

City of Maple Ridge
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee, held in the Blaney Room at Maple Ridge City Hall, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, British Columbia, on May 9, 2018 at 7:03 pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Robert Masse	Council Liaison
Leanne Koehn, Chair	Ridge Meadows Recycling Society
Betty von Hardenberg	Thornhill Aquifer Protection Study (TAPS)
Cheryl Ashlie	Alouette River Management Society (ARMS)
Cheryl Power	Alouette River Management Society (ARMS) - Alternate
David Neufeld	Environmental Professional
Gerry Pinel	Community Education on Environment and Development (CEED) Centre
Jessie Lees, Vice Chair	Member at Large – Youth Representative
Klaus von Hardenberg	Thornhill Aquifer Protection Study (TAPS) – Alternate
Ross Davies	Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS)

GUESTS

Sara Barron

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Rodney Stott	Staff Liaison / Environmental Planner
Amanda Allen	Committee Clerk

ABSENT

Janice Jarvis	Environmental Professional
Dennis Kinsey	Member at Large

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Dan Ruimy	Member of Parliament
Lisa Beare	MLA – Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Bob D'Eith	MLA – Maple Ridge-Mission
Katzie First Nation	
Kwantlen First Nation	
BC Conservation Officer Service	
Metro Vancouver	

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair welcomed Ms. Jessie Lees, the new Member at Large – Youth Representative, and Ms. Lees shared a brief biography with members. The Chair reported on the two year term re-appointment of Ms. Janice Jarvis, Mr. Dennis Kinsey and Mr. David Neufeld. Ms. Cheryl Ashlie and Ms. Cheryl Power were introduced as the 2018 representatives from the Alouette River Management Society.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

R/2018-008

It was moved and seconded

That the May 9, 2018 Environmental Advisory Committee agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

R/2018-009

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the Maple Ridge Environmental Advisory Committee meeting dated January 10, 2018 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. **DELEGATIONS - Nil**

5. **ELECTIONS**

The Staff liaison opened the floor for nominations for a Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee.

R/2018-010

It was moved and seconded

That Leanne Koehn be elected Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee for 2018.

CARRIED

The Staff liaison opened the floor for nominations for a Vice Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee.

R/2018-011

It was moved and seconded

That Jessie Lees be elected Vice Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee for 2018.

CARRIED

6. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6.1. **Review of 2018 Business Plan Items**

The Chair reviewed the ongoing deliverables, found milestones and the 2018 deliverables on the 2018 Business Plan of the Environmental Advisory Committee. The Staff liaison responded to questions about vulnerable aquifers in Maple Ridge.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1. Green Infrastructure and Natural Asset Inventory and Evaluation

The Staff liaison reported on the monthly meetings of the subcommittee and advised that elections for a Chair and Recording Secretary will occur. A subcommittee scoping report will soon be developed and presented for review. The Staff liaison reported on interdepartmental participation by numerous departments at the City of Maple Ridge including Parks, Recreation and Culture, Engineering, Planning, Emergency Program, Finance, and Operations.

7.2. OCP Aquifer Mapping and Natural Features Development Permit Review

The Staff liaison reported on the monthly meetings of the subcommittee. The Staff liaison is drafting a report on the proposed amendments to the Natural Features Development Permit for subcommittee review and advised a public consultation will form part of the review process.

7.3. Communications and Outreach

The Staff liaison reported on his participation in a municipal delegation with the Kwantlen First Nation with regards to utilizing First Nation names for streams. The City is working with ARMS at Merkley Park with planting and enhancement projects. The subcommittee is also looking to involve local school groups with the naming and protection/stewarding of unnamed creeks.

7.4. Watercourse Protection Bylaw Review

The Staff liaison advised work on a scoping report is underway. The Staff liaison will be providing an update to the subcommittee regarding consultation and content for the bylaw review.

8. STAFF LIAISON UPDATES

8.1. Provincial Groundwater Authorization Referrals

The Staff liaison provided an update on the Provincial groundwater initiative. The Provincial Groundwater Authorization Referrals process is gaining momentum and resources for the distribution and management of groundwater.

