



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023 AT 7:00 p.m.
Langley City Hall – Council Chambers
(directly across from the CKF Room)
20399 Douglas Crescent, Langley, BC

A G E N D A

1) **AGENDA**

Adoption of the February 9, 2023 agenda.

2) **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the Environmental Task Group meeting held January 12, 2023.

3) **DISCUSSION**

1. Pollinators Poster – review poster created by staff.
2. Community Day volunteers needed for helping public sort the 3 streams on the event day to the February agenda.
3. Committee to share suggestions/ideas that would make Community Day 2023 as sustainable as possible.
4. Review and update action items in January 12, 2023 minutes
5. Create a 2023 ESC Workplan for Council approval.
6. Chair proposed a 6pm start as opposed to 7pm? How do members feel about this time change?

4) **STANDING ITEMS**

- a) Poster / Flyer
 - a. Review Pollinator Poster
 - b. Determine Future Poster Topic Ideas
- b) New Initiatives and Emerging Trends

5) **ROUND TABLE**

ADJOURNMENT

2022 MEETING DATES

Mar 9, Apr 13, May 11, Jun 8, July 13, Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9

Please notify Janine Clough at jclough@langleycity.ca of your **confirmed attendance** to be able to meet the quorum requirements to hold this meeting.



MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

**Langley City Hall – Council Chambers
20399 Douglas Crescent, Langley, BC**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M.

Present: Councillor Paul Albrecht, Chair
Councillor Rosemary Wallace, Vice Chair
Lisa Dreves, Langley Field Naturalists
Amika Watari, Post-secondary Institution Rep
Ellen Hall, Member at Large

Staff: Rick Bomhof, Director of Engineering, Parks & Environment
Janine Clough, Recording Secretary

Absent: Nichole Marples, Langley Environmental Partners Society, with regrets
Marcela Ferreira, Member at Large, with regrets

The Chair acknowledged that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

1) AGENDA

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the, January 12, 2023 Agenda for the Environmental Task Group be adopted.

CARRIED

2) MINUTES

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT November 24, 2022 Minutes of the Environmental Task Group meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3) DISCUSSION

- a) Earth Day 2023: Rescind Motion made at the Nov 24th meeting for funding.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the ESC rescind the request from the November 24, 2022 meeting minutes for funding for the 2nd Annual Earth Day Event on April 22, 2023 because \$10,000 has been allocated from the 2023 capital budget to be used towards environmental initiatives.

CARRIED

It was noted that the first Community Day meeting was held today. It was discussed that the management of waste worked well and they plan to set up the same way at this year's event. They will place a greencan bin adjacent the food trucks with volunteers and plan to place a 3 stream bin closer to the stage. The committee is looking for more volunteers for June 10 11am to 8pm.

It was also discussed for City events such as Earth Day, Community Day, etc. that organizers request both vendors and 'give-aways' be as sustainable as possible. The topic of implementing reusable cups at City events was suggested.

ACTION: Add two items to the February 9th agenda to discuss Community Day volunteers needed to help the public sort the 3 streams on the event day and to discuss suggestions to make events more sustainable..

- b) Pollinators Poster: content being reviewed. Who will validate information prior to creating the poster?
 - Ms. Dreves noted that Canadian bats and small mammals are not pollinators, and this information should be removed from the poster content. Staff will create a poster which will then go back to committee for final approval.
- c) Final Review of the 3 posters ESC created in 2022:
 - The Committee gave final approval to the Dog Waste Poster.
 - Due to Recycle BC's changes to the recycling of flexible plastics in 2023, it was noted that our current plastics poster will need to be revised to reflect these changes which allow for all flexible packaging to be collected in one stream, not two.

ACTION: Ms. Watari will research these changes and send results to Janine who will send out to the committee to review. Members will discuss poster changes at the February 9th meeting.

Any posters being displayed in public areas are to have a QR code added to it where people can find more information and be printed on 11 x 17 size paper. The library, dog park and at city facilities are some of the places posters could be located.

Posters can also be placed on social media (facebook, twitter, newsletters) at the Committee's request and as a news item on the website.

4) **STANDING ITEMS**

a) Poster / Flyer – Determine Future Topic Ideas:

- What to do with clothing that is not in good enough shape to resell?

ACTION: Ms. Hall will research this topic.

- Compost / food waste: noting that yard trimmings & food waste can be all together in one bin, no plastics permitted, etc. It was also mentioned that vacuum canister dirt is allowable in the food waste bin.

ACTION: Councillor Wallace will research this topic.

b) New Initiatives and Emerging Trends:

- Food Security
- Climate Action Strategy (ie. Emergency Preparedness)

- Action Items Update:

ACTION: Councillor Wallace will assemble upcycling criteria and approach Langley Arts Council for assistance for Earth Day.

Update: Councillor Wallace and Ms. Hall are working on this

ACTION: Ms. Marples will develop rationale behind the request for the \$5000 budget and recycling Initiative and staging a seed swap in the Community Garden.

Update: Not needed any more

ACTION: Ms. Watari & Ms. Hall will work on getting door prizes for Earth Day.

Update: Ms. Hall will approach garden centres and True Earth once the stores open for the season.

ACTION: Staff will discuss requesting the \$10,000 funding for environmental initiatives be added to the annual operating budget.

Update: Not needed anymore

ACTION: Ms Ferreira will inquire if Hives for Humanity would be available to attend the Earth Day Event to help educate the public about the importance of pollinators.

Update: Not at this time

5) **ROUND TABLE**

- Ms. Dreves shared that Langley Field Naturalists are excited to host BC naturalists at the AGM this year. They will be touring Brydon Lagoon and showcasing the 'Langley's'. She also spoke about participating in the 'Christmas Bird count' of 2022 that received news coverage by Global and

was talked about in local newspapers. This tradition originated in 1900 and was started by Frank Chapman, an officer with the Audubon Society. Each Christmas Bird Count is conducted on a single day between December 14 and January 5. Counts are carried out within a 24 km diameter circle that stays the same from year to year. They are organized, usually as group efforts, at the local level, often by a birding club or naturalist organization.

- Ms. Hall spoke about a UBC alumni magazine article about tree canopies disappearing in Vancouver. Discussion ensued about the importance of trees and tree asset management, and how to deal with the challenges of development destroying old growth trees. Ms. Hall gave staff the magazine to scan and send the article to the ESC members.
- The Chair as been appointed to Metro's Regional Planning, Water and Liquid Waste committee and is an alternate for the Vice Chair on the Fraser Valley Regional Library Board.
- The Vice Chair has been appointed to the Metro's Climate Action and Zero Waste Committees and is also on the Fraser Valley Regional Library Board.
- The Chair suggested to the members that an earlier meeting time would be entertained if it was suitable for all the members. It will be discussed at the February 9th meeting.
- Ms. Watari will ask her classmates if they would be interested in attending a future ESC meeting and will let staff know if anyone is interested.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 8:20 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

Certified Correct:
jc

RECORDING SECRETARY



Environmental Sustainability Committee
PRESENTS

Pollinators

Beetles, wasps, moths, ants, butterflies, houseflies, bees, as well as birds.

Pollinators are under threat. Both the abundance, diversity, and health of pollinators have diminished in recent years.

Flowering plants need to be pollinated so they can reproduce crops that our civilization relies on for food, shelter, and clothing.

Climate change and human activities have altered the natural landscape and changed land use, reducing the natural habitat of wild pollinator species.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Create pollinator habitats – if you have flowering plants, add a bee box (not to be confused with bee hives.)
Bee boxes provide homes for native bees, and a place for them to lay their eggs safely.
- Plant milkweed and natives – plant flowers that have large open petals, instead of tiny buds.
- Avoid the use of pesticides –
Pesticides are harmful to pests, but they also hurt helpful pollinators.

THE 3-30-300 RULE

ILLUSTRATION BY MONTSE GALBANY

TREES AND GREEN spaces are an antidote for the stresses of modern life. Their shade and the natural cooling effect of transpiration provide respite from rising temperatures. They remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and trap the particulates that pollute our air. And their beauty is a natural tranquillizer for troubled minds.

However, the benefits of urban green space aren't evenly spread among the populace. "Leafy" is an adjective often reserved for affluent neighbourhoods, while the paved and sparsely planted areas typically inhabited by those with fewer choices are aptly described as concrete jungles.

This inequality, coupled with an urgency driven by climate change, is why forestry professor Cecil Konijnendijk launched the 3-30-300 rule last year, with the goal of creating greener and healthier cities for everyone.

The rule calls for every resident to be able to see at least three decent-sized trees from their home, and live in a neighbourhood with at least 30 per cent tree canopy cover, with the nearest public green space no further than 300 metres from their door.

Konijnendijk, who is the program director for UBC's new master's degree in Urban Forestry Leadership, concedes that 3-30-300 is more a rule of thumb than an exact prescription for every city – but it provides a clear and simple guide that everyone can relate to, including policymakers. And connecting the rule to individuals rather than cities as a whole will, he hopes, lead to a more equitable distribution of green assets.

3
decent-sized
trees

300
metres from
the nearest
green space

30%
tree canopy
cover

The Collaborative of Advanced Landscape Planning (CALP), led by professor emeritus of forestry Stephen Sheppard, provides toolkits ("Coolkits") and workshops ("Cool 'Hood Champs") for citizens who want to green their neighbourhoods. See calp.forestry.ubc.ca for more information.