



MEETING MINUTES

Phone: (250) 642-1634 Fax: (250) 642-0541 Email: info@sooke.ca Website: www.sooke.ca

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|--|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Committee: | Climate Change Action Committee (CCAC) | | | | |
| Date: | December 17, 2019 | Location: | Council Chambers | Call to Order: | 5:30 p.m. |

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Attendees: (P=present, E=excused, A=absent) | | | |
| Councillor Tony St-Pierre, Chair | P | Diane Bernard | P |
| Adrienne Wass | A | Eric Nolan | P |
| Andrew Moore | P | Kyle Topelko | A |
| Catherine Keogan | P | Roland Alcock | P |
| Christina Schlattner | P | Susan Clarke | P |
| Staff: | | | |
| Laura Hooper, Head of Parks & Environmental Services | A | Patti Rear, Deputy Corporate Officer (Recorder) | P |

1. Call to Order
Councillor St-Pierre called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

2. First Nation Recognition
Acknowledgment that the meeting is being held on the territorial lands of the T'Sou-ke Nation.

| | | | | |
|--|--------------|-----------|----------------|---|
| 3. Approval of Agenda <i>THAT the agenda for the November 19, 2019 Climate Change Action Committee meeting be approved, as circulated.</i> | Moved | RA | Carried | ✓ |
|--|--------------|-----------|----------------|---|

| | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------|----------------|---|
| 4. Approval of Minutes <i>THAT the minutes from the November 19, 2019 Climate Change Action Committee meeting be approved as amended.</i> (6.2.1 "Community engagement and engagement" should read "community education and engagement"; 6.2.2 Should be "Top 4" rather than "Top 3"; remove CS from the Transportation working group) | Moved | CS | Carried | ✓ |
|---|--------------|-----------|----------------|---|

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| <p>5. Delegations</p> <p>5.1 <u>Hwy 14 Expansion & BC Transit Proposal for Sooke District & Juan deFuca Open House Update</u></p> <p>Roland Alcock presented on the <u>Ministry of Transportation Hwy 14 project Open House</u> held on December 3, 2019 at EMCS, highlighting the updated route and projected traffic volumes the Ministry provided.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park and Ride will hold 50 vehicles, no plans for EV charging stations • The proposed Highway improvements would not lead to GHG reductions for Sooke and may well increase them; E-bikes would be better for reduction of GHG emissions, yet there is no plan for bike lanes or mention of a commuter trail from Sooke to Victoria in the plan. • Public feedback and submissions are being accepted online by MOTI until January 15, 2020. | | | | |
| <p>THAT the Committee send a letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding their concerns for the proposed Highway 14 expansion.</p> | <p>Moved</p> | <p>DB</p> | <p>Carried</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>Diane Bernard presented on <u>BC Transit Proposal for Sooke District & Juan deFuca Open House Update</u>. She indicated that there is no budget for project and expressed concerns around poor planning, no special lanes priority, for the meeting; people could not attend as they were stuck in traffic trying to get to the meeting. She suggested that District of Sooke Council need to commit support and lobby to fund a cultural shift toward public transportation including coordinating with SD62 for bus service for students</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council meets next on January 13, 2020; would like to have a letter prepared for endorsement by the Council. Action: DB • perhaps a petition could be an idea to add more support following the letter • coordinate with Transition Sooke to encourage its own members and Sooke residents in general to forward letters or their concerns through the online survey. • ridership may decrease or increase based on usage stats | | | | |
| <p>THAT the Committee draft a letter to:</p> <p>(a) the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding their concerns for the proposed Highway 14 expansion; AND</p> <p>(b) BC Transit regarding their concerns for the proposed Sooke District and Juan de Fuca transportation plan;</p> <p>AND forward the draft letters to the District of Sooke Council for endorsement at the January 13, 2020 Regular meeting.</p> | <p>Moved</p> | <p>DB</p> | <p>Carried</p> | <p>✓</p> |

