

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee was held on March 26, 2008 in Kentville Council Chambers and was called to order at 5:40 pm.

PRESENT

Councilor Eric Bolland
Director of Engineering and Works Hal Henderson
Director of Recreation Mark Phillips
Director of Planning Bev Gentleman
Councilor Mark Pearl
Community Rep Bob Howell
Student Rep Lacey Skaling
Community Representative June Moores

Recording Secretary Lindsay Young

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - ADDITIONS

AVRSB Idle Policy added to the agenda as item i) under New Business.

IT WAS MOVED by Community Representative Howell and SECONDED by Community Representative Moores to approve the agenda as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – October 11, 2007

IT WAS MOVED by Councilor Bolland to approve the minutes of December 5, 2007 as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

FUNDING FOR AUDITS FOR TOWN BUILDINGS

Director Phillips reported to the Committee about funding for audits for Town Buildings. Director Phillips stated that he is currently still waiting for approval but confirmed that the request is in the system.

LEED CERTIFIED TOWN OWNED BUILDINGS

Councilor Pearl reported to the Committee about a Leed certification conference he attended along with Director Phillips and Mayor Corkum. Councilor Pearl reported that

there are currently no municipal units in Atlantic Canada that have a Leed building policy in place. A policy was recently passed in Kingston Ontario, the first one in Canada, but the policy is not mandated, only encouraged. Councilor Pearl received an informational CD at the conference which will be distributed for the Committee's information. Councilor Pearl also reported that the Environmental Committee has made a recommendation to Council, that all future buildings be encouraged to meet Leed Certification standards where feasible.

**POLICY FOR CARBON
OFFSETTING AIRFLIGHTS**

Councilor Bolland stated that it is a simple policy, it is a step in the right direction, and at least something is in place.

**PAVING COSTS –
KENTVILLE TRAILS**

Director Phillips and Director Henderson reported for the Committee on the cost of paving the Kentville trails. Director Phillips gave an overview including the price of paving trails to a width of three metres. Costs were also available for a width of six metres, although those costs were not discussed by the Committee. Director Phillips and Councilor Bolland both agreed that this is a project that could be done over a period of a number of years, not necessarily all at once. Also, the possibility of funding from corporate sponsors was discussed. Director Henderson noted that not a large amount of work would be required to the existing trails before laying the black top as long as paving was only intended for a width of three metres.

Discussion led to the possibility of additional maintenance costs. Director Henderson stated that it is almost a certainty that there will be additional costs involved with maintaining the track if it is paved. Unpaved trail requires little to no maintenance. There was also brief discussion by the committee regarding other possible options for the trail but none mentioned seemed very plausible.

IT WAS MOVED by Councilor Pearl and SECONDED by Community Representative Howell that the Environmental Committee recommend that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee revisit the issue of paving the Kentville trails.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW MEMBERS

Councilor Bolland reported that he has not had the opportunity to pursue new membership and suggested that

the staff create a small ad for the local paper in the coming weeks. It was noted by Councilor Bolland that there is a need for additional members at times when people are away or ill to have a Quorum. Councilor Bolland requested that the Committee forward names of anyone interested to Director Gentleman. If no interested parties are discovered an ad will be drafted for the paper.

NEW BUSINESS

**REPORT ON OTTAWA FCM
SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES
CONFERENCE**

Councilor Bolland reported on the Conference held in Ottawa attended by himself and Director Gentleman. Councilor Bolland informed the Committee that while there were plenty of Communities ahead of Kentville in regards to Environmental policy, there were plenty of Communities also that Kentville is ahead of in the same regard. Councilor Bolland reported that while Provinces such as Alberta and British Columbia are significantly ahead of Provinces on the East Coast, he feels that we are on the right track. Councilor Bolland also noted that it was a great learning experience, and that for the next conference which takes place in two years time, the Committee should consider budgeting for a third person to go, as it was a very worthwhile experience. Councilor Bolland also thanked the Committee for sending Director Gentleman and himself, and invited Director Gentleman to add comment to the report. Director Gentleman provided an overview of her attached report for the Committee's information.

