

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

Present

T. Doran
K. Crutchfield
B. Korobanik
B. Thronson
B. Marsh
S. Pearson
V. Neary
Councillor B. Russell

Guests

D. McMordie
S. Graham
G. Prefontaine

Staff

L. Kongsrude, Director, Strategic Services and Environment
E. Isaac, Environmental Coordinator - Community

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair declared the agenda adopted as presented.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Chair declared the minutes of April 28, 2016 adopted as presented.

GREEN BUILDING POLICY

Update, Gilles Prefontaine, Chief Community Development Officer

- Brought back revised draft and highlighted the changes adopted, including updated definitions, responsibilities,
- Administration is working with a consultant on best practices.
- This policy could apply to 15 capital projects in the next 10 years and is a rationale to have additional resources, including staff person, to monitor that policy so it is upheld.
- Continuous improvement will allow for a policy review every 5 years but Administration is suggesting to Council that this policy is reviewed after 3 years.

- Discussed the need to establish directives, procedures and integrate best management practices in the future.
- Next steps: Internal policy review, SLT in June, Council June 2

STORMWATER RATE SYSTEM

Update, Stephen Graham, Senior Business Analyst and Diane McMordie, Director of Finance & Utilities

- Completed the property data review to understand how best to allocate charges to multi-unit residential and commercial properties.
- Data is still not in a format that you can do any formal analysis.
- Next step post-analysis to establish the rate per square meter.
- The project is about more than just recovering money, for example keeping rates reasonable and comparable to other communities and insuring there is fairness and equity in system.
- Exempt properties brought to Council's attention and were of much larger scope than initially expected.
- Need solutions for infill construction sites that can evolve over time.
- Goal is to refer to standards as much as possible and remove subjectivity, which makes it more difficult to have a challenge or credit system.
- Recommendation is to not offer a credit or challenge system for future iterations because it increases complexity.
- Likely to recommend to Council to go toward an impermeable services system, which is a couple of years away
- This project is quite leading edge compared to other communities
- Some technical challenges still remain ex) how to incorporate into the billing system, communications plan, processes.
- B. Korobanik brought up opportunities to still include challenge system for neighbourhoods with large amounts of permeable surfaces ex) Grandin
- K. Crutchfield suggests individual lots should be mapped for impermeable/permeable surfaces and perhaps we should directly measure stormwater runoff.
- Process issue - utility accounts only created when a new water meter is required.
- L. Kongsrude requested a project outline so EAC can provide advice for September Council meeting (moved from June). Reinforce that this is a first step and that the process will be refined.
- L. Kongsrude brought up sports clubs (baseball, soccer) that have huge green spaces but small building footprint. Possibility for flat fee vs. charge per square meter.
- D. McMordie suggested that EAC's advice will be hugely beneficial for a next step on permeable surfaces.
- T. Doran highlighted the need for a vacant lot strategy.

NATURAL AREAS ASSESSMENT REPORT

Update, Leah Kongsrude, Director Strategic Services & Environment

- Administration will take the report to Council in October and do not require advice from EAC.
- Reviewed previous inventories (1999, 2007) and highlighted areas of improvement in the most recent study.
- Report information is digitized on GIS system with important land classification details, available as open data.
- Discussed how the report will help to guide PW maintenance guidelines and standards, and be used to develop procedures.

2016 ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES GRANT PROMOTION AND LAUNCH

Update, Erin Isaac, Environmental Coordinator

- Reviewed new marketing materials and dates for upcoming information sessions. Subcommittee pleased with updates as presented.

JUNE TOUR

Discussion, Erin Isaac, Environmental Program Coordinator

- Reviewed meeting options, site selection for the tour and decided on an earlier meeting time.

ROUND TABLE

B. Korobanik – Planning to assist with tours on Clean Air Day

K. Crutchfield – Commented that the legislative process in St. Albert is not conducive to public involvement and that decisions are being made too quickly with not enough time to get all of the information ex) Reports Elysium Fields, Jensen Lakes and old landfills. Concern raised about the alterations being made on land adjacent Big Lake.

L. Kongsrude – Received an update from members of BLESS and she passed on the inquiry to Provincial representatives. A stop work order has been issued.

T. Doran – Committed to contact Melcor regarding presentation to EAC.

E. Isaac – Away from the office June 21-23 and would like to solidify plans for next meeting as early as possible.

L. Kongsrude – New Environmental Manager starting in June.

B. Thronson – Highlighted that the Edmonton Walrus Talks, energy topic.

T. Doran – Bill 20, three pieces to the legislation: get price on carbon into effect, establish Energy Efficiency Alberta, tweak other policies. Recently attended the CaGBC conferences in Calgary and Toronto.

NEXT MEETING – June 23, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8.16 p.m.

J. Olan
CHAIR

M. L. L...
DESIGNATED OFFICER



**ENVIRONMENTAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

DATE: Thursday, May 26, 2016
TIME: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
PLACE: St. Albert Business Centre
29 Sir Winston Churchill Ave.

File No: 165-E4-2014

AGENDA

- 1. Adoption of Agenda**
- 2. Adoption of Minutes – April 28, 2016**
- 3. Green Building Policy (6:00pm)**
Update, Gilles Prefontaine, Chief Community Development Officer
- 4. Stormwater Rate System (7:00pm)**
Update, Stephen Graham, Senior Business Analyst and Diane McMordie, Director of Finance & Utilities
- 5. Natural Areas Assessment Report**
Update, Leah Kongsrude, Director Strategic Services & Environment
- 6. 2016 Environmental Initiatives Grant Promotion and Launch**
Update, Erin Isaac, Environmental Program Coordinator
- 7. June Tour**
Discussion, Erin Isaac, Environmental Program Coordinator
- 8. Round Table**
- 9. Next Meeting Date**
 - a. June 23, 2016
- 10. Adjournment**