



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Climate Action Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Action Committee held on Monday, November 25, 2019 in the Brovold Room.

Present

Councillor Amy Lubik, Vice-Chair
Elaine Golds (arrived at 7:13pm)
Katelyn Maki
Javney Mohr
Eustina Musvoto
Bryn Sadownik
Derek Wilson

Absent

Councillor Meghan Lahti, Chair (Regrets)
Rebecca Lyon
Duncan Smith (Regrets)

In Attendance

Philip Lo – Committee Coordinator
Laura Sampliner – Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

Also in Attendance

Trevor Hancock – Guest Speaker

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:11pm

CAC19/015

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT Film Subcommittee Update be added to the agenda as item 4.4.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 CAC19/016

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Climate Action Committee meeting held on Monday, September 30, 2019 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Climate Action Committee Photo – Inlet Theatre

4.1 This item has been postponed until January 2020.

4.2 Guest Speaker: Trevor Hancock

Trevor Hancock gave a presentation on the Anthropocene and its impact on the planet, noting the following:

- human activity has altered the Earth's natural cycle, creating a new geological epoch called the Anthropocene which risks destabilizing the planet;
- the impact of the Anthropocene is more than just climate change, but also ocean acidification, ozone layer depletion, resource depletion, pollution, and species extinction, which are all happening concurrently; it is the scale and rapidity of these changes that are most concerning;
- humanity's ecological footprint is outgrowing world biocapacity, and more than half of this footprint consists of carbon;
- there was a spike around 1950 in negative environmental trends, and a great acceleration of these negative trends after 1950;
- the IPAT equation shows that the acceleration in environmental impact is due to changes in socio-economic factors;
- increases in GDP beyond 20,000 per capita has no further correlation with life expectancy or happiness; only social equity has further impact;
- Canada's ecological footprint is 4.75 planets;
- Current conversations focusing only on climate change do not address the complete "package" of issues;
- the challenge is to achieve "one planet living" while meeting the basic needs of the population and ensuring high-level human and social development, health, and happiness;
- encourage and engage in conversations around the One Planet Region, promote the concept in conversation groups, arts and culture initiatives, and ecological economics groups;
- One Planet Saanich is an example of this type of progress;
- food (meat, fish, eggs and dairy) and transportation (private vehicles) were most heavily responsible for the ecological footprint in the Victoria and Saanich region;
- healthy diets are often also sustainable, and an ecologically sustainable society results in health gains from a healthier way of living;
- this is not a science and technology problem, but a social, economic, political, cultural, ideological, philosophical, ethical, and spiritual problem; and
- municipalities need to learn and discuss, and engage all sectors of the community in the discussion, such as schools, businesses, faith communities, and community organizations.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Hancock noted the following:

- the public should be educated about the impact of their choices, and that food purchase choices send a message which could shift corporate behaviour;
- economic development is a key influencer in population size and growth; however, ecological impact is not just about population size, as a child born in a high-income country is more likely to have a much higher ecological impact over a lifetime;
- GDP is not a good indicator of social progress; quality of life indicators used by municipalities are much more sophisticated, and senior governments need to learn from local governments on how to measure progress;
- Vietnam, Costa Rica, and Cuba are examples of populations which live long happy lives with relative low GDP per capital;
- food produced from further way could be more energy efficient, depending on what it is and how it was transported; however, eating locally creates local economy and has local employment benefits;
- there is interconnectedness around income, renewable energy systems, local employment, and green transportation;
- the key is to have respect and reverence for nature;
- it is important to have conversations which lead to action; without conversations, there would not be any action;
- similar to the Saanich example (oneplanetsaanich.org), the City could facilitate, engage, and expand the stakeholder group, with each group developing its own One Planet action plan.

The Committee noted the following:

- consumption of foods produced elsewhere creates ecological and economic issues in producer countries, such as food inequality and starvation; and
- the concept of “neighbourliness” and community could help develop conversations on this topic.

Climate Action Engagement

4.3 Laura Sampliner, Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

Staff advised that both Climate Action Plan Open Houses have been completed, and noted the following:

- over 600 climate actions were submitted at Open House #1; these were refined and narrowed down;
- the refined actions were incorporated into seven focus areas for prioritization by participants at Open House #2;
- obstacles and barriers to climate action such as cost and education were addressed at the Open House #2

- after December 1, staff will compile feedback received, outline the implementation actions and their timelines, and determine benchmarks and resources required;
- staff will begin drafting the Plan in December, and meet with other City departments for feedback; the draft Plan will be brought back to the Committee for comments and feedback;
- the Plan is scheduled for Council consideration in early 2020;
- the City's approach is inline with current best practices; the draft Plan could incorporate wording and approaches that are consistent with other municipalities;
- the City's process and data could be shared with other Tri-Cities partners;
- budgeting and staffing requirements to implement the Plan will be projected into the next five years; and
- One Planet Region principles and framework could be incorporated as guiding principles for the Plan;

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- consider incorporating elements of the Green New Deal into the Plan;
- the Plan should include concrete actions that illustrate how different families can reduce their impact, and provide pathways and visions that people can follow;
- estimates for the carbon storage capacity of community forests and other natural assets such as Bert Flinn Park should be included in the Plan.

The Committee requested an update on the collaboration with Simon Fraser University at the January 2020 Committee meeting.

CAC19/017

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the meeting be extended by an additional five minutes.

Javney Mohr left the meeting at this point and did not return.

Film Subcommittee Update

- 4.4 Bryn Sadownik provided an update on the Film Subcommittee's work, noting the following:

- films could be shown from January to March 2020, building up to Earth Day in April;
- the subcommittee has reached out to the Port Moody Film Society;
- clarification is needed with regards to whether insurance related to the film showings would fall under the City's existing coverage, and if not, the cost for obtaining insurance;
- clarification around event budgeting is needed, including costs for marketing, food and refreshments, and whether fundraising would be required;

- a list of films is being compiled; and
- a Facebook page and a poster for the film series has been created.

Staff suggested that the events could accept donations, and that staff could look into whether the City has the ability to provide in-kind support.

5. Information

**Conversations for a
One Planet Region**

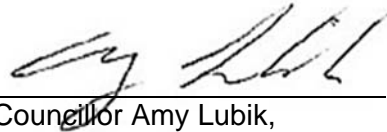
5.1 Link: <https://creativelyunited.org/one-planet-region/>

Staff Updates

5.2

6. Adjournment

Councillor Lubik adjourned the meeting at 9:07pm.



Councillor Amy Lubik,
Vice-Chair



Philip Lo,
Committee Coordinator