

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee held in the St. Albert Business Centre, on the above date at 6:00 pm.

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**Present**

T. Doran  
K. Crutchfield  
B. Thronson  
B. Marsh  
V. Neary  
Councillor B. Russell  
S. Pearson (D: 7:15 p.m.)

**Guests**

Kevin Scoble, City Manager

**Staff**

L. Kongsrude, Director, Environment  
M. Myers, Environmental Coordinator – Community

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The Chair declared the agenda adopted as presented.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The Chair declared the minutes of February 23, 2017 adopted as presented.

**GRANT EXTENSION REQUEST - *St. Albert Bike Association***

An update of the St. Albert Bike Association's (SABA) 2015 Environmental Initiatives Grant project was sent to the Committee in the agenda package. SABA was presented with some challenges when determining a location for the bike repair stations. The installation is scheduled for April/May, depending on the weather. SABA is requesting EAC for a grant extension to complete the project.

Moved by V. Neary

That the St. Albert Bike Association be granted a reporting extension for the bicycle repair station project to November 28, 2017.

CARRIED

**ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ENVIRONMENT – *Goals and Target Information***

M. Myers introduced and reviewed key information and statistics included in the 2016 Annual Report on the Environment. This year's design will be similar to the

last couple years. The report will be available to the public in the St. Albert Gazette on April 22.

Key considerations for next year include:

- Discontinuation of the residential herbicide sales data from the province used to calculate residential pesticide use;
- Air quality monitoring station will have one year of data (although some parameters are averaged over 3 years);
- Electric buses will be in service this year so will need to be incorporated into community GHG calculation; and
- River water quality index should be ready to report so this section will be quite different.

### **ST. ALBERT AIR QUALITY MONITORING STATION – Initial 9 months of data**

The air quality monitoring station at Salisbury started collecting data in April 2016. Baseline data for at least a full year is required to accurately show the air quality in St. Albert.

ACA website has a good interface for air quality data. <http://capitalairshed.ca/st-albert>

The data for St. Albert's station can also be viewed at [airdata.alberta.ca](http://airdata.alberta.ca).

- The Capital Region Air Quality Management Framework contaminants of concern are PM, ozone, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide so St. Albert's station is missing one parameter of concern.
- Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) data cannot be extracted from the website. St. Albert's station was not open when the website was developed and the province can't add stations. Thus, we requested St. Albert's AQHI from the province for the annual report.
- When there is an adequate subset of data to show trends, Environment will ask an air specialist to present to the Committee.

### **RIVER WATER QUALITY INDEX - Update**

- In 2016, Environment requested additional parameters to be collected for Sturgeon River water quality sampling in order to calculate the index.
- Lab didn't calculate 4 of the parameters that we required to calculate the updated river water quality index.
- Data was run through the old index – scale 0-100%. Poor, marginal, fair, good, excellent. Sturgeon River came in at 93%. This doesn't include dissolved oxygen and other key parameters that show the health of the river.
- Alberta Environment has not done any sampling on the Sturgeon River for over 20 years.
- E. Coli is the parameter of concern and the highest level is detected in residential areas.

## ZERO WASTE PROCESS UPDATE

*Discussion with Kevin Scoble, City Manager*

K. Scoble provided an introduction the zero-waste process based on his experience in Wood Buffalo. This topic was discussed with City Council at the February 27 meeting in which Council approved a motion for a feasibility study of zero-waste process in St. Albert and \$25,000 to complete cost-benefit analysis.

Discussion included:

- Edmonton is building a biofuel facility. Waste to fuel (bio fuel) and Wood Buffalo used waste to energy. Considering Edmonton's facility as part of St. Albert's feasibility study.
- Was the difference in population between St. Albert and Wood Buffalo considered...extend our existing program. Is there really revenue? If so why aren't other communities doing this?
  - The waste stream in St. Albert would be different however the waste stream would be more conducive to this because there is more organics. Still a new idea so not many municipalities are doing this. This is complimentary to the current programs – this is the 4<sup>th</sup> R – recovery. With this system, all the waste could go in one bin with exception of plastics.
- At 60-70 per cent diversion need to consider how much up front costs will be required to get up to 99 per cent.
- Majority of revenue generated from this system is carbon credits.
- Feasibility study is due back to Council in the third quarter.
- Integrated waste study was completed in the capital region – some recommendations in this report on how to get past 70%. This study will be looked at as part of the feasibility study.

## ROUND TABLE

- Canada 150 project – projects and budget set. City has hired a coordinator. Planting projects throughout the City at neighborhood block parties.

S. Pearson exited the meeting.

- April 6 is the water forum on water quality with the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance in Sherwood Park.
- Interviews for Bob's replacement will be held April 11 and the new member will be appointed at the April 25 Council meeting. So, the new member should be joining us at the April 27 EAC meeting.
- Grey Nuns White Spruce Park Working Group received funding from Tree Canada's "Tree to Our Nature" Canada 150 Program. GNWSPWG received \$5,000 grant for a community tree planting project in the park.

- EAC is interested in the status of the recommendation to Council on funding for the GNWSP.
- This Saturday, March 25 at 8:30 pm is Earth Hour – a worldwide movement to support the reduction of greenhouse gases and energy use. Residents are encouraged to participate. City staff are asked to turn off lights, computers and unplug small electronics before leaving the office today and Friday. Environment didn't have the resources to pursue restaurants this year but will look at this again in 2018.
- Environment applied to TD Canada Trust for sponsorship of the Spruce Up St. Albert program. Received confirmation that the City's application was approved so TD will be the title sponsor of the SUS initiative in 2017.
- Environment department is going to Council with Year in Review on April 18.
- Environment department is hiring Waste and Diversion Assistant and an Environmental Events and Programs Assistant. Postings close March 28.
- Just finished 3 days of an internal audit of the Environmental Management System program. The results were positive. Some non-conformances and some opportunities for improvement.
- Perron Street – upgrading the storm water system downtown – built a new outfall into the river. The outfalls used to come right to the river under the bridge. Abandoned those to be used for local water and created a new outfall. Work should be done by April 15.
- Working on Forest Lawn – repairing a culvert under the road – should be done in a month.
- Project 9 – completed the drilling under the river.
- Atco high pressure line that goes under Grey Nuns White Spruce Forest – thinking of replace the line that goes under the river. Environment to meet with them soon to go over the project details.
- Mention of community gardens in Urban Forest Management Plan. Councillor Russell is going to bring community gardens up at Council and is interested in pursuing this topic.
- Urban Forest Management Plan was at Council on Monday – questions around the cost of the management plan. Louise answered Council's questions very well. Asked for comments back from Council at the end of April.
- Contaminated sites discussion at Council – no questions were directed at Tanya on EAC advice.

**NEXT MEETING** – April 27, 2017

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



CHAIR

M. Myers.  
DESIGNATED OFFICER



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**DATE: Thursday, March 23, 2017**  
**TIME: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
**PLACE: St. Albert Business Centre**  
**29 Sir Winston Churchill Ave.**

File No: B02

## **AGENDA**

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- 1. Adoption of Agenda**
- 2. Adoption of Minutes – February 23, 2017**
- 3. Grant Extension Request**  
*St. Albert Bike Association*
- 4. Annual Report on the Environment – Goals and Target Information**
- 5. St. Albert Air Quality Monitoring Station – Initial 9 months Data**
- 6. River Water Quality Index - Update**
- 7. Zero Waste Process Update**  
*Discussion with Kevin Scoble, City Manager*
- 8. Round Table**
- 9. Next Meeting Date – April 27, 2017**
- 10. Adjournment**