



## PUBLIC MINUTES

### SASKATOON ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 9, 2017, 11:30 a.m.

Committee Room A, Second Floor, City Hall

PRESENT: Mr. B. Sawatzky, A/Chair  
Ms. E. Akins  
Ms. A. Bugg  
Ms. A. Garg  
Councillor S. Gersher  
Ms. S. Harrison  
Mr. S. Homenick  
Dr. D. McGrane  
Ms. K. Palmer

ABSENT: Ms. K. Aikens, Chair  
Ms. K. Engele-Carter

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

Ms. Palmer entered the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

**Moved By:** S. Harrison

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### 3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Ms. Bugg declared conflict of interest on the matter to be discussed under Item 8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Subcommittee due to her work with the (SES) Saskatoon Environmental Society.

#### **4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**Moved By:** A. Bugg

1. That under Item 6 the second bullet point read ".....Radiance Co-housing" and not as stated;
2. That under Item 9, the misspelling of Erin Aikens read "Erin Akins" and not as stated; and
3. That the minutes of meeting held on October 12, 2017, be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

#### **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **6. REPORT OF THE CHAIR [CK. 175-9]**

The A/Chair advised that Ms. Kathleen Aikens will not be returning in 2018 as she has served the allowable 6 year Committee term commenting she will be missed.

The following updates were provided:

- SEAC submitted a support letter for the Saskatoon Food Council, as per its resolution on Sept. 14, 2017 meeting to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services; and Brian and Angie presented comments on the Solar Opportunities report.
- The Standing Policy Committee on Transportation has voted to retain the downtown bike lanes, until further plans are developed and also voted in support of the BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) system presented.

Events of interest:

- Sustainable Speaker Series entitled "Let's Talk Climate Change: How to Build Bridges in Saskatoon", Nov. 21, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Frances Morrison Library, presented by Hayley Carlson and Rachel Malena-Chan.
- The Bridge City Bicycle Co-op is looking for board members; deadline is Nov. 16, 2017.
- Radiance Co-housing will be hosting an open house, Nov. 11, 2017, 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Eco Canada, Nov. 30, 2017, 4:00-7:00 p.m. is hosting a networking event for environmental professionals; tickets are available.

Dr. McGrane entered the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Also noted:

- The Federal Government is considering more stringent building codes; however, the provinces don't necessarily have to implement these codes.
- The First Nations Power Authority is presenting the 2017 Western Canadian Indigenous Renewable Energy Forum, Nov. 15, 2017, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., TCU Place.

**Moved By:** S. Homenick

That the information be received.

**CARRIED**

**7. COMMUNICATIONS**

**8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS SUBCOMMITTEE [CK. 375-4]**

Ms. Bugg excused herself from discussion and voting on this matter due to conflict of interest and left the meeting for consideration of this item.

Ms. Harrison provided a verbal update on the GHG Emissions Subcommittee recommendation regarding selection of an individual or organization to fulfill a contract related to climate change and public engagement. The following was provided:

- 7 applications (6 individual, 1 organization) were received.
- Kathleen, Kathryn, Aditi and Sara met to review applications. Angie also reviewed and provided feedback, but recused herself from selection due to conflict of interest.
- Applications were discussed and top 3 and 1 organization were chosen.
- Applicants were ranked on demonstration of:
  - previous experience with city servicing organizations
  - experience writing social media content
  - relevant Saskatoon experience
  - climate change knowledge
  - communication skills through presentation of application
- From ranking the front runner was Megan Van Buskirk. Megan has been notified of being the preferred candidate subject to approval by SEAC. The unsuccessful candidates pending final agreement with the Committee and Megan will be notified.

Ms. Garg entered the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

The Committee determined to move forward with contracting Megan starting as soon as possible. The Subcommittee is hoping to have 12-20 original content Facebook style posts that can be shared throughout the upcoming year, the posts will be shared with the Committee before they're posted. Also discussed was the consideration to increase the allocated social media budget on original content.

**Moved By:** S. Homenick

1. That the Committee approve entering into a contract with Megan Van Kuskirk, to provide social media expertise content regarding the climate change campaign and public engagement; and
2. That a contract be drawn up in the amount of \$2,500, including applicable taxes, and outlining expectations for fulfilling the position.

