

ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION MINUTES – JUNE 7, 2010

Minutes of the regular meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION held in the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on June 7, 2010 at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Gerry Giles, Chair Rodger Hunter
 Brian Dennison Bruce Fraser
 Roger Wiles Justin Straker
 Pete Keber Kevin Visscher
 Director Iannidinardo Judy Stafford
 Chris Wood

ALSO PRESENT: Kate Miller, Manager, Regional Environmental Policy
 Brian Dennison, Manager, Engineering/Environment
 Dyan Freer, Recording Secretary
 Klaus Kuhn, Electoral I Area Director
 Tom Anderson, General Manager, Planning
 Ian Morrison, Electoral Area F Director

ABSENT: Director Hutchins, Bruce Sampson, Director Kent,
 Larry George, John Morris, Dave Polster

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented with the deletion of IN3, CVRD Environmental Lens Implementation update.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION
OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the April 15, 2010 Environment Commission meeting be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

**B BUSINESS ARISING
OUT OF MINUTES**

B1 Environment Commission State of the Environment presentation to the CVRD Board - final draft distributed and overview was given by Kate Miller. Themes are land base, biodiversity, water, air quality, population, agriculture, climate change, and waste management. Final statement ‘we need to pay more attention’! The commission was generally in favour of this presentation. Discussion ensued.

Action: Brian Dennison will ask if this can be included on the Agenda of the Regional Services Committee for Wednesday, June 23rd. Partners are waiting for the release of this document but it won’t be a public document until that meeting. Decision will be made tomorrow to change our presentation date from the Board meeting to the Regional Services meeting and the commission will be informed.

6:45 pm Kevin Visscher left meeting.

B2 Environment Commission Proposed 2010/11 Work Plan – Bruce Fraser distributed a hand out.

The plan is to form teams from members of the commission to work on themes within the CVRD mandate and having members of community groups and the public who are already doing things in the community to join in. We need to have concrete goals, budgets, and time limits. Also need to identify how we will monitor progress and at what interval we would report back to the community. Each team would report on their themes.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the work plan document for the Environment Commission.

MOTION CARRIED

Decisions to be made on upcoming dates and plans:

Informing the board – June 23rd meeting;

Informing the public – date unknown

Present sub-committees initial reports to Environment Commission July 15th at regular meeting.

Sub-Committees will work on the following five themes:

1. Land base ecosystems, forests, species at risk, invasive species
Justin, Chris, Roger
2. Water, drinking water, fish - **Rodger, Gerry, Bruce Fraser, Lori,**
3. Air quality – **Rodger, Lori, Ian**
4. Agriculture and farm land – **Pete Keber, Judy Stafford, Klaus**
5. Climate change, smart growth and mitigation – **Pete, Ian, Chris**

5 people were absent and will also take part, perhaps as chairs.

B3 Ecostravaganza Fair on June 5th in Mill Bay and first report card

Thank you to participants Rob Hutchins, Chris Wood, Gerry Giles, Kevin Visscher, Pete Keber, and Phil Kent. Fairly steady, lots of interest, tried to collect feedback, valuable piece of outreach but basically to already informed people – the converted. Gerry mentioned that there was not a need for lots of paper information as people didn't want it. Perhaps info cards directing to a web site would be more suitable. A laptop would be a good idea with a slide show or video. There was enthusiasm for our presence and worthwhile to participate in. Hats off to the PAC of Ecole Mill Bay

Ideas: If we are to do this often we should have our own tent. Good idea to purchase an awning with CVRD logo. This is something that all aspects of the CVRD should be doing all the time – sharing with the community and communicating.

NEW BUSINESS

- NB1** Policy on Grant funding and sponsorships – A draft document was prepared by Bruce Fraser. Discussion ensued.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the policy on grant funding and sponsorships with the exclusion of the portion labelled NB.

MOTION CARRIED

We are the last resort for funding opportunities and other CVRD resources should be used first. This policy will end after Item 4.

- NB2** **Cowichan-Koksilah Integrated Flood Management Plan** – discussed for information purposes for commission. Board has approved to continue spending on the next phase. Major communities on flood plain are at risk. How do we work with other governments and prepare community for flooding? Bit of a tricky issue. Water is rising – has impact on infrastructure – the executive summary is enclosed in Agenda. Gives a model to play with what-if scenarios.

When will entire report be available? Discussion. Trying to put some information for the public on our web site. JUB is upgrading and has the funds and resources for this work. Somenos Lake is a very complex system. We have built on wetlands and then when they flood people complain or damage occurs.

7:50 pm Judy Stafford left meeting

CORRESPONDENCE

- C1** Email from Dave Polster re Floodplain Management was received.

INFORMATION

- IN1** CEEI community GHG Emissions Report – baseline for a sub-committee. Province has refined it for Regional District. 70-80 % of emissions are from transportation. Board approved revenue from gas tax to go into regional transportation.
Action: Chair will check with Corporate Secretary if that can be done.
- IN2** Engineering Department New Smart Car – Gerry showed picture of newest small car in the CVRD. Very economical price and to run.
- IN3** CVRD Environmental Lens Implementation update – added to the agenda but now Warren will present it himself at a later date. It is very positive that the CAO will take this on himself. He will come to this committee to report out after he makes his presentation.
- IN4** 2010 Budget Decision report – for information purposes only. Board approved expenditure of one more staff member in the Environment Department. Want a Corporate Green House inventory and plan as well for the corporation.

**RESOLVE INTO
IN CAMERA
8:05 p.m.** **IN5** **It was moved and seconded that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3, Sections 90 {(1) (j)}.**

MOTION CARRIED

**RISE FROM
IN CAMERA
8:12 p.m.** Brian Dennison made an announcement.
It was moved and seconded that the Committee rise without report.

MOTION CARRIED

IN6 Brian Dennison explained that the **Ipsos Reid survey** to the community is to be done again this year. We can add some questions at a modest cost. Therefore, if the Environment Commission has some questions we could try to add them. Commission should see existing questions. Bruce Fraser answers that the groups will work on what they would like communicated as well.

IN7 Presentation of **State of Environment Report** – Press will be at the meeting and it will likely therefore be in the next issue of the newspapers. Chris Wood will be available with Roger Wiles for the presentation on the 23rd. This Wednesday Roger and Bruce are available if we are to be on the Board agenda.

IN8 Communication dollars – Chris thinks we need more communication and would volunteer to outline a **communication strategy**. This was accepted by the chair.

NEXT MEETING July 15th. The June 17th meeting is cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT **It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.**
MOTION CARRIED
The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Chair

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____