

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

Councillor N. Joly
A. McGarrigle
A. Khare
A. Lefebvre
B. Peori
S. Hanowski
S. Lord
T. Fulton

Guests

L. Kongsrude, Executive Director, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

Staff

K. Polkovsky, Director, Utilities & Environment
C. Benson, Manager, Environment
M. Myers, Environmental Coordinator – Community Strategy & Engagement

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Attendees introduced themselves and provided information about their background.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

C. Benson called for nominations for position of EAC Chair for 2020. A. Lefebvre nominated T. Fulton and as no other nominations were received, T. Fulton was declared elected by acclamation.

C. Benson turned over the meeting to the Chair.

The Chair called for nominations for the position of EAC Vice-Chair for 2020. B. Peori nominated A. Khare and as no other nominations were received, A. Khare was declared elected by acclamation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair declared the agenda adopted as presented.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Chair declared the minutes of November 28, 2019 adopted as presented.

STURGEON RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Leah Kongsrude, Executive Director, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

L. Kongsrude covered the following topics during her presentation:

- The role of the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance in Alberta.
- Background of the Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance (SRWA).
- Work completed to date in the Sturgeon River Watershed.
- Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan document
- Next steps for the SRWA.

Discussion included:

- Role of the provincial government in riparian and wetland protection.
- Alignment of the policies from the watershed management plan in the City's MDP.
- Monitoring of the Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan.
- Development around lakes in the watershed.
- The final Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan will be available to the public at the end of February. The gap analysis technical reports on the NSWA website. M. Myers to send to committee when available.
- Recent \$200,000 provincial grant NSWA applied for on behalf of SRWA.
- Engagement of municipal residents and key messages.
- Data trends for the Sturgeon River Watershed.
- Correlation between ground water and the overland flow.
- NSWA education forum - Feb 27 (theme: 20 years of progress with partners). M. Myers to send forum information to the Committee.
- The Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan presentation at St. Albert City Council.

COMMITTEE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Kate Polkovsky, Director, Utilities and Environment

K. Polkovsky and N. Joly discussed the role and responsibilities of the committee to the group.

EAC 2019 Annual Report and 2020 priorities to be presented to Community Living Standing Committee on February 10. Once approved, this will confirm the Committee's workplan for the year and be incorporated into the schedule.

FOIP STATEMENT

Approval

Moved by S.Hanowski

That members' email addresses/phone numbers be shared with other members of the Committee.

CARRIED

ROUND TABLE

- With the update of the Environmental Master Plan planned for 2020, the Committee should consider the UN sustainability framework.
- Council is not involved in the proposed development in Oakmont and in fact won't see the plans until May.
- Last year, EAC recommended that funding to WILDNorth (wildlife rehabilitation society) should be ongoing. Related to that, Councillor Joly saw a great horned owl that they passed by everyday and noticed that there was a stick embedded in its wing. Brought the owl to raptor rescue society and they got to release the owl into the wild again today.
- St. Albert received a grant from the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) for a Municipal Energy Specialist position. Cassie started in December and there is some exciting work being done. Cassie will likely present to the Committee later in the year.
- Environment received \$500,000 to install solar panels on top of the Public Works salt storage shed in 2020.
- Community Recognition Program deadline for submissions is February 15.
- Waste management and multi residential servicing in St. Albert.
- Extended producer responsibility.
- Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) restructured and all consulting contracts have been put on hold.

NEXT MEETING – February 27, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.


CHAIR


DESIGNATED OFFICER