



PUBLIC MINUTES

SASKATOON ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 11, 2017, 11:30 a.m.

Committee Room A, Second Floor, City Hall

PRESENT: Ms. K. Aikens, Chair
Mr. B. Sawatzky, Vice-Chair
Ms. E. Akins
Ms. A. Bugg
Ms. K. Engele-Carter
Councillor S. Gersher
Mr. S. Homenick
Dr. D. McGrane
Ms. K. Palmer

ABSENT: Ms. A. Garg
Ms. S. Harrison

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives B. Wallace
Committee Assistant D. Sackmann

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved By: B. Sawatzky

1. That the letters and presentations from the Northeast Swale Watchers, Saskatchewan Light Pollution Abatement Committee, and Janet McVittie responding to the March 13, 2017 report of the General Manager, Community Services be added to Item 7.4; and
2. That the agenda be confirmed as amended.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved By: A. Bugg

That the minutes of meeting of the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee held on March 9, 2017, be approved.

CARRIED

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. REPORT OF THE CHAIR [CK. 175-9]

- Congratulations was extended to Sara Harrison and her family on the birth of their baby boy earlier in May.
- Student Action for a Sustainable Future (SASF) showcase was held May 3, 2017 and was very well attended. Congratulations were extended to everyone involved with this project for their hard work.
- Solar Power Demonstration Site Open House was held April 25, 2017 providing an opportunity to increase awareness of alternative forms of electrical generation.
- SEAC's draft GHG reduction targets proposal is noted in the Star Phoenix as ambitious and attainable.
- Nature City Festival runs May 23-28, 2017. Maude Barlow is speaking on May 25th.
- Snow & Ice Co-Design session was held April 25, 2017. Mr. Homenick attended on behalf of SEAC noting the session was good and involved a broad spectrum of stakeholders.

Moved By: E. Akins

That the information be received.

CARRIED

6. COMMUNICATIONS

7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

7.1 Environmental & Corporate Initiatives [CK. 7550-1]

Environmental & Corporate Initiatives provided the following updates:

Kellie Grant, Planning & Development presented a PowerPoint on Green Infrastructure Strategy. The report supports a number of strategic goals.

The strategy is to develop an integrated approach to planning for and maintaining a sustainable, biodiverse city by considering natural and supporting areas as important infrastructure in our urban environment.

Director of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Wallace provided a prezi presentation on Natural Capital Asset Valuation as prepared by Nasha Spence, Environmental Accounting Manager. This valuation is a process of creating an inventory of the natural capital residing within the City and systematically applying a financial value to it similar to the process currently applied to build infrastructure. Discussion ensued and Senior Planner, McShane along with Watershed Protection Manager Yobb, addressed questions of the Committee.

Environmental Coordinator Mireault provided an update on the Waste Characterization Study. He advised that the data is complete. Dillon Consulting Ltd. is currently working on its report, which will be posted on the City's website upon its completion. The Waste Bylaw will play a large role in waste management. The Administration will work on an engagement component.

Moved By: D. McGrane

That the information be received.

CARRIED

7.2 Special Events - Internal Process Review [CK. 205-0 x 116-1]

The Committee Assistant submitted a report of the General Manager, Corporate Performance, dated January 31, 2017, which was considered at the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services meeting held on January 31, 2017; it was resolved, in part, that the report be forwarded to the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee for information.

Councillor Gersher undertook to raise the matter of integrating waste management and recycling at events of a certain scale with the Committee. A brief overview of the discussion that occurred at the Standing Policy Committee meeting was provided. Discussion followed revolving around the Event Sustainability Subcommittee's past work and recommendations regarding festival sustainability. The Committee noted the lack of reference to the environment in the documents of the Internal Process Review of Special Events. It was determined that the Committee could remind City Council that they had done some work of a similar nature in the past.

Moved By: D. McGrane

That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee forward its research on green special events in Saskatoon to Internal Process Review of Special Events to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services for its consideration.

CARRIED

7.3 2016 Waste Characterization Study [CK. 7830-1]

The Committee Assistant submitted a report of the General Manager, Corporate Performance, dated January 31, 2017, which was considered at the Regular Business Meeting of City Council held on February 27, 2017; it was resolved, in part, that the report be forwarded to the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee for information.

Moved By: S. Homenick

That the information be received.

CARRIED

7.4 Development of the Swale - Response to Northeast Swale Watchers' 12 Points [CK. 4131-5]

The Committee Assistant submitted a report of the General Manager, Community Services Department, dated March 13, 2017, which was considered at the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services meeting held on March 13, 2017; it was resolved, in part, that the report be forwarded to the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee for information. Also forwarded were letters and presentations from Louise Jones, Northeast Swale Watchers; Richard Huziak, Saskatchewan Light Pollution Abatement Committee; and Janet McVittie.

Director of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Wallace advised the Committee that three reports regarding the Swale: Heritage Considerations; Response to Swale Watchers' 12 Points; and Meewasin Valley Authority Special Conservation Area Designation were presented to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services at its March 13, 2017 meeting. One of the recommendations put forth was to bring stakeholders together to garner expertise and bring certainty to the public that the City sees the Swale as important. There are a number of City divisions working together on this matter. Terms of

Reference will be developed at which time the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee will have an opportunity to look at them. Discussion ensued. The Committee determined to stay apprised of the matter and to further discuss at a later date.

Moved By: A. Bugg

That the information be received.

CARRIED

7.5 Hydropower Joint Ownership Project with Saskatoon Tribal Council [CK. 2300-1]

The Committee Assistant submitted a report from the General Manager, Transportation & Utilities Department, dated March 13, 2017, which was considered at the Regular Business Meeting of City Council held on March 27, 2017; it was resolved, in part, that the report be forwarded to the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee for information.

Discussion ensued. The report noted that previous studies concluded that no significant disruption to the ecology of the area or negative downstream effects to the river valley will occur due to the project.

Moved By: A. Bugg

That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee ask the Administration to consider adding to the feasibility study that an opportunity cost analysis as it relates to other renewable power opportunities along with opportunities to work with the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

CARRIED

8. 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET [CK. 1704-5]

The Committee was requested to put forward a proposed budget submission for 2018 for inclusion in the 2018 Operating Budget Review. The Committee Assistant submitted, for reference, this year's budget. In 2017 the Committee used the majority of its funding toward the creation of a social media campaign for climate change. Discussion followed revolving around request for funding for 2018.

Moved By: E. Akins

That the Committee request funding in the amount of \$7,800 (an increase of \$1,000) from \$6,800 in 2017, allocated as follows:

\$1,800 Student Action for a Sustainable Future (SASF)

\$6,000 Public Education/Information Gathering

Total: \$7,800

CARRIED

9. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS SUBCOMMITTEE [CK. 375-4]

9.1 Proposal Submission - Video Support - Unite Digital [CK. 375-4]

The Committee at its meeting held on March 9, 2017 resolved, in part, to invite Unite Digital Marketing Co-operative to submit a proposal regarding ongoing support/promotion of the video and the cost for this, including taxes, to the Committee for its April meeting.

The Committee discussed Unite Digital's promotional strategy for its animated video on climate change as a municipal issue. The current proposal is short-term over two months for the video and content within. The Committee determined that long term goals for the video need to be further discussed.

Moved By: D. McGrane

1. That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee spend \$2,070 to engage in a contract as outlined by Unite Digital's proposal; and
2. That the long-term strategy around climate change be brought back to the GHG Subcommittee for further discussion.

CARRIED

9.2 Proposed Targets for Community-wide Greenhouse Emissions Reductions [CK. 375-4]

At the Regular Business Meeting of City Council held on December 12, 2016; it was resolved, in part, that the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee be asked to assist in developing a Community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Target.

The Committee Assistant submitted the GHG Subcommittee's "*draft*" of proposed targets for community-wide greenhouse emissions reductions. The goals have recently been described by the Star Phoenix as being ambitious and attainable. 2014 was chosen as this is the most accurate base line data with the City. The goals are set on per tonnes and not per capita. The purpose is to reduce emissions to where they need to be instead of proposing something different. Discussion ensued.

Moved By: E. Akins

That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee present its proposed targets for community-wide GHG reductions to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services at its meeting to be held June 12, 2017.

CARRIED

10. CASH GRANTS PROGRAM - ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENT [CK. 1871-1]

Moved By: K. Aikens

That the item be deferred to the June Committee meeting.

CARRIED

11. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES [CK. 1704-5]

Moved By: K. Aikens

That the item be deferred to the June Committee meeting.

CARRIED

12. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. K. Aikens, Chair

Ms. D. Sackmann, Committee Assistant