



ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 9, 2016 - 6:30 pm

Committee Room - 2

Minutes

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Patrick Johnstone
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Peter Rautenbach
Wilmer Lau
Karla Olson
Todd Beernink
Bruce Clark
Reginald Zotzman
Amanda Semenoff
Laura Cornish
Nadine Nakagawa
Raunaq Singh
Kathleen Somerville

Co-Chair, Council Member
Co-Chair, Council Member
Post-Secondary Student
Local Business Representative
Community Member
Education Sector Representative
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Community Member
Local Environment Organization Representative

VOTING MEMBER REGRETS:

Bruce Clark
Jennifer Lukianchuk

Community Member
Environmental Coordinator

STAFF:

Mark Allison
Eugene Wat
Norm Connolly
Claude Ledoux
Sandy Kalra

Manager, Strategic Initiatives & Sustainability
Manager, Infrastructure Planning
Community Energy Manager
Parks Horticulture Manager
Recording Secretary

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

1. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

1.1. Committee Oaths & Orientation – Legislative Services Department (Lauren Blake)

Ms. Blake, Committee Clerk, reviewed the following documents with the Committee members:

- Rules of Conduct: Advisory Committee & Bodies of Council
- Social Media Policy
- Terms of Reference
- Permission Forms

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Members are to contact Ms. Kalra, the Recording Secretary, regarding attendance at each meeting. If a member is unable to fulfill his/her duties, they are asked to notify staff as soon as possible and formally resign so the position can be refilled.

The Oath of Office was administered to Committee members.

Procedural Note: Mr. Wilmer Lau joined the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

1.2. Introductions – New Committee

Councillor McEvoy initiated a round-table introduction of new committee members and the staff. Councillor McEvoy reiterated the necessity of attending Committee meetings and RSVP'ing to Committee meeting invites for quorum purposes. He welcomed everyone to contact him or Councillor Johnstone with any concerns and/or comments.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1. Adoption of Minutes of January 20, 2016

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee held on January 20, 2016 be received and adopted.

CARRIED

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1. Historical Streams of New Westminster – Michael McPhee and Sarah Lison (Douglas College) Attachment-1

Mr. Michael McPhee, Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at the Douglas College, introduced himself and Saran Lison, SFU student who has been working with him on this project before commencing with his slide presentation.

In response to questions from the Committee members, Mr. McPhee and Mr. Wat provided the following information:

Mr. McPhee stated that it won't be an easy task to daylight some of the streams that have been covered over. Mr. Wat informed that the City will have to deal with private property issues if it decides to pursue in this direction. Engineering Staff just finished technical Hydrology Study in the Queensborough area and is working on implementing a citywide integrated storm water management plan.

Councillor McEvoy suggested contacting Archie Miller who has a wealth of information about the City of New Westminister and suggested checking Surveyor General's office as they have a collection of old maps that haven't been digitized or reproduced yet.

Procedural Note: Wilmer Lau joined the meeting at 6:37 p.m. and Claude Ledoux came in at 6:48 p.m.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1. There was no unfinished business.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1. Environmental Strategy Strategic Priority: Vision Workshop – City Staff (Eugene Wat, Mark Allison, Norm Connolly)

Mr. Eugene Wat, Manager Infrastructure Planning, introduced Mark Allison, Manager Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability, Norm Connolly, Community Energy Manager and Claude Ledoux, Horticulture Manager with the City of New Westminster who were all there to help him facilitate this workshop. Mr. Wat mentioned that he is filling in for Jennifer Lukianchuk, Environmental Coordinator who is the main staff liaison and did majority of the work but was unable to attend this meeting.

Mr. Wat informed the committee that developing Environmental Strategy is one of the key initiatives that Council has adopted for the current term. Many of these environmental policies as well as sustainability principles have already been ingrained in the City's departmental work plans, bylaws and policies.

Mr. Wat provided the following comments on what staff would like to do to achieve their goals:

- Staff would like to consolidate these policies into the City's Masterplan in order to provide a strong framework for the overall strategy;
- Staff would like to strengthen this strategic plan and define their approach regarding environmental protection enhancement by systematically identifying the key policy areas and develop a list of priority areas while working within budget and timeline allocated for this initiative;
- With the help of committee members staff would like to review and consolidate policy's goals and develop a vision statement; and
- Staff would like to identify gaps and sought member's input regarding adding best practices to these policies and goals. Members were encouraged to help with prioritization, identifying roles and responsibility on how to implement them before presenting them to the Council for adoption.

Mr. Allison gave a brief overview about the existing sustainability framework and Envision 2032. Out of eleven policy areas identified, five have direct environmental considerations attached to them. Description of success attached to each policy area scope shows what year 2032 will look like if we are successful and sustainable in all these areas.

Members were split in two groups to discuss five environment related policy areas listed in Envision 2032. Group 1 was led by Mark Allison, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability, Norm Connolly, Community Energy Manager and members interested in providing their feedback regarding Energy & Emissions and Building Sites & Urban Design in New Westminster. Group 2 was led by Eugene Wat, Manager of Infrastructure Planning and Claude Ledoux, Parks Horticulture Manager and members interested in Land Use & Development, Environment & Natural areas, Resources, Waste & Infrastructure.

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After the small group discussion, the Committee regrouped to provide suggestions of the wording that they would like to be included in the City's Environmental Strategy. Mr. Wat informed members that notes collected from this workshop will be compiled and used to develop a vision statement for Environmental Strategy that will be presented at the next meeting. Staff's objective is to identify gaps to develop goals and strategies during the May meeting before presenting it to the Council by the end of this year.

6. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1. Environmental Coordinator's Update – Jennifer Lukianchuk

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence

8. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, **May 11, 2016**, Committee Room – 2 @ 6:30 pm

9. AJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Chair

Sandy Kalra
Recording Secretary