8.2. Federal Fisheries Act Update

The Staff liaison reported on amendments to the Federal Fisheries Act that will restore both the protection of fish and fish habitats. The Staff liaison expects to bring a presentation to the Committee once updates are more concrete.

8.3. Forest License Applications

The Staff liaison advised that two Forest Licence applications have been submitted for activities on Provincial Crown and unceded First Nation land.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

9.1. **District of Sicamous – Prevention of Quagga and Zebra Mussels**

Letter dated November 29, 2017 from Terry Rysz, Mayor, District of Sicamous. Discussion was held on the invasive species of mussels which can overwhelm a lake ecosystem and on the targeted efforts of the Ministry of Environment to address the matter. The Committee noted interest in learning more about the Invasive Mussel Defence Program.

R/2018-012

It was moved and seconded

That the letter dated November 29, 2017 from the District of Sicamous regarding the prevention of Quagga and Zebra mussels be received for information.

CARRIED

10. **ROUNDTABLE**

The Staff liaison acknowledged and thanked the volunteers for their work and dedication on the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Gerry Pinel reported on the current initiatives the CEED Centre is busy working towards including the Food Hub and the green waste collection electric trike. Mr. Pinel provided an update on the progress of the Affordable Community Environmental Society “ACES”.

David Neufeld reported on his recent experiences with the proposed new legislation in the Fisheries Act and is encouraged by the increased oversight and questions by the DFO when reviewing and regulating projects.

Cheryl Ashlie advised that ARMS is hosting their second annual pub night fundraiser May 17, 2018. Ms. Ashlie provided a report on the current activities and initiatives at ARMS including the Alouette River Reanadromization salmon program and tree planting at Merkley Park.

Jessie Lees provided an update on her studies and volunteer hours on tree protection in the community.

Ross Davies reported on the recent events at KEEPS and advised that open houses at the Kanaka Creek Watershed Stewardship Centre are scheduled for May 13, 2018 and June 10, 2018. Mr. Davies updated the committee on bear interactions in lower Albion and the Silver Valley/Rock Ridge areas. Discussion was held on the increased habituation of bears. The Staff liaison and Cheryl Ashlie will speak further with Mr. Davies and Wildlife BC to see what type of messaging can be put out to the community to remind residents how to be bear aware.

Klaus von Hardenberg also noted an increased bear population in his neighbourhood. Mr. von Hardenberg advised that the observation well drilled at Thornhill Park is complete and waiting for the remote monitoring to be installed.

Betty von Hardenberg reported on results of the annual TAPS well testing. Mrs. von Hardenberg shared her appreciation that Council adopted the soil deposit regulation bylaw at the meeting on May 8, 2018.

Cheryl Power shared her enthusiasm in joining the Committee as the ARMS alternate. Ms. Power reported on the increase of bear to human habituation at the Malcolm Knapp Research Forest. Ms. Power advised of funding avenues for tree planting and offered to connect interested members with organizations and corporate sponsors.

Councillor Masse advised that the Climate 2050 Discussion paper has been released by Metro Vancouver and members were encouraged to review the paper and provide feedback to Metro Vancouver: http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/air-quality/AirQualityPublications/AQ_C2050-DiscussionPaper.pdf
Councillor Masse reported on Council's discussion with Hydro regarding the fish passage and a forthcoming staff report on possible requirements for electric vehicle charging in new developments.

Leanne Koehn provided an update on the Repair Cafés and noted the next Repair Café is scheduled May 12, 2018 at the Maple Ridge Senior's Activity Centre. Ms. Koehn advised that the Recycling Depot is now accepting textiles and Recycling has launched an online recycling sorting game at www.recycleitright.ca. Ms. Koehn reported that Earth Day 2018 was a great success and that the next Earth Day is scheduled April 13, 2019, with a theme of "healthy communities, healthy self".

11. **QUESTION PERIOD - Nil**

12. **ADJOURNMENT – 8:37 pm**


L. Koehn, Chair

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