



## PUBLIC MINUTES

### SASKATOON ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 9, 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  
Ms. S. Harrison  
Mr. S. Homenick  
Dr. D. McGrane  
Ms. K. Palmer

ABSENT: Ms. A. Garg

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:** Councillor Gersher

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**Moved By:** K. Engele-Carter

That the minutes of the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee held on February 9, 2017, be amended as follows:

1. That under Item 4.1 the last sentence read: "...with a cost for education related to the prevention of aquatic invasive species...regarding the matter." and not "... with a cost for education prevention and ...regarding the matter" as stated; and
2. That the minutes be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**5. COMMUNICATIONS**

**5.1 Meewasin Valley-Wide Resource Management Plan [CK. 180-6]**

Dr. McGrane and Mr. Sawatzky entered the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Eryn Tomlinson, Meewasin Valley Authority (MVA) provided a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation included the five steps involved in the Planning Model; conservation targets; target status; threats to conservation areas; and next steps. Ms. Tomlinson advised the Committee that the Plan received MVA Board approval on March 3, 2017. The Plan has been made available to the public for viewing on the MVA's website. Discussion ensued and Ms. Tomlinson addressed questions of the Committee.

The Committee inquired about how it can help support the MVA's Plan. Mr. Mike Velonas, Planning and Conservation Manager, MVA was also in attendance and discussed the need to have a green network that is well defined and managed. Enhancing biodiversity in the region is a key goal. The MVA would appreciate SEAC's support of its 180 recommendations as outlined in its Plan.

**Moved By:** D. McGrane

1. That the information be received; and
2. That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee endorse the Meewasin Valley Authority's Plan as presented to the Committee.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **6. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

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

Director of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Wallace presented a PowerPoint on the Division's 2017 Work Plan. The Division has two main areas of focus: Environmental Programs and Corporate Initiatives along with an emphasis on providing environmental leadership. The Division's four sections were highlighted. Each section's work aligns with the City's five business lines and nine service lines. The various programs and initiatives are mainly funded by the mill-rate and utility fees while funding for some areas has not yet been identified. Discussion followed.

The Committee was advised that there are a number of Division reports being presented to Administration over the next few months that will be of interest to the Committee and at the appropriate time they will be shared. The Committee was provided with the opportunity to receive a copy of the *Corporate Risk 2016 Annual Report* for its information from Ms. Wallace. The Committee discussed possible April and May, 2017 agenda items.

**Moved By:** S. Homenick

That the information be received.

**CARRIED**

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

The GHG Subcommittee in partnership with Unite Digital Marketing Co-operative has produced an animated video addressing climate change in Saskatoon. The video was presented to the Committee for its review and approval prior to being forwarded to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services. The Committee has set an official video launch date for March 14, 2017, 10:00 a.m., at City Hall. Invitations to attend and speak at the launch have been extended, the entire event should be approximately 30 minutes.

The Committee discussed strategy ideas regarding media circulation. YouTube and Facebook were options discussed along with the pros and cons of each medium. It was determined that it is best to focus on one strategy for sure-ability and the Committee determined to create its own Facebook page to share the video on social media. The Chair undertook to monitor the comments on behalf of the Committee and it was agreed that hate speech would be deleted and engaging in a negative way to any comments would not be appropriate.

Mr. Homenick excused himself from the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

**Moved By:** D. McGrane

1. That the video on climate change in Saskatoon be presented to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services at its meeting to be held on March 13, 2017; and
2. That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee set up its own Facebook page to share the video on social media.

**CARRIED**

**Moved By:** K. Palmer

That the GHG Subcommittee be responsible for the promotion of the video on climate change for the time being, until at a later date when on-going video support is delegated.

**CARRIED**

**Moved By:** S. Harrison

That Unite Digital Marketing Co-operative be invited to put forth a proposal regarding ongoing support/promotion of the video and the cost for this, including taxes, to the Committee for its April meeting.

**CARRIED**

#### **7.1 Carbon Pricing - Discussion [CK. 375-4]**

The Committee discussed its position on carbon pricing in conjunction with the video on climate change. It was determined that currently the Committee's main focus with the video is to raise awareness related to climate change, which has led to the Committee's GHG community reduction targets it has set.

**Moved By:** A. Bugg

That the information be received.

**CARRIED**

**8. 2016 ANNUAL REPORT - Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee  
[CK. 430-19]**

Report of the Secretary:

"Attached is a DRAFT report of the above. With the approval of the Committee the report will be forwarded to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services then to City Council".

Upon previous review of the report by Committee members no changes were put forth.

**Moved By:** A. Bugg

That the annual report be approved and submitted to City Council through the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services for information.

**CARRIED**

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

The Committee was advised of the following events:

- SaskPower consultations on solar power are being held all day on March 14 and 15, 2017. Follow-up will occur with any Committee members attending for a brief report at next month's Report of the Chair.
- March 13, 2017, 12:30 p.m., the Sustainability Education Research Institute is hosting Stephen Sterling, UK scholar, who will be presenting on the role of higher education in advancing sustainability. The talk will be held at the College of Education, room 1235.
- March 20, 2017, 11:30 a.m., City Hall, the meetings with stakeholders to discuss community-wide GHG emissions targets will be held. Lunch will be provided and all Committee members are welcome to attend.

A thank-you was extended to all members for their involvement with the video on climate change in Saskatoon.

**Moved By:** Councillor Gersher

That the information be received.

**CARRIED**

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

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

**Moved By:** E. Akins

That the information be received.

**CARRIED**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

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Ms. K. Aikens, Chair

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Ms. D. Sackmann, Committee Assistant