

Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee - Minutes

2E - Community Room A
City Hall
13450 - 104 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Pettigrew, Chair
B. Campbell, Vice-Chair
J. Dhami
J. Werring
K. Purton
M. Lamont
M. Sharma
N. Hogan
P. Mann
S. Rush
S. VanKeulen

Regrets:

L. Walker

Staff Present:

N. Aven, Parks Manager
P. Zevit, BCS Planner
R. Landucci, Forestry Manager
S. Godwin, Environment Manager
C. Eagles, Administrative Assistant

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of July 31, 2019.

It was

Moved by J. Werring

Seconded by B. Campbell

That the minutes of the Environmental
Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting held July 31, 2019 be adopted as
presented.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS

1. **Supporting Waste Reduction in Surrey's Business Community**
Anita Huberman, CEO, Surrey Board of Trade

The delegation provided a presentation on Policy Development and Advocacy and highlighted the following information:

- The Surrey Board of Trade (SBOT) is a not for profit organization that is funded by membership fees, sponsorships and service contracts. The SBOT considers policy at various level of government and has been amending protocols from economic recoveries since 2011 for all businesses.
 - Surrey was identified as a potential destination if a catastrophic disaster were to occur and it was noted the City may not be ready if a disaster were to occur. The SBOT identified what it can do in partnership with businesses to ensure business continues to run smoothly.
 - The SBOT outlined a variety of initiatives they are working on for the environment such as reducing single-use plastics and promoting innovation, amending protocols, reducing emissions, climate change circular economy, Styrofoam recycling, and waste management.
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- In response to a question from the Committee, the SBOT noted that climate change is one of the top five priorities and one of the top ten economic challenges. A short and long-term plan needs to be in place. The delegation noted they do not keep metrics on the amount of waste businesses are reducing.

The Committee requested staff to review the following items to determine if the City is currently working on these initiatives or what action could be taken:

- Emergency Preparedness and Business Continuity;
- Plastic Reductions Policy and Innovative; and
- Styrofoam reduction/ban and recycling

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Integrated Pest Management in Surrey**

Neal Aven, Manager of Parks

Staff provided a Power-Point Presentation on Integrated Pest Management in Surrey and provided information on invasive species and how they are managed, integrated pest management in the City, and Surrey's Pesticide Bylaw.

- Invasive species are organisms that are not native to an area and have negative effects on the economy, the environment and human health. The City uses an Integrated Pest Management approach to control invasive species which is Provincially and Federally regulated and abides by City bylaws.
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a broad-based approach that aims to prevent and suppress pests to acceptable levels effectively, economically and in an environmentally sound manner. The City's IPM Policy provides guidelines to manage pest programs in natural and developed parks and other city landscapes safely and effectively in ways that minimize pesticide use while maintaining pests at acceptable levels. Non-chemical methods are given priority.
- In 2010, Mayor and Council adopted Surrey Pesticide Bylaw No. 17160 which regulates the use of pesticides on lands used for residential purposes, with the exception of residential areas on farms. Pesticides may only be applied by an individual who is certified by the Province.

The Committee expressed concerns on the use of glyphosate. Staff advised that for some invasive species, glyphosate is the best management practice. Notification signs are posted 48 hours in advance of spraying (which exceeds Provincial regulations) and removed 48 hours after the work is completed. The Committee also expressed concerns regarding the outdoor use of rodenticides and the potential negative effects they may have on birds of prey such as owls. Staff advised they will provide further information to ESAC on the external use of rodenticides at City facilities.

D. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**1. Blue Dot Movement Update (David Suzuki Foundation)**

Norma Hogan, ESAC Member

In 2014, the Blue Dot Campaign was initiated in support of the right to a healthy environment, clean air and water, safe food, a stable climate and a say in decisions that affect the health and well-being of people.

N. Hogan noted that the October 21 Federal election will be critical to the move and the long-term goal to change the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

2. Recognition of Important Bird Area Update

Stephen Godwin, Environment Manager and Pamela Zevit, Biodiversity Conservation Planner

In response to a request from the Committee at the previous ESAC meeting, staff advised:

- Highway 99 is managed and maintained by the Provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI), in which signage opportunities are limited. Any signage that is petitioned to be installed must be funded and maintained by the City and meet standards and agreements with MOTI.
- The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy Principle 6 of Education and Awareness was identified as being supported by the proposal to designate Surrey as the Bird (and raptor) Capitol of Canada.
- There is no specific data available from within the City to derive an estimate of concrete economic revenue benefits from wildlife related tourism.

Staff provided a hand-out with more information to these comments.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**F. CORRESPONDENCE****1. 2020 Meeting Schedule**

The Committee was requested to pass a motion adopting the 2020 ESAC Meeting Schedule as presented.

It was

Moved by B. Campbell

Seconded by N. Hogan

That the Environmental Sustainability

Advisory Committee adopt the 2020 ESAC Meeting Schedule as presented.

Carried

2. **Delegation Request: Greening Flood Control Infrastructure**
Watershed Watch Salmon Society

Watershed Watch Salmon Society is a science-based charity working to defend and rebuild B.C.'s wild salmon.

It was

Moved by P. Mann

Seconded by M. Lamont

That the Environmental Sustainability

Advisory Committee support the delegation request on Greening Flood Control Infrastructure.

Carried

G. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. **Agricultural Food Policy Advisory Committee (AFPAC) Update**

At the September 10, 2019 AFPAC meeting, the Committee supported a presentation on emergency preparedness and discussed planning a tour for Council to view local farms.

H. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Verbal Updates

1. **Climate Emergency**

The Committee discussed the topic of a climate emergency and the purpose of Local Governments declaring a Climate Emergency, similar to other local municipalities. The Committee also discussed the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) targets.

It was noted that Surrey is demonstrating leadership in addressing climate change and improving resiliency with examples of Surrey's new waste to energy plant and recent awarding of Federal Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Funding with improvements to the foreshore and river dykes as well as the proposed sea-dam replacements. It was noted that declaring a Climate Emergency would be symbolic and would encourage Council and staff to direct efforts towards improving resiliency.

The Committee expressed concerns on various ways to declare a Climate Emergency such as the options to; make the declaration symbolic with no targets included, to include recent IPCC targets or to also provide specific targets such as EV charging stations.

It was noted that if the IPCC targets are adopted then it would be beneficial to develop a plan to measure and report on those findings.

Recommendation

It was Moved by M. Sharma
 Seconded by B. Campbell
 That the Environmental Sustainability
 Advisory Committee recommend that Council declare climate change as an
 emergency and direct staff to review the City's climate change targets in the
 context of the latest research of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
 (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming.
Carried

S. VanKeulen left the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

2. Camp We Empower

It was Moved by J. Werring
 Seconded by M. Lamont
 That the Environmental Sustainability
 Advisory Committee supports Camp We Empower for applying for \$1,500 from the
 Council Initiatives Fund through the City Clerks Office.
Carried

The Organization has been encouraged to apply for eligible Community Grant
 Programs with the City.

3. Global Climate Strike in Vancouver

100,000 people are expected to take part in a Vancouver Climate Strike on Friday,
 September 27, 2019. Participants want leaders to develop a plan to reduce carbon
 dioxide emissions to zero by 2050.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee will be held
 on October 30, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in 2E Community Room B.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by J. Dhani
 Seconded by B Campbell
 That the Environmental Sustainability
 Advisory Committee meeting adjourn.
Carried

The Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:00 p.m.


 Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk


 Councillor Steven Pettigrew, Chair