



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 AT 7:00 p.m.

Via Electronic Video Conference

This meeting will be conducted by electronic means. For information on how to attend this meeting please visit the Committees & Task Group's webpage of the City's website Langleycity.ca

A G E N D A

1) AGENDA

Adoption of the March 10, 2022 agenda.

3) MINUTES

Adoption of the minutes of the Environmental Task Group meeting held February 10, 2022.

4) DISCUSSION

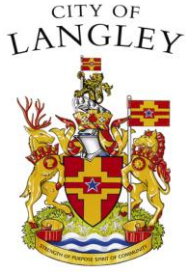
1. Change from Task Group to Committee
 - confirm Membership and discuss vacant positions
2. Update on Earth Day Canada Action/Reduction Business Sustainability Program, NM
3. Update about location for a pollinator garden, NM
4. Heritage Tree Designation by LD
5. How/who will arrange invitation to MP John Aldag and MLA Andrew Mercier to the Earth Day Event

ADJOURNMENT

2022 MEETING DATES

Apr 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, Sept 8, Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 8

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 TASK GROUP

REMOTE VIDEO CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.

Present: Councillor Rosemary Wallace, Chair
Councillor Paul Albrecht, Vice Chair,
Nichole Marples, Langley Environmental Partners Society
Lisa Dreves, Langley Field Naturalists
Amika Watari, Post-secondary Institution Rep
Marcela Ferreira, Member at Large
Ellen Hall, Member at Large

Staff: Francis Cheung, Chief Administrative Officer
Samantha Paulson, Communications Officer
Tera Edell, Recreation Supervisor
Janine Clough, Recording Secretary

Absent: Rick Bomhof, Director of Engineering, Parks & Environment, 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) **INTRODUCTION**

The members made a round table introduction.

2) **AGENDA**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the February 10, 2022 Agenda for the Environmental Task Group be adopted.

CARRIED

3) **MINUTES**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT December 9, 2021 Minutes of the Environmental Task Group meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4) DISCUSSION

- 1) Confirm activities and required planning actions for an Earth Day event on April 23, 2022.

Earth Day event is our first event since coming out of the pandemic. Nichole shared some ideas to be considered:

- Self-lead forest scavenger hunt,
- Douglas Park bingo,
- Community garden tours (Douglas Park?),
- Workshops about patio gardening, providing something kids could make and take home,
- LEPS has a recycle game they take to schools that they could bring to an event,
- Planting a pollinator garden in a selected location and adding to it each year,
- Work with a return-it recycling centre for electronics recycling. There are recycling companies that will attend an event and take away recycled items.
- Educational displays,
- Identifying edible and medicinal plants found in nature through an educational walk.
- Have people plant strawberries to take away. It was discussed that 100 strawberry plants would cost approx. \$200. We would also need to purchase soil and planting containers, \$500 could cover all the costs. We can ask council or approach businesses who support sustainability initiatives to donate funds for this purpose.

Upon further discussion, it was decided that the ETG would co-ordinate our event with the action-based Pitch-in event organized by Recreation Supervisor, Tera Edell. She noted the City provides supplies for the event and gives volunteers a certificate and refreshments at the end of the event. City also provides tents, chairs, tables, Recreation staff and will book space at Douglas Park. City provides different bags for garbage and recycling pick up. If SHARPS are found, volunteers are to make note of their location and it will be reported to city qualified staff for pick up. Also noted that set up / take down would be done by city staff at no cost to the ETG.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

THAT the Task Group recommends council support the coordinated earth day and pitch in event and allocate \$500 for purchasing planting supplies.

CARRIED

Tera will get clarification about the vaccine proof process and how we would manage this requirement with contractors, volunteers, etc.

ACTION: ETG to invite MP John Aldag and MLA Andrew Mercier to the Earth Day Event.

ACTION: Nichole will figure out what LEPS (education staff) and Langley Field naturalists have to offer for an event and she will investigate recycling companies who would attend an event and email her findings to members and Tera and Francis

It was discussed that this would require a person(s) to check ID and monitor that it is only city residents bringing items to be recycled.

ACTION: Tera to contact Langley Lawn bowling to see if parking lot is available for public use that day, Saturday April 23.

There was a discussion about investigating locations that is near one of the existing community gardens where the ETG could set up a pollinator garden and enhance it every year?

ACTION: Nichole will follow up with Jonn Epplette, Manager of Parks Operations about an appropriate space for this type of garden. It was also discussed that it would be city staff that would be required to maintain the garden year-round.

Once the members have finalized what we will be doing and the times of the event, Samantha will get the information out to the public.

- 2) The 2022 Budget includes a request for an Environmental Sustainability Coordinator. If approved, it will take approximately 3-4 months to fill. A large part of this time is used to draft the job description and have it reviewed by Metro Vancouver. They will assign a pay grade and then one month will be used for advertising the position and interviews. Chair and Co-chair can speak to this.

It was noted that this item has not received final Council approval to date. Staff will provide more information to council to justify the position and it will move to the 3rd reading of the bylaw. The earliest we will know if this position is approved is March 21, 2022. There was discussion about the issue of the increase of tax rates and that impact on City residents.

Members inquired if letters of encouragement from the public to Mayor and Council would help convey the need and desire for this sustainability position? Francis instructed members that City would need to receive letters by March 7th to share with council for the 3rd reading. Francis spoke to the fact that this position could also support the commitments within the Climate Action to shape and build a sustainability network.

ACTION: Francis to send out the Climate Action Emergency Recommendations to the ETG members.

- 3) Changing the Environmental Task Group to the Environmental Sustainability Committee. Chair and Co-chair to speak to this.

The new ESC 'committee' is a '*select committee*'. The main difference between it and a task group are that a committee is ongoing, not needed to be re-established each calendar year:

- its purpose is to act in an advisory capacity to Council, on an ongoing basis, on issues as identified in its Terms of Reference and as directed by Council, and to make recommendations to Council for consideration where appropriate to do so.

and a *task group* has a specific purpose, or tasks and when staff are needed to carry out the action, they can only do one at a time.

- its purpose and mandate is to consider, inquire into, report and make recommendations to Council for a specific purpose with a defined start and completion time that falls within the mandate of the Task Group;
- may undertake multiple initiatives; however, if staff resources are required, only one initiative at a time is undertaken.

ACTION: Ellen will contact John Aldag to request some copies of a pamphlet called 'The Environment in You' distributed by the MP's office.

Add the following Items to the March agenda:

ACTION: Nicole to recap sustainability program for businesses

ACTION: Lisa to speak about Heritage Tree Designation at the March 10 meeting.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 8:24 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

Certified Correct:
jc

RECORDING SECRETARY