.C. News Release

New Legislation Protects Drinking Water

4. Copy of Letter to F. Perello dated October 25, 2002 from the Greater Vancouver Regional District

H. Locke and Dr. F. Perello updated the committee on the progress of Surrey's new Transfer Station.

H. Locke stated that there have been two committee meetings to date: September and December 2002; that they both attended. Currently, the project is at the tendering stage and RFP's have been put out to three short listed candidates. The closing dates for the tenders are scheduled for late January and February of this year. The final decision will be at the end of February 2003. Construction will commence in April 2003 and be finished sometime in 2004.

Dr. F. Perello stated that the GVRD is committed to their public consultation process and the committee has received good representation from neighbouring communities. The designated committee will act as the main source for community input, which, has been established to improve community relations.

Dr. T. Godwin asked how the transfer station compares to similar stations in operation. H. Locke stated that they are using the same philosophy, and the same base studies as the other projects had but improving on the existing technologies.

He also stated that the short listed candidates are highly qualified and skilled, as they have completed projects around the world. The transfer station will be a GVRD operated facility, which will have the same standards as the other facilities (such as tipping fee requirements.)

A question was posed regarding the current litter concerns around other transfer stations. Dr. F. Perello responded that there would be a more extensive cleanup at the Surrey facility since the littering has become a large concern with the public. This proposal is to be written into the contract.

R. Wetzel noted the littering concern is possibly due to the public dumping in non-designated areas around the transfer station. He noted that the tipping fees should be publicly funded because if it was publicly funded then it may reduce the amount of garbage being illegally dumped.

C. Baron responded that ~~issue has arisen~~ ~~she has dealt with this concern~~ in the past at other transfer stations and ~~has noticed that~~ education and awareness amongst the public is the most effective method to reducing the littering.

K. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

None to report.

L. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on February 20, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

M. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Chairperson