



CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING

March 17, 2016 at 3:00 pm
Location: Council Chambers
2205 Otter Point Road, Sooke, BC

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Approval of the Minutes, January 28, 2016** 1
4. **Solar Ready Building Code**
 - Discussion
5. **Agricultural Plan** 5
 - *Neighbours of Fairfield* – “Beyond the Hot Season”
 - District of Sooke Agricultural Plan
<http://sooke.ca/municipal-hall/plans-reports/district-plans/>
6. **Other Business**
7. **Public Input**
8. **Schedule Next Meeting**
 - June 23, 2016 at 3pm
 - Meetings quarterly on the third Thursday of the month at 3:00 pm
9. **Adjournment**



DISTRICT OF SOOKE
Climate Change Action Committee

Minutes of Meeting held
January 28, 2016 at 3:00 pm
Council Chamber, 2225 Otter Point Road, Sooke, BC

Committee Members Present:

Jeff Bateman, Sooke Transition Town/Zero Waste Sooke, Chair
Councillor Ebony Logins
Andrew Moore, T'Sou-ke Nation (arrived at 3:06)
Brent Blackhall, Deputy Director of Finance
Laura Hooper, Parks and Environmental Services Coordinator
Steve Sorensen, Fire Chief (arrived at 3:08)

Recorder: Sarah Temple, Finance and Administration Assistant

1. Call to Order

Jeff Bateman called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED to approve the agenda with the addition of the following items as New Business:

- Recommendations from Alternative Energy Projects working group
- Energy Reduction Challenge
- BC Climate Leadership Plan

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes

MOVED to approve the minutes of November 12, 2015 as amended.

CARRIED

4. Strategic Planning:

Strategic Priorities from CEEP

Committee Discussion:

- The Committee discussed the strategic priorities outlined in the CEEP.
- Each of the top 3 priorities involves ongoing effort and are completed as opportunities arise.
- Yard waste is currently an area where opportunities for improvement exist.
- Discussion of other initiatives identified in the CEEP, such as electrical vehicle charging stations in the town centre and at the municipal hall. Councillor Logins advised that EMCS students are also working towards installing an electric vehicle charging station. Previous research has been conducted on suitable locations in Sooke.
- The District of Sooke engineering vehicle is due for replacement, consideration should be given to replacing it with a hybrid vehicle.

ACTION: Brent Blackhall to add Climate Change Action Committee items to the draft 2016-2021 Financial Plan for consideration by Council, specifically;

- Energy Audit for the Municipal Hall
- Consultant to research and strategically plan Alternative Energy Programs and Projects which could be undertaken in the community (recommendation from Alternative Energy Working Group)

Discussion of Solar Ready building code:

Committee Discussion:

- Andrew Moore advised new technology is available to improve solar readiness in new homes.

ACTION: Add discussion of Solar Ready building code to March agenda for Committee discussion.

T'Sou-ke Nation MOU:

Committee Discussion:

- Nothing to report following meeting last week.

5. Public Education Planning:

Budget for Advertising and Promotion

Committee Discussion:

- The Committee discussed budgetary needs for Advertising and Promotions and determined that the required funds were minimal and could be allocated from general District advertising budgets.
- Discussion of promoting an "energy awareness month".
- Discussion of using the District of Sooke website to better promote Climate Change initiatives.
- Discussion of collaborative community consultation on energy reduction – potentially in conjunction with the Sooke Fall Fair.

Model for collaboration with community groups

Committee Discussion:

- Discussion of Transition Sooke/ Awareness Film Night "Energy Reduction Challenge" results. This is an example of a means of collaboration with other community groups.

6. Current Initiatives:

Municipal Hall heat pump update

Committee Discussion:

- Steve Sorensen reported that the electric heat pumps in the municipal hall will require updating in a few years. The building will also require a new roof in the next few years, which could be built to a solar panel standard.

7. Woodstove Program

Committee Discussion:

- The deadline has passed to apply for 2016, but planning should commence for a 2017 announcement in the fall as the requirements may include air quality gathering.

ACTION: Staff to apply for Woodstove Exchange Program in fall 2016.

8. Alternative Energy Projects working group:

Committee Discussion:

- The working group provided the Committee with three written recommendations.
- Discussion of energy audit and solar demonstration project at the municipal hall.
- Discussion of solar projects expansion to residents, possible subsidy programs and cooperative solar projects.
- Discussion of demonstration projects and working in collaboration with Edward Milne Community School.
- Discussion of biomass and tipping fees from Sooke sewage treatment and the use of biomass as a source of energy.

9. Agricultural Plan:

Committee Discussion:

- Discussion of contents of the Agricultural Plan, including the effects of future temperature change.
- Possibility of using storm water ponds as a source of water for agricultural uses.
- Discussion of water harvesting in other municipal operations, such as fire hose testing.

ACTION: Chief Sorensen to investigate possible water catchment systems to reduce water usage during fire hose testing.

ACTION: Carry forward discussion of the Agricultural Plan, including the "Neighbours of Fairfield" article, to the next Climate Change Action Committee meeting.

10. BC Climate Leadership Plan

Committee Discussion:

- The province has opened up public consultation on the Climate Leadership Plan. Committee members are able to comment as members of the public.

11. Public Input:

Michael Tacon, Sooke resident, addressed the Committee and spoke regarding the positive nature of the January Awareness Film Night. Mr. Tacon also informed the Committee of the high energy efficiency of the Harbourside Cohousing project.

12. Next Scheduled Meeting:

- March 17, 2016 at 3:00 pm.
- Fourth Thursday of the month, quarterly or at the call of the Chair.

13. Adjournment:

MOVED and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

Certified by:

Jeff Bateman
Chair

Tina Hansen
Deputy Corporate Officer

Beyond the hot season: MOTHER NATURE'S *Produce*



My name is Stefan. I am the Produce Manager for MOTHER NATURE'S MARKET & *Deli*. My team and I have a great passion for what Nature has to offer to us. It is a great pleasure to be able to share it with all of you on a daily basis. Now that fall is settling in, I thought it would be good to step back and remember the summer days. The summer is always bountiful since we can enjoy the abundance of local fruits and vegetables.

So many varieties of local and organic produce are readily available. Summer is the busiest season for us. We are lucky to have so many wonderful farms around us and it is great to be able to carry produce grown here on the island. People have told me that we have some of the best produce in Victoria. It's an honor to be viewed in that category and my team and I work very hard every day to achieve nothing less. My standards are as high as yours and I thrive to deliver the best Produce in Victoria.

This past summer was challenging to adapt to. Heat records dating back 100 years were broken in BC last summer. The season for many local crops started earlier and ended very quickly. For example we usually can get our famous local blueberries until the beginning of September. This year, it was over in the beginning of August. We are becoming increasingly aware of the effect of climate change. Believe me, this summer I could experience it. It was an interesting season with many uncertainties regarding crop availability.

This fall, the harvests came early due to the long hot summer. Apples, Corn and Squashes were available in August! We had to purchase from the south earlier on some products and later on others. The biggest factor this year is that it was so hot and dry early on that some crops were a month early – like zucchini, it was common to see multiple successions of plantings becoming ready at the same time, resulting in either a glut or gap on certain crops. It was also



very challenging to keep fresh pumpkins until Halloween, they were ready in September. We can expect to see an awkward transition of produce availability and pricing in the months to come but we are doing our best to keep the prices reasonable and still delivering the best produce in Victoria to your neighborhood in Cook Street Village. Keep in mind that when you support local organic farming you help the planet and the future generations to come. You have power to help reverse the climate change. As for us, our promise is to keep working with local farmers as much as possible. They have the best quality and we all benefit from the effects on the local market together.

Yours,

Stefan Haviland

Produce Manager MOTHER NATURE'S MARKET & *Deli*