

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee held in the St. Albert Business Centre, on the above date at 6:01 pm.

Present

Councillor N. Joly
B. Peori
T. Doran
T. Fulton
A. Lefebvre
B. Marsh
B. Thronson
M. Wheatley

Guests

K. Peter, Manager, Planning
C. Holt, Planner

Staff

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair declared the agenda adopted as amended with item 5 - Annual Report on the Environment preview was moved after item 3 - Municipal Development Plan.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Chair declared the minutes of February 28, 2019 adopted as amended.

Municipal Development Plan

Kristina Peter, Manager, Planning & Carley Holt, Planner

C. Holt introduced to the Municipal Development Plan (MDP).

- Original plan developed in 2000.
- MDP is being updated using the Community Vision and the Pillars of Sustainability.
- The project kicked off in November at the Enjoy Centre.
- Emerging goals are based on six values from public engagement and technical studies.

Attendees received books listing the goals with space to write notes.

B. Peori will collect input following the EAC meeting and send to C. Holt and K. Peter.



Attendees reviewed the emerging goal around the environment.

- Goal: Green Environment – Ensure the natural and built environment are green and environmentally sustainable.

Attendees reviewed growth scenarios. Growth strategies based on population of 100,000 around the year 2044 and employment growth (13,000 new jobs by 2044). The Capital Region Growth Plan aligns with the 2044 timeline. Reviewed priority growth areas to the west, north and core.

MDP questionnaire is available on the City of St. Albert website – M. Myers will send out link to the questionnaire to remind Committee to respond. Discussion topics included:

- High density walkability
- Suggestion that the area by provincial park should be residential
- Option to green St Albert Trail
- Property lines are set from the inception of St. Albert so opportunity to suggest limited development on slopes and certain set backs
- Natural acquisition strategy – can we put dollars aside to acquire green space? City staff have started talking about Conservation Reserve (CR) and how this would be funded. Need to identify what the priorities are for CR.
- Identify areas that could be turned into natural areas. Naturalization, recreation, reclamation in these areas
- Take away – strategies to incentivize the agriculture area (private land) to return it to a natural state
- Need to consider Carrot Creek in the discussion
- Performance measurements for the goals within the MDP

Annual Report on the Environment

Since 2003, the City of St. Albert has published an annual Report on the Environment to update residents on the goals and targets set in the Environmental Master Plan. The report will be published on April 20. Close to Earth Day (April 22).

The Committee received a summary of the 2018 report and had the following comments:

- Change the graph for City greenhouse gas total emissions to compare the community total greenhouse gas emissions.
- Expanded on the stabilization of water consumption in the community.
- Why have the corporate greenhouse gas emission gone down in 2018? We are still seeing emissions. Important to showcase and celebrate the wins.
- Change the graph for the number of grants to show the total number of grants allocated and the total amount of funding.



Community Recognition Program

Also in attendance:

M. Myers, Environmental Coordinator – Community Strategy & Engagement,
Utilities & Environment (Information & Advice)

C. Benson, Manager, Environment, Utilities & Environment (Information &
Advice)

Moved by Councilor Joly

That the Environmental Advisory Committee move in camera to conduct the Community Recognition process for the category of Environmental Stewardship in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 - Disclosure harmful to personal privacy and, Section 24, Advice from officials of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP), R.S.A. 2000, c.F-25, as amended.

CARRIED

The Committee met in camera from 7:37 p.m. to 7:54 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Joly

That the Committee reconvene in public.

CARRIED

Moved by T. Doran

That the details of the in camera discussion remain confidential pursuant to s. 153(e) of the *Municipal Government Act*.

CARRIED

FOIP Statement Approval

Moved by T. Fulton

That members' contact information be shared with other members of the committee.

CARRIED

ROUND TABLE

Councilor Joly asked about the CN fence discussion from the February 28 EAC meeting. Now that the fence is there, how can the EAC address the barrier to the natural corridor within St. Albert?

Moved by B. Thronson

That EAC requests a City representative attend the September 26, 2019 EAC meeting to identify issues of wildlife connectivity and mitigation methods for the CN fence.

NEXT MEETING – April 25, 2019

ADJOURNMENT



The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.



CHAIR



DESIGNATED OFFICER