5.2 Transition Sooke meeting update and Announcement

Christina Schlattner and Diane Bernard presented on their attendance at the Transition Sooke “Green New Deal Town Hall” meeting held in September 2019 in which initiatives had been researched and members reported back on including:

- Transportation
- Green Energy
- Green Lifestyle
- Climate Angst – Healing Circle
- Direct Action
- Zero Waste
- Green Water Harvesting
- Water Conservation
- Forests and Oceans

Transition Sooke will be offering free seminars as part of the Sooke Region Community Health Network’s Life-Long Learning program at SEAPARC on the following dates and topics in 2020 (1 to 2:30 p.m.)

- Jan 8 – Rainwater Harvesting, Green Lifestyle/individual actions, Climate Angst/Healing
- Jan 15 Green Energy, Transportation, Divesting from Fossil Fuels
- Jan 22 – Zero Waste/Repair Café, Earth Day in Sooke, Forests & Oceans

Diane introduced members of Transition Sooke that were in the audience:

- Yvonne Court
- David Court
- Ann Clements
- Heather Phillips
- Cheryl Travis

Discussion:

- biking lanes and cycling trail/corridor protection is important for students getting to school; it is also a great tourism opportunity for Sooke and is becoming an attractant for vacations, especially in places like Europe.
- District of Sooke Community Grants opportunity; Transition Sooke confirmed that they would be submitting an application for 2020 regarding carpool funding.

Councillor St-Pierre would like the Committee to find ways to work in partnership with Transition Sooke and other community groups. He informed the CAC working groups (Transportation, Education and Engagement, Land Use and Development, and Food Security) that they may collaborate with other groups or the public at large to accomplish goals once the action plan is approved by Council.

6. Public Question and Comment Period

Heather Phillips, Otter Point

- Believes that Province of BC ministries should be discussing options with other organizations such as BC Hydro in order to accomplish climate action initiatives for BC communities.
- Need for a Sooke to Vic General BC Transit route; is there a way to gather that information on how many people commute to this area each day? She stated that it

costs approximately \$700/year for an employee at VGH to park their car. Is there motivation to use the bus and increase ridership?
The Committee replied that some of these ideas will be forwarded to BC Transit in the letter from the District.

Ann Clement, Yvonne and David Court from Transition Sooke (TS)

- TS has formed a steering committee for Earth Day 50th Anniversary event in Sooke on April 22, 2020. Learning and Action will be the conduit, to appeal to a wider audience in the community, creating a springboard for action items.
- Invited CAC members to join them in the *Empowerment Manual* study group; Ann will forward information to the committee if they wish to participate on an individual basis.
- 200,000 of service hours to Sooke by BC Transit yearly and current proposal is to add 100,000 more each year.
- When will the District of Sooke discuss application of the BC Energy Step Code locally? Would like to see natural gas banned similar to what they are doing in California, as it is a large contributor to carbon in the atmosphere.

Discussion:

- Opportunity for a sponsorship grant from the District for Earth Day event similar to the 48th Anniversary event in 2018. Deadline will be placed on the District's website along with application forms.
- Public members were encouraged to provide as much info as they can in respects to climate initiatives, etc. to Council for either consideration or receivership at Council meetings. Deadline for submissions is generally the Wednesday preceding the meeting to the Corporate Services Office.

Robert Lee asked if there is an equivalent to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Canada? The Committee stated that the Federal Ministry in Resources and Environment would be the authority.

7. Unfinished Business

7.1 Climate Action Committee Action Plan

The Committee will work on the finalization of the Climate Action Committee Action Plan including tasks within the smaller working groups based on the Focus Areas contained in the plan. They took an opportunity to break into the working groups for 10 minutes to obtain a head start and reported back during the meeting on the topics:

- *Education and Engagement* – overhauled what was the initial focus to concentrate on a higher level of community engagement which included:
 - OCP objective
 - Framework for climate action plan (ie: inventory)
 - Inclusion of youth voice
 - Support efforts of other community groups and identifying the gaps
 - Monitor, engage public and act as conduit for other community groups
- *Transportation* – what is in the current workplan is pretty good thus far; local economic development and affordable housing are linked to transportation also
- *Food Security* – direction from Climate Caucus to come; will develop community plan following this direction
- *Land Use and Development* – Susan will require recruitment of people to work with her in this area, thus will reach out to other community groups such as Transition Sooke, as previously suggested.

| | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------|----------------|---|
| <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor St-Pierre will work with staff to obtain a structure for reporting back. • New information can be forwarded to the appropriate working group for consideration. • Official Community Plan – much of the work and research that the committee is working toward should be aligned with the development of the new OCP; if a the OCP has a committee structure, the CAC would like to be included in the process. | | | | |
| <p>7.2 <u>One Cowichan – Checklist for Municipal Climate Emergency Action</u> Councillor St-Pierre read aloud the 10 points of the checklist established from the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s recommendations that the One Cowichan NGO has adopted. He suggested that the committee members keep these at the forefront when completing their Areas of Focus and under the local government.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation relevance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ is not relevant anymore in order to achieve the reductions required; adaptation is key shift of focus, culturally and socially. ○ others felt mitigation is still important, rather prevention is no longer relevant; adaptation is strengthened when mitigation is involved • fossil fuel production has increased rather than decreased over the time period that countries have signed on to Climate Action mitigation and adaptation initiatives. | | | | |
| <p>7.3 <u>Outstanding Items from Council</u> (From May 13, 2019 Regular Council meeting): a. <u>Waste Management</u> THAT Council direct the Climate Action Committee to research and report back on options for municipal community garbage collection.</p> | | | | |
| The Committee recommends that Council appoint staff to this task to research on options for municipal community garbage collection. | Moved | CK | Carried | ✓ |
| <p>b. <u>Float Homes</u> THAT Council refer the topic of Float Home communities to the Affordable Housing Committee and Climate Action Committee for further discussion.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impacts • Sea Rise • Current fragility of the ocean environment • Capacity to make a recommendation on the topic – is it within the committee’s mandate. | | | | |
| THAT the Committee receive the motion from Council. | Moved | DB | Carried | ✓ |

Minutes of the District of Sooke Climate Change Action Committee Meeting - Dec 17, 2019

| | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------|----------------|----------|
| <p>8. New Business 8.1 <u>New Terms of Reference (re: name change)</u> THAT the Committee receive the new Terms of Reference approved by Council at the Regular Council meeting held on <i>(opposed by DB and SC)</i></p> | Moved | CK | Carried | ✓ |
| <p>8.2 <u>Resignation from Committee – Adrienne Wass</u> THAT the Committee accepts Ms. Wass’ resignation email.</p> | Moved | AM | Carried | ✓ |
| <p>Discussion: At the December 9, 2019 Regular Council meeting, the following resolution was passed by District of Sooke Council: <i>THAT Council postpone consideration of outstanding Committee/Commission Appointments (External) until after the Community Economic Development workshop in the first quarter of 2020.</i> Therefore, until the Committees Workshop has been held by Council, filling of the vacant member position will be on hold.</p> | | | | |
| <p>8.3 <u>Community Energy Association Membership Invitation</u> The Committee recommends THAT Council accept the invitation from the Community Energy Association and enroll the District of Sooke as a member.</p> | Moved | CS | Carried | ✓ |
| <p>8.4 <u>Action from Regular Council meeting held on December 9, 2019</u> <i>THAT Council request the Climate Action Committee examine best practices in terms of managing retail plastic polluting in the community.</i> Councillor St-Pierre tabled this item to the next meeting.</p> | | | | |
| <p>9. Next Meeting Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in <i>Council Chambers</i></p> | | | | |
| <p>10. Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.</p> | Moved | DB | Carried | ✓ |

Chair

Deputy Corporate Officer