**2008/2009 ENVIRONMENT
BUDGET**

N/A

**ANTI-IDLING BY-LAW
IMPLEMENTATION**

Councilor Bolland reported that while the policy has been a topic of discussion for awhile, the anti-idling campaign has done well to educate people. Councilor Bolland recommended that the Committee decide if they are going to pursue the bylaw or not. Councilor Bolland also noted that Montreal currently has bylaw in place which was not enforced with ticketing for the first year, but served as an educational year to promote awareness for citizens. Councilor Pearl added to the discussion by encouraging the Committee to move forward right away. There was also some discussion around whether it should be a Town or County initiative. Community representative Howell stated

that someone has to lead and it might as well be Kentville. He also noted that if the Committee waits for the County to approve, the process may take a lot longer than the Committee wishes to wait.

Councilor Bolland will provide some examples of bylaws to Director Gentleman who will send them out to the Committee before the next Committee meeting. A draft policy will be created for the Committees review, which will then be passed on to Council. The issue will be added under the section of "Business Arising" on the next agenda.

**DRIVE-THROUGH –
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT**

The Committee discussed the possibility of placing a moratorium on the construction of drive-throughs as part of the anti-idling policy. It is the Committee's opinion that not allowing idling would be directly related to restricting the use of drive-troughs for businesses such as banks, coffee shops and restaurants. Discussion by the Committee led to a motion to recommend a moratorium be considered.

IT WAS MOVED by Community Representative Howell and SECONDED by Community Representative Moores that it be recommended to the Planning Advisory Council that a moratorium on any future drive-throughs be considered.

MOTION CARRIED

**PAUL DIXON – RECYCLE
BIN CONCEPT FOR
DOWNTOWN**

Paul Dixon of Staples Business Depot gave a presentation to the Committee regarding recycling concepts for the Town of Kentville. Mr. Dixon reported for the Committee's information about the placement of recycling bins in town. Mr. Dixon noted that through the education of local businesses the goal is to encourage a policy of waste aversion. Mr Dixon stressed during his presentation that the placement of recycling bins in town is a great start to avoiding sending unnecessary waste to the landfill. Mr. Dixon informed the Committee about some other communities that have recycling bins in place including Wolfville who he said has around 20 of the bins. Mr. Dixon stated that the inclusion of the bins would make the statement that Kentville is taking a step forward in the field of waste aversion. He also explained that it is really only a matter of time before every community has these types of bins in place.

Chairman Bolland thanked Mr. Dixon for his presentation and noted that this is an exciting and beneficial initiative. Councilor Pearl added that he feels it is refreshing and encouraging to see a volunteer group like this leading by example. The Committee will take the issue to Council and recommend that \$4000.00 be placed in the budget for recycling bins.

**EARTH DAY – LITTER
PICKUP DAY**

Councilor Bolland requested that Community Representative Moores inform the Committee about plans for Earth Day 2008. Community Representative Moores informed the Committee that April 22nd is Earth Day, and that celebrations usually take place the weekend before on a Sunday, which this year falls on Sunday April 20th. The theme for Earth Day 2008 is the promotion of clean water, specifically the sustainability of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Community Representative Moores requested that Director Phillips look at partnering up with the initiative. Director Phillips stated that the Parks and recreation Department could definitely help to promote a town clean up day as part of Earth Day celebrations and noted that the date coincides with the Kentville Home Show, which is promoting the theme “going green”. Community Representative Moores will e-mail information, and meet with Director Phillips to discuss collaboration ideas.

**ECO-KINGS IDLE
COUNTYWIDE CAMPAIGN
APRIL 5, 2008**

Councilor Bolland reported to the Committee about the Eco-Kings Idle County Wide Campaign. He reported that Camp Aldershot, Acadia, Horton, NKEC, County Councillors, and the Village of New Minas are all participating in the campaign, but indicated that a few more individuals are needed as volunteers. The Campaign will run on April 5, 2008 from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. and the goal is to acquire 100 surveys per municipal unit.

**VOLUNTEER
APPRECIATION AWARDS**

Councilor Bolland asked Director Phillips to provide an update on the upcoming Volunteer Recognition Awards and suggested that the Committee consider using this platform to thank Jeff Best of Best Toyota for his significant contributions to the Committee. The Committee agreed that Mr. Best has been a great contributor and deserves to be recognized. Mr. Best will receive a personal invitation to the award dinner where he will be presented with a plaque recognizing his outstanding volunteer contributions.

AVRSB

Member Skaling will report to the Committee at the next meeting about the new anti-idling signage at NKEC.

NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY APRIL 23, 2008.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Eric Bolland
Chairperson

Lindsay J. Young
Recording Secretary