



ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

MAY 20, 2010

6:00 PM – CVRD Board

AGENDA

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ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA

MARCH 18, 2010

Distribution:

CVRD Director Gerry Giles (Chair)
Roger Wiles
Peter Keber
Chris Wood
Dave Polster
CVRD Director Phil Kent
CVRD Director Rob Hutchins
CVRD Director Lori Iannidinardo

Rodger Hunter (Co-Chair)
Kevin Visscher
Bruce Sampson
Bruce Fraser
Justin Straker
Judy Stafford
Larry George, Cowichan Tribes
John Morris, Economic Development Rep

As Well As Full Agenda:

Director T. Walker
Warren Jones, CAO, CVRD
Brian Dennison, General Manager, Engineering and Environment Services
Kate Miller, Manager, Regional Environmental Policy Division

Full Agenda as Hard Copy

Director M. Marcotte
Director I. Morrison
Director L. Duncan

Agenda Cover Only:

Director G. Seymour	Director T. McGonigle
Director K. Kuhn	Director D. Haywood
Director M. Dorey	Director K. Cossey
Director B. Harrison	Paul Fletcher
Tom Anderson, Manager, Planning and Development Services	

Minutes of the regular meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION held in the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on April 15, 2010 at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Rodger Hunter, Chair Director Giles
 Director Hutchins Dave Polster
 Bruce Fraser Roger Wiles
 Bruce Sampson Justin Straker
 Judy Stafford Pete Keber
 Kevin Visscher Chris Wood
 John Morris Larry George

ALSO Kate Miller, Manager, Regional Environmental Policy
PRESENT: Dyan Freer, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Director Kent, Director Iannidinardo, Brian Dennison

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved with the following additions: correspondence from Peter Nix and Jean Crowder, information on the Sustainable Community conference in Kelowna, and ideas for upcoming presenters.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION
OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the March 18, 2010 Environment Commission meeting be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

**CO-CHAIR'S
REPORT**

CR1 Announcing John Morris has been appointed the member of the Economic Development Commission serving as the representative to this commission.

**B BUSINESS ARISING
OUT OF MINUTES**

Action items carried forward:

1. Environmental Lens went to the Board and they have asked CVRD Departments to provide a document showing how they would apply a lens to their decisions. Planning Department has started the process with a lens to look at development applications. It would be good to factor in cost and particularly changes to expenses after initiating these changes.

It was moved and seconded to request Tom Anderson, Manager of Planning and Development, to provide an update on the environmental lens at our June commission meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

Directors Hutchins and Giles left the meeting at 6:30 pm
Bruce Sampson offered to speak to the Chief Financial Officer about future cost savings related to full cost accounting/life cycle costing.

2. **Agricultural Committee** – Pete Keber noted that the Agricultural Committee will present the plan on May 4th to the Electoral Services Committee. The planning team hopes to form a committee to head up and implement the 72 actions in the plan.

- B1 It was moved and seconded to pay \$50 to have a booth at Ecostravaganza on June 5th in Mill Bay.**

MOTION CARRIED

Commission members have offered to man the booth - Chris and Rob will do first two hours plus set up from 10 am to noon; Gerry and Kevin from 12