

Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee - Minutes

Present:

Chair – Councillor Starchuk
N. Hogan
G. James
K. Otting
S. Sabharwal
M. Sharma
D. Skaey
J. Young
G. Sahota (Rep. to DAC)
J. Zelazny (Rep. to AFSAC)
S. VanKeulen (AFSAC Rep.)

Regrets:

A. Fasciani (Youth Rep.)
A. Idemudia (Youth Rep.)
R. Bains

Staff Present:

S. Godwin, Environmental Manager
N. Aven, Urban Forestry & Envir. Manager
A. Mathewson, Sustainability Manager
R. Costanzo, Manager, Operations
L. Luaifoa, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee Minutes of March 30, 2016 to be approved.

It was

Moved by M. Sharma

Seconded by J. Zelazny

That the minutes of Environmental

Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting held on March 30, 2016 be approved.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS

1. **Biofuel Facility Update**

Rob Costanzo, Manager, Operations, presented an update to the Committee re: Surrey's Biofuel Facility.

The following comments were made:

- A lot of the initial work such as connecting the gas services took several months to complete. The facility is scheduled to open by late November, early December. Service commencement is scheduled for February, 2017.
- A lot of interest in the project North America wide has been expressed; however, it is difficult to showcase the facility when it isn't in operation. A micro website has been created to showcase the facility and provide a high-level overview of the operation.
- Orgaworld is working on solidifying customers for 2017 and developing a strategy for compost sales.

- The original proposal for the facility included a 40 m odour stack. It was decided that the stack height be increased for better air dispersion. (The requirement is 1 odor unit per million reaching the neighbour). The odour stack is 70 m and according to Transport Canada regulations, has been painted white and red. The technique in place is a world class odour suppression system. When the doors open, the air from outside is drawn into the facility and the humid air is released, leaving no odour.
- When compost material reaches the facility, it will be brought in from 92 Street and taken to the digester cells. Once all the gas that goes into the cells is extracted, the cell walls and doors are sealed. Oxygen is removed and microbes feed on the waste generating renewable gas. After the gas is extracted it is processed through a series of scrubbers. The interconnection facility will constantly monitor the quality of the gas produced ensuring it meets the requirements. The material is then placed in the composting chambers where it continues to be processed and prepared for export.

Waste Management Update

- The City has reached 72% for waste diversion. It was easier to go from 50% to 70% waste diversion and it is difficult to introduce new items due to the markets not prepared to take all these elements. The City has taken on additional customers such as high rise buildings and from businesses wanting City to take over and implement a more systematic approach for waste like the residential curbside program.
- Illegal dumping is a big issue and a significant goal was made last year to decrease it by 50% in the next three years. The first phase was to look at costs and how the City is handling illegal dumping. It was determined that the operation was very inefficient and there were teams of staff collecting garbage illegally dumped. Flat deck vehicles were being used to load up garbage and there were numerous trips being made.
- The City has now invested in 2 vehicles - 5 tonne cube trucks that are centralized and out on the street daily. Costs have dropped by 45% which is close to \$600,000 savings in costs.
- On the behaviour side, the next focus of staff is to take away the opportunity for illegal dumping to occur by, getting the public involved. The City hosted an event a few weeks ago which allowed residents to drop off their waste at Tamanawis School, free of charge. The City intends to do this as a pilot project at 6 different locations throughout Surrey.
- Staff intends to work with areas in the City with significant illegal dumping. There are many elements as to why illegal dumping is occurring and one of those may be illegal secondary suites.

- The City's goal is for 80% waste diversion by 2020. With advertising and marketing of more programs such as the Large Item Pick up and review of all waste diversion elements that cannot go on curbside, the 80% goal can be achieved.
- The Committee questioned whether the pilot project could be expanded to being permanent. Staff noted that Metro Vancouver is required to locate a facility for residential drop off in Surrey. The current facility exists in Port Kells; however, is too far away from the City. The process of finding property in Surrey has been difficult. A second site is planned for South Surrey.
- The Committee noted that signage should be posted in the areas where illegal dumping is occurring often. Staff advised that signage and video cameras are posted in the trouble areas. The trepidation is that signs are posted but there is no enforcement.

The Chair thanked the delegation for the presentation.

2. Delegation Request

Lynn Saffery, Surrey Museum requested to appear as a delegation to the Committee and present on the Kids Gallery.

It was

Moved by D. Skaey

Seconded by G. Sahota

That the Environmental Sustainability

Advisory Committee approve the delegation request from Lynn Saffery, Surrey Museum to present on the Kids Gallery.

Carried

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

There were no items referred by Council.

F. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Agriculture and Food Security Advisory Committee (AFSAC) Update

- There was no information relevant to the ESAC.

2. Development Advisory Committee (DAC) Update

- No update was provided due to the cancellation of the meeting.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, in room 1E Committee Room B.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by G. Sahota
Seconded by J. Zelazny
That the Environmental Sustainability
Advisory Committee meeting do now adjourn.
Carried

The Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Starchuk, Chair