**CARRIED**

Ms. Bugg re-entered the meeting at 11:56 a.m. after voting on the matter was complete.

## **9. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

### **9.1 Environmental & Corporate Initiatives [CK. 7550-1]**

Director of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Wallace noted the following:

- 2 solar related reports were presented at the Nov. 6, 2017 meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services.
- A report on Recovery Park was also presented. Discussion regarding this report revolved around the financial implications involved in the Park's construction. Currently, there is no viable way to proceed with Recovery Park without being able to move the scale and demolish the existing buildings. In 2018 a follow-up report will be provided.
- Reports regarding ICI Waste Diversion Opportunities; Next Steps Organics and Waste Utility Program Development; and Closure of Capital Project regarding Waste Management Strategic Plan were also presented to Committee.

Shannon Dyck, Environmental Coordinator and Anna Hopkins, Engagement Consultant, Corporate Performance were also in attendance. The Committee at its last meeting asked Administration how it could participate in and support the climate change work.

Numerous opportunities afforded the Committee for its participation were considered:

- The Committee can promote and help drive climate change activities forward by having a standing placeholder on SEAC's agenda for Administration to give updates on Climate Change Engagement and Communications.
- It can participate in engagement by sending member(s) to attend the Subject Matter Expert event to represent SEAC.
- It can support engagement activities such as "beta testing" of surveys/interview questions to help refine or volunteer at engagement event(s) - note taking, set up and event management.

The Committee also received an update regarding:

- Climate Change Mitigation communications campaign will soft-launch in December and fully launch in January.
- Engagement activities will take place between January–February, 2018.
- First phase of engagement is intended to gauge level of public acceptance, readiness and interest in mitigation initiatives.
- Further phases of engagement will initiate collaboration with stakeholders regarding implementation plan and specific initiatives.

**Moved By:** D. McGrane

That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee request to address City Council at its November 20, 2017 meeting regarding the proposed delays to the creation of Recovery Park at the City of Saskatoon landfill site, urging City Council to come up with the funding needed to ensure the project begins construction in 2018.

**CARRIED**

**Moved By:** S. Harrison

1. That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee participate in the climate change mitigation engagement workshop for Subject Matter Experts as a contributor and to provide context-setting remarks; and
2. That Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee members may individually opt to support other engagement efforts on a voluntary basis.

**CARRIED**

**9.2 Update on City Council Strategic Priority Areas: Environmental Sustainability [CK.116-1, x 7550-1]**

The Committee Assistant submitted for the Committee's information a report drafted by Councillors Gersher and Loewen, dated October 16, 2017.

Councillor Gersher noted that this is an informational report intended to provide the Governance and Priorities Committee with an update on the progress that has been made in regards to City Council's strategic priority area, Environmental Sustainability.

Director of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives excused herself from the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

The Committee was also advised that a report of the Leadership Team Governance Subcommittee will be going to the Governance and Priorities Committee meeting on November 14, 2017. The report puts forth several recommendations regarding the governance structure of Advisory Committees. Discussion ensued.

**Moved By:** D. McGrane

That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee submit comment regarding the report of the Governance Subcommittee, dated November 14, 2017, being presented at the Governance and Priorities Committee meeting to be held on November 14, 2017; and that any member who separately wants to submit comment on their own behalf can do so.

**CARRIED**

**10. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES [CK. 1704-5]**

The Committee Assistant submitted the October 2017 Statement of Expenditures for the Committee's review.

The Committee has approved \$2,500, including applicable taxes, for work related to its GHG Subcommittee climate change campaign with social media expertise content. Discussion revolved around allocating any remaining funding to Facebook.

**Moved By:** K. Palmer

That the remaining funds totaling \$202.30 be allocated to Facebook promotion.

**CARRIED**

**11. COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE [CK. 175-9]**

The Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee meets on the second Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m., with the exception of July, August, and December.

The following dates are proposed for 2018:

- January 11
- February 8
- March 8
- April 12
- May 10
- June 14
- September 13
- October 11
- November 8

**Moved By:** A. Bugg

That the meeting dates for the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee for 2018 be approved.

**CARRIED**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

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Ms. K. Aikens, Chair

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Ms. D. Sackmann, Committee Assistant