



MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL TASK GROUP

MEET AT PORTAGE PARK, 5147 204 STREET
(in covered picnic shelter)

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021 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
Ellen Hall, Member at Large
Lisa Stephens, Member at Large

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

1) ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the JUNE 10, 2021 agenda for the Environmental Task Group be adopted.

CARRIED

2) MINUTES

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT MAY 13, 2021 minutes of the Environmental Task Group meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

4) DISCUSSION

- a) Waste Audit, Report to Council
 - has been approved by council.
 - Phase 1 will begin in August 2021

b) Task group feedback from action items:

It was discussed that creation of a pamphlet that addressed garbage, and what is acceptable in green can pick, up would be very helpful to city residents. The comment was made that its unfortunate the province has not done this which would make recycling consistent across the entire province.

Rosemary and Ellen will brainstorm ideas/information and develop a framework for the pamphlet. Once framework is established, we will approach schools or Scouts Canada with the information we want to convey and have them design/draw ideas.

The group also discussed the use of compostable dog waste bags. It was suggested the city could consider offering links to websites illustrating how to make or purchase compostable dog waste systems.

Rosemary & Paul discussed going to LSS and Kwantlan in person in the hopes of finding people who would want to be on the ETG for the fall.

ACTION: Lisa S will provide a contact for Scouts Canada.

ACTION: Nicole will send Rick information about LEPS Eco Crew (funded by city).

Lisa S shared the following information she collected about "Recognizing businesses making commitments towards sustainability":

- Most recognition programs seem to fall within 3 basic models. One thing all models have in common is that they require stakeholder input, engagement, and staff members.

Model 1: Tiered recognition (example Winter Park, Florida)

- Acknowledges green businesses who have made substantial efforts in implementing environmentally sustainable practices.
- Businesses must apply for recognition.
- 6 key focus areas –
 - o Building, Energy and Water
 - o Community engagement and Green Economy
 - o Local Food and Agriculture
 - o Mobility and Urban Form
 - o Natural Resources and Systems
 - o Waste Diversion and recycling
- Bronze, Silver and Gold recognition levels
- Each level must provide a sustainability statement outlining sustainability goals.
- Bronze earns 30 pts in 4/6 focus areas; Silver same a bronze but earn 60 points in 5/6 areas and Gold earn 90 points in all 6 areas.
- Points are based on a "report card"
<https://cityofwinterpark.org/departments/building-permitting->

[services/sustainability-program/community-engagement-green-economy/green-business-recognition-program/score-sheet-resources/](#)

Model 2: Hub or Network of businesses working together (example EnviroCentre (Ottawa)) <https://www.envirocentre.ca/green-your-business/ottawa-green-business/>

- Businesses must pay for a membership
- Membership includes newsletters, sustainability program development, networking, monthly events
- Focus areas:
 - o Your buildings,
 - o Transportation,
 - o Waste in Operations,
 - o Procurement and Supply Chain,
 - o Carbon Accounting
- Businesses need a sustainability plan with concrete actions and milestones which take into account business and sustainability goals.
- Yearly Climate Mover Awards (business and personal) – those who most significantly moved the needle on local climate action awareness

Model 3: Yearly Awards (example City of Burnaby)

Recognize the outstanding contributions of individuals, community groups, businesses, and organizations to environmental sustainability. Must be nominated.

- 6 award categories: Business Stewardship, Communications, Community Stewardship, Green Choices, Planning and Development, Youth
- 2 levels – Environmental Award (larger scale), Environmental Star (smaller more individual)

City of Burnaby nominate businesses for an annual Environmental award. Follow this link to see their 'Terms of Reference': [Enviro+Awards+Terms+of+Reference.pdf \(burnaby.ca\)](#)

ACTION: Chair & Vice Chair will contact DLBA about a recognition program for City businesses.

The Group discussed Metro Vancouver's new initiative 'Super Habits' educating about the use of single use plastics. The group thought it would be beneficial to share the link with the community. Metro also posts daily updates on Facebook.

Nicole approached TD Bank about funding edible planter boxes in the city. TD was given information they had requested about branding and Nicole expects an update from them shortly.

c) New Initiative "Get To Know The Tree Species" at Portage Park

- The concept is to make Portage a learning Park by identifying the variety of tree species with plaques and create a city 'Arboretum'
- Group discussed the possibility having QR codes on the plaques as well as written information about the tree.
- Perhaps a scavenger hunt type of game can be created?

- The City's arborist has been asked to list all the species of trees in Portage Park
- There was further discussion about a variety of apps for identifying plants, animals, etc. The iNaturalist app will identify trees and your location and will populate a map with this information.

ACTION: Lisa D will create a list of trees with small root systems that can be planted close to homes to share with the group.

ACTION: Rick to check if city can provide a picnic table in Douglas Park Community Garden?

UPDATE: A new picnic table for the Community Garden is on backorder and will be installed upon arrival.

6) **ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 8:05pm.

CARRIED

Certified Correct:
jc


CHAIR


RECORDING SECRETARY