



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Environmental Protection Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee held on Monday, June 20, 2022 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Diana Dilworth, Chair
Margaret Birch
Damian Regan
Kevin Ryan
Connie Smith
Koy Tayler
Judy Taylor-Atkinson
Jeremy Wong

Absent

Councillor Amy Lubik, Vice-Chair
Jutta Rickers-Haunerland (Regrets)

In Attendance

Karen Devitt – Environmental Coordinator
Kelsey Guenette, Recording Secretary, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.
Anna Mathewson – General Manager of Community Services
Julie Pavey-Tomlinson – Director of Environment and Parks

Also In Attendance

Dr. Shawn Chartrand, Simon Fraser University

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

- 1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1 EPC22/014

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the agenda of the Environmental Protection Committee meeting held on Monday, June 20, 2022 be adopted.

Minutes

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1 EPC22/015

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Environmental Protection Committee meeting held on Monday, May 16, 2022 be adopted.

4. Unfinished Business

5. New Business

Introduction of General Manager of Community Services

5.1 General Manager of Community Services, Anna Mathewson

The Chair introduced the General Manager of Community Services and led a round of introductions.

The General Manager of Community Services gave a brief background on previous roles held, including Director of Environmental Services at the City of Abbotsford, Manager of Sustainability at the City of Surrey, and Manager of the Burrard Inlet Environmental Action Plan and Fraser River Estuary Management Program.

Stream Restoration

5.2 Presentation: Dr. Shawn Chartrand, Simon Fraser University

Dr. Shawn Chartrand gave a presentation on Introduction to "What is Stream Restoration", including information about the different perspectives of restoration; the differing goals, constraints, opportunities, and contexts of restoration; and the passive and active approaches to restoration.

Dr. Chartrand noted the following in response to the Committee's questions:

- the strength of the *Endangered Species Act* in California and Oregon is primarily driving the motivation to pursue restoration actions;
- the number of restoration acts pursued annually would drop precipitously in California and Oregon without a strong *Endangered Species Act*;
- BC has not yet passed its own *Endangered Species Act*;
- endangered species acts are critically important in efforts to conserve wild species and natural environments;

- stage 0 and stage 8 of anastomosis cannot be used interchangeably; and
- there are opportunities to put stage 0 anastomosis into practice in an urban setting; however, it would involve immense planning and a large land base acquisition to allow room for the river to shift.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- in the past decade, the closest effort at the provincial level to develop an *Endangered Species Act* was the Species and Ecosystem at Risk Local Government Working Group (SEAR LGWG), which is a provincially led working group for conservation of species and ecosystems at risk in BC, whose long-term goal has been to pursue provincial legislation for species and ecosystems at risk;
- the Committee could develop an advocacy motion for the SEAR LGWG to be shared at the yearly provincial convention attended by elected officials;
- a presentation on dam removal would be of interest;
- the main issue comes down to how real estate/land is used;
- implementation and political appetite will be a challenge as there are significant pressures on municipalities to accommodate predicted population growths;
- ~~Port Moody's daylighting policy has been successful and projects are also utilized as environmental education spaces~~ *Port Moody's daylighting policy continues to show benefits, and projects are being utilized as environmental education spaces*; and
- the City should have a policy in place specific to the management of vegetation in daylighted areas to avoid overgrowth.

*Amended by EPC22/018

Green Infrastructure Subcommittee Update

5.3 Green Infrastructure Subcommittee

The Green Infrastructure Subcommittee provided an overview of the Green Infrastructure Subcommittee Terms of Reference and the Preliminary Work In Progress, noting that the Terms of Reference aims to focus green infrastructure work on the understanding that an election will occur in fall 2022 and what can be accomplished prior to it.

The Director of Environment and Parks noted that Council approved the continuation of work on natural asset management this week and that this will tie into future green infrastructure work.

EPC22/016

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the Green Infrastructure Subcommittee Terms of Reference be approved.

**Light Pollution and
International Dark Sky
Guidelines**

- 5.4 The Environmental Coordinator gave a presentation on Light Pollution, including information about light pollution; impacts to wildlife, energy waste and carbon emissions, and human health; the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA); certified IDA Communities; and Port Moody policies related to light pollution.

The Environmental Coordinator noted the following in response to Committee questions:

- recommendations for the use of lighting at night along park paths in Port Moody will need to be reconciled with changes to the Official Community Plan;
- a streetlight replacement program is in the planning stages and is tentatively scheduled to begin in 2023;
- tennis court lighting in Port Moody is scheduled for replacement with LED lighting and new IDA certified fixtures; and
- Port Moody is far from becoming an IDA certified community.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- the Metro Vancouver Parks Department is holding outdoor educational workshops on light pollution in the evenings in August 2022 so that attendees can notice light pollution effects in real time;
- consistency over time through capital projects to ensure light pollution considerations are incorporated will help Port Moody to become an IDA certified community;
- an article in an upcoming Port Moody Focus newsletter could be written on the effects of light pollution to raise awareness; and
- targeted outreach to strata corporations could be conducted.

6. Information

Staff Updates

6.1 The Environmental Coordinator gave a presentation on Staff Updated, and noted the following:

- several initiatives to incorporate messaging related to balloons developed by the EPC Subcommittee in 2021 have been actioned;
- Tsleil-Waututh First Nation declined Port Moody's invitation but sent resources in its stead;
- the Committee could consider working with a Simon Fraser University student as an alternative option;
 - a student is recreating scientific aspects of a previous study conducted in the Burrard Inlet to compare data and possibly provide recommendations on how to further support biodiversity in the Burrard Inlet; and
 - staff could invite the student to present findings to the Committee; and
- a discussion on the definition of sustainability is planned for the next Committee meeting.

The Committee noted the following in response to the presentation from the Environmental Coordinator:

- staff should invite the Simon Fraser University to present its study findings and recommendations;
- including a historical perspective on the definition of sustainability would be of interest;
- the Committee does not need to create a definition of sustainability specific to Port Moody;
- Port Moody's first Sustainability Report Card from 2008 could be used as a reference during the next meeting; and
- staff could include Metro Vancouver's definition of sustainability in the presentation.

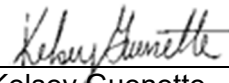
The meeting was automatically adjourned at 9:00pm.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was automatically adjourned at 9:00pm.



Councillor Diana Dilworth,
Chair



Kelsey Guenette,
Recording Secretary