

# Environmental Advisory Committee

## Minutes

February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

**Present:** Councillor Chuck MacInnis, Shelley Innes, Gary Brown, Martin Cathrae, Carol Williams, Claire Sexton

**Absent:** regrets Anne de Gobeo, regrets Councillor Steve Ireland

Call to Order by Gary at 17:40

Welcome to Claire Sexton

Approval/Additions to Agenda: Article regarding Reuse Centre in Phoenix, Revisit Declaration Right to Healthy Environment M/S Martin/Carol

No pecuniary interests declared.

Minutes of the previous meeting were passed by email M/S: Anne/Shelley.

### Old Business

- **Styrofoam Usage** – Shelley reports that the meeting with the supplier is tomorrow (February 24, 2017), will report back next meeting.
- **Wood chipper potential update** - Gary reports he will have more details to discuss for next meeting.
- **Recycling bins Update** – How is uptake on the bins – Councillor MacInnis reports the advertisement is now out at the landfill and people can even pick them up there. One or more of our businesses have been told they are not eligible for the bin, however this is not the case. Gary suggests we could perhaps sell any extras at Merrickville Goes Green. We are unsure what the current numbers of bins remaining are. We could add in a reminder about the bins to our planned news release in the phoenix. Carol volunteers she could write the release. Councillor MacInnis suggests that we have a composter at the landfill, possibly for sale as well. We would ask council if we can after a certain amount of time, sell the remaining recycling bins. Claire suggests we could get a table set up for earth day to potentially sell the bins as well. We will make a decision next meeting based on response from council and determining how many bins we have.
- **FMC Green – GMF Capital Projects** – info forwarded to John and his staff will explore opportunities.
- **Used Oil Recycling** – As far as the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change is concerned, burning used oil is against regulations since 2007. The worry is if people don't accept it, people might dump it. There are furnaces designed to burn the used oil that are apparently fairly efficient.
- **Strategic Plan** – Committees and their members are invited to attend an info session on Feb. 28 at 6:00PM at the community centre. Members who will be in attendance are encouraged to

read the final plan (there is a link to the PDF on the website). Each Chairperson will be asked to say a few words about their mandate (Anne will represent us).

- Article regarding Reuse Centre in Phoenix – As above, Carol has volunteered to write the article. Will include information on the bins, reuse centre, composters, and Pitch In 2017.
- Revisit Declaration of a Right to Healthy Environment – We are going to put the declaration forward again with how it links to the strategic plan. Claire suggests we can also link it to youth and innovation, attracting people to our municipality.

#### New Business

- PITCH IN 2017 (April 23-29) – A suggestion that we get the two schools involved. As a note, Frederick is the direct contact with the organization. As a committee we will get involved as well, closer to the time we will coordinate with Frederick and pick a road or two to clean as a group.
- Merrickville Eco Fair in May – Shelly reports that Merrickville Goes Green are not going to run the Eco Fair this year. MGG are working on organizing a mid week market, Wednesdays from early June to September. They're looking into some other events as well in lieu of the Eco Fair.
- Silvia Blanchard has resigned due to her lack of time.
- Claire Sexton, of Healthily Ever After, has submitted her application and it will be reviewed at the council meeting on Feb. 13, 2017 – In fact, she has been approved to be on the committee and is here today.

#### Round Table Discussion

Next Meeting: March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 17:30.

Adjournment: 18:50 M/S Shelley/Claire