

ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION MINUTES – APRIL 15, 2010

Minutes of the regular meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION held in the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on April 15, 2010 at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Rodger Hunter, Chair Director Giles
 Director Hutchins Dave Polster
 Bruce Fraser Roger Wiles
 Bruce Sampson Justin Straker
 Judy Stafford Pete Keber
 Kevin Visscher Chris Wood
 John Morris Larry George

ALSO Kate Miller, Manager, Regional Environmental Policy

PRESENT: Dyan Freer, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Director Kent, Director Iannidinardo, Brian Dennison

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved with the following additions: correspondence from Peter Nix and Jean Crowder, information on the Sustainable Community conference in Kelowna, and ideas for upcoming presenters.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION
OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the March 18, 2010 Environment Commission meeting be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

**CO-CHAIR'S
REPORT**

CR1 Announcing John Morris has been appointed the member of the Economic Development Commission serving as the representative to this commission.

**B BUSINESS ARISING
OUT OF MINUTES**

Action items carried forward:

1. Environmental Lens went to the Board and they have asked CVRD Departments to provide a document showing how they would apply a lens to their decisions. Planning Department has started the process with a lens to look at development applications. It would be good to factor in cost and particularly changes to expenses after initiating these changes.

It was moved and seconded to request Tom Anderson, Manager of Planning and Development, to provide an update on the environmental lens at our June commission meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

Directors Hutchins and Giles left the meeting at 6:30 pm
Bruce Sampson offered to speak to the Chief Financial Officer about future cost savings related to full cost accounting/life cycle costing.

2. **Agricultural Committee** – Pete Keber noted that the Agricultural Committee will present the plan on May 4th to the Electoral Services Committee. The planning team hopes to form a committee to head up and implement the 72 actions in the plan.

- B1 It was moved and seconded to pay \$50 to have a booth at Ecostravaganza on June 5th in Mill Bay.**

MOTION CARRIED

Commission members have offered to man the booth - Chris and Rob will do first two hours plus set up from 10 am to noon; Gerry and Kevin from 12 – 2 pm; and Pete and Phil 2 - 4 pm. We will showcase a summary of the State of the Environment Report. Gerry will coordinate with Engineering to see if they would like to showcase composters and recycling information. Chris will prepare a one – two pager outlining the highlights.

- B2** Planning has been done for the Sustainability Modeling Workshop to take place April 16th in the CVRD Board Room, with speakers on the Quest model and clean energy act. A demonstration of the MetroQuest tool will show how CVRD can make sustainability planning decisions. Agenda was distributed. Several board members have registered.

- B3 State of the Environment Draft Report** - working draft distributed and update was given by Justin Straker. Time line is to finish the technical review and the final report will be ready by end of next week. Formatting the report (300 pages) will be done but more financing needed for additional formatting and copying. Discussion ensued.

\$5000 Formatting and copies of the SoE and Communication Strategy – after presentation to the board end of May

\$500 Dinner and presentation of report before board meeting with interested leaders who will champion this report.

Kate and/or Dyan will look into purchasing flash drives as a means of distributing the report.

It was moved and carried to allocate funding of \$5000 to finish the State of Environment report and make roughly 20 bound copies; and furthermore to allocate \$500 to bring interested people together to kick-off of this report.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded that a presentation of the State of Environment report be made to the Regional Services Committee on May 26, 2010.

MOTION CARRIED

It will be put on next agenda for the commission to finalize.

B4 Commission Work Plan and Budget. Discussion ensued.

It was moved and seconded that Commission members will form work groups and invite the general public to join in them to give input and help implement the approaches for continuing the work of the Environment Commission.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

CR1 Letter to our Environment Commission Chair dated April 7, 2010, from Judy Stafford of the Cowichan Green Community, representing the Cowichan Earth Day Planning Committee, asking for \$1000 to support staging the event “Earth Day” taking place on April 24th, 2010, in Charles Hoey Park, Duncan.

8:23 pm Judy Stafford excused herself due to a possible perception of conflict of interest.

It was moved and seconded to approve the request for the CVRD Environment Commission to be a sponsor of Earth Day on April 24, 2010, at the Charles Hoey Park in the amount of \$1000 and therefore, there is an opportunity to have a booth and/or a presence at the Earth Day event.

MOTION CARRIED

8:40 pm Judy Stafford returned to meeting.

It was moved and seconded to ask staff to develop

- i. a policy on requests to the Environment Commission for funding, and**
- ii. a policy on conflict of interest, and**
- iii. to prepare a framework for how budget requests should be made.**

MOTION CARRIED

We need to develop a policy on sponsorship. Should we be a granting agency? Discussion ensued and will be continued next meeting.

CR2 Letter from Peter Nix to Gerry Giles dated March 24, 2010 requesting support.

It was suggested to write a letter to Peter Nix saying we are working on a policy on funding; as well we are working on our 2010 budget and haven't delegated the funds at this time, and to also encourage him to become part of one of our future committees.

CR3 Letter from Jean Crowder to encourage us to be part of our local Earth Day events.

INFORMATION

IN1 Sustainability and Sewage tour – April 28th. If interested, people need to sign up themselves.

IN2 Sustainable Communities Conference in Kelowna Nov 15 – 18, 2010

IN3 Possible ideas for presenters for this year are: Bruce Fraser on Forestry Practices, Social Planning Cowichan on Environment and the Nature Conservancy.

NEXT MEETING

May 20, 2010 Focus of the meeting will be the State of the Environment report.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Chair

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____