



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Environmental Protection Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee held on Monday, January 18, 2021 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Amy Lubik, Chair
Margaret Birch
Kyle Demes
Andrew MacLellan
Javney Mohr
Elizabeth Philips
Damian Regan
Connie Smith
Koy Tayler
Judy Taylor-Atkinson
Jeremy Wong

Absent

Councillor Meghan Lahti, Vice-Chair
Jutta Rickers-Haunerland

In Attendance

Angela Crampton – Environmental Technician
Jennifer Mills – Committee Coordinator
Julie Pavey-Tomlinson – Director of Environment and Parks

Also in Attendance

Ashton Kerr, Green Teams of Canada
Lyda Salatian, Green Teams of Canada

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 EPC21/001

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Environmental Protection Committee meeting held on Thursday, December 3, 2020 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Committee Orientation

4.1 Committee Coordinator

Attachments:

- a) Committee Orientation Manual – January 2020
- b) Environmental Protection Committee Terms of Reference
- c) Respectful Workplace Policy
- d) [Draft Five Year Financial Plan – 2020-2024](#)
- e) [2019-2022 Council Strategic Plan](#)

File: 01-0360-20-04

The Committee Coordinator gave a presentation on the 2021 Committee Orientation.

Invasive Plant Management

4.2 Presentation: Angela Crampton, Environmental Technician To be distributed on-table.

The Environmental Technician gave a presentation on the Invasive Plant Management Program Update and the following was noted:

- the work related to invasive plant management is guided by the key action areas of: management on City lands, management through development, education and outreach, community stewardship, and regional networking;
- the majority of the invasive plant management efforts are related to City lands including parks, natural areas, roadsides, and other City properties;
- the potential impacts to biodiversity and infrastructure are considered when prioritizing work;
- the work targeting species that pose a potential public health risk are the highest priority;
- the bird nesting window is during the summer and large scale removals are not undertaken during this time to minimize damage to the ecosystem; the focus during the summer is on restoration sites;
- the efforts related to Spartina have provided an opportunity to learn about shoreline erosion and restoration best practices;
- the pond at the Old Mill site has received a treatment technique for Yellow Flag Iris where carpet is placed on plots for a one-year period to kill the aquatic invasive plant and encourage natural regeneration;
- the knotweed action program began in 2016 and has now treated more than twice the original amount inventoried; the restoration efforts have provided the opportunity to plant native species to ensure other invasive species do not inhabit the area;
- the knotweed treatment efforts will continue to decrease as strategies move towards monitoring and maintenance;
- the challenges related to knotweed include treatment being prohibited in areas within 1m of the high water

- mark and no enforcement options to require action on private property;
- the management of invasive species through development strategy is addressed through City policies and Development Permit Guidelines for Environmentally Sensitive Areas; the goal is to include invasive plant management as part of the development application reviews; and
- the public education and community stewardship efforts in 2020 were impacted by COVID-19 and fewer events were undertaken.

The Committee noted the following:

- the City should take advantage of opportunities for funding, partnerships, and resources to ensure the work related to the removal of invasive species continues;
- the City could operate a small nursery to grow native plants and small plugs; and
- the City could support invasive prevention efforts by studying how the invasives are introduced into the environment and incorporate this information into education efforts.

Staff noted the following in response to the Committee members' comments:

- the Environment and Parks Division has submitted an additional new service request to expand the base budget amount for the program;
- any efforts to chemically treat knotweed near aquatic areas would need to involve other partners on a regional or province-wide level;
- the City previously operated a small greenhouse nursery that was discontinued after it was found to be uneconomical;
- the timeline for total elimination of knotweed varies between sites based on site conditions;
- the information regarding invasives is distributed through bylaw warnings, education initiatives, articles in the Focus newsletter, and green waste pick-up;
- the City coordinates its invasive management efforts regionally to ensure shared approaches are developed with neighbouring municipalities.

Lower Mainland Green Team

4.3 Presentation: Ashton Kerr, Program Manager, Lower Mainland Green Team
Attachment: Promoting Health, Well-Being, and Environmental Stewardship in Port Moody
File: 01-0360-20-04-02

Ashton Kerr, Program Manager, Lower Mainland Green Team, gave a presentation on Promoting Health, Well-Being, and Environmental Stewardship in Port Moody and the following was noted:

- Green Teams of Canada was founded to provide a connection with nature and people while positively impacting communities through the creation of environmental stewardship opportunities for residents and has been working with the City since 2014;
- nineteen events have been held in Port Moody with more than half of the participants being youth;
- the goals are to engage participants in hands-on environmental projects and provide education on climate change;
- environmental activism can lead to other impactful behaviours such as a healthy lifestyle and voting;
- events can be held for invasive species removal, native planting, shoreline and park clean-ups, and vegetable planting at farms to connect participants with local food systems;
- demand for activities has increased through the pandemic and programs continue to run in a socially distanced way;
- Green Team of Canada is proposing to build a fee-for-service partnership with Port Moody to establish a minimum of six community engagement activities per year for a two year period; and
- Green Teams of Canada would perform the outreach, plan and run the event, take photos, complete post-event logistics, and provide a report one-year later to recap the environmental and community impacts of the event.

Ms. Kerr noted the following in response to the Committee members' questions:

- Green Teams of Canada receives in-kind plant and tree donations for use at events or municipalities can chose to provide them;
- Green Teams of Canada does not charge tax;
- events are \$2,000 each which includes all event logistics;
- Green Teams of Canada is a federally incorporated charity that relies on fee-for-service partnerships with municipalities; and
- traditional ecological knowledge will be incorporated into the Green Teams of Canada Strategic Plan and

efforts to build and maintain partnerships with First Nations is under way.

EPC21/002

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT Council support the Green Teams Canada fee-for-service proposal to support the City's Climate Action goals.

Ms. Kerr and Ms. Salatian left the meeting at this point and did not return.

2021 Work Plan

4.4 Attachment: 2020 Annual Report – Environmental Protection Committee
File: 01-0360-20-04-02

The Director of Environment and Parks noted that the 2021 Work Plan requires development and requested Committee members' input for items, and the following was noted:

- the Committee could receive a presentation from Planning on relevant environmental information such as the progress on sustainability initiatives and development goals and updates to the Official Community Plan;
- update on the Urban Forest Management Strategy;
- update on bear management;
- nature-based, blue, and green infrastructure;
- bird week;
- tour of daylighting projects from various years to examine the features and advancement of daylighting practices;
- update on the marine animals that were displaced by the disappearance of the log booms;
- save the pine siskin;
- update on tree protection bylaw;
- update on rodenticides;
- update on invasive plant strategy;
- climate resilient landscaping; and
- community wildfire protection plan.

The Director of Environment and Parks noted the following:

- staff, environmental stewardship groups, and other stakeholders are working with the Port of Vancouver to discuss marine mammal considerations related to the removal of the log booms; the issue falls under the Port of Vancouver's jurisdiction; and
- the tree bylaw update may be incorporated into the Urban Forest Management Strategy to ensure the two are linked.

5. Information

Staff Updates

5.1 The Director of Environment and Parks provided Staff Updates and the following was noted:

- the Environmentally Sensitive Areas Management Strategy Update is open for registration; and
- the City's 2020 Annual Report is being developed which will include the City's environmental accomplishments including The Pollinators film screening and related events, the first electric work truck in the Parks Department, the implementation of the Park Host Program , the use of third-party monitoring of erosion sediment control sites.

Judy Taylor-Atkinson provided an update on the latest bird count and the following was noted:

- the bird count indicated a sharp decline in numbers; it was raining heavily during the count which may have impacted the numbers across the Lower Mainland;
- the count identified merganser and goldeneye ducks, sparrows, finches, robins, pine siskins, and cormorants; and
- there was a total of 32 species and 1,470 individual birds which is about half of the previous count.

2021 Environmental Protection Committee Meeting Schedule

5.2 Attachment: 2021 Meeting Schedule – Environmental Protection Committee
File: 01-0360-20-04

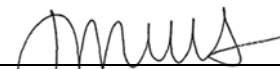
This item was provided for information only.

6. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:56pm.



Councillor Amy Lubik,
Chair



Jennifer Mills,
Committee Coordinator