

# Environmental Advisory Committee

Minutes

June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

**Present:** Councillor Chuck MacInnis, Councillor Steve Ireland, Shelley Innes, Anne de Gobeo, Gary Brown, Martin Cathrae

**Absent** Carol Williams (with regrets), Silvia Blanchard (with regrets)

Call to Order by Gary at 17:32

Approval/Additions to Agenda: Additions: Recycling Diversion Numbers, Industrial Wind Turbine Discussion. Accept Additions/Agenda: Move/Second: Anne, Shelley

No pecuniary interests declared.

Minutes of the previous meeting were passed by email M/S: Shelley, Gary

## Old Business

- Strategic Plan – Initial draft sent out by Anne. Since it was only a couple days ago we will take more time to go over the draft and make comments to the document. Councillors will bring Anne’s name up again to be on the Strategic Plan Committee. They were under the impression her name was brought forth as a committee member and we would like representation from our committee on that committee.
- TD Graham signs and brochure – Anne had a conversation with TD Graham but didn’t want to exclusively determine what we will produce. Anne, Alfred, and the Public Works Manager will meet together to determine what exactly we can produce within our budget.
- Declaration of Environmental Bills of Rights – We had a bit more discussion as a group as to some changes to wording in the bill. We are dropping one small item off the list. Section 4f, we are not sure that we can ask the municipality can “Ensure” access to clean drinking water as per provincial legislative requirements. Debate is about what is in the provincial requirements, especially regarding non public water sources. New wording, “Support” the availability of safe and accessible cleaning water as per provincial legislative requirements. Changes will be made and draft sent back out for us to review.
- Species at risk policy – Anne asked and found out that we follow RVCA’s guidelines regarding species at risk.
- Recycling Diversion Numbers – We received a response from the public works manager. We’re concerned about the fact that the information is incomplete. There are no percentages so we don’t know how the percentages might be changing year over year. Another request for more information has been made. Somewhat of a side note: Could we have a discussion about lobbying the province to start talking to companies to reduce their packaging?

## New Business

- Industrial Wind Turbine Discussion – Municipalities have no say in siting wind projects. Some residents and other municipalities object to this. There was a motion circulating through the province and we passed the resolution to ask the province to allow municipalities a role in siting wind projects. We had also passed a resolution saying we are not a willing host to industrial scale wind projects.

- Program Recommendation for Composter Subsidy – We asked the municipal office how they would like to do the rebate. They have asked us to set up the subsidy ourselves. We discussed options and are going to give \$10 back for the first 100 to a resident who brings a receipt for a backyard composter. The municipality will have some available via some leftover from Merrickville Goes Green Eco Fair priced for \$60. That will be eligible for the \$10 rebate if it is sold within the first 100 people. If a resident has a receipt they will be able to come to the village office.

Next Meeting: August 25<sup>th</sup>, 17:30

Adjournment: 18:30 M/S Shelley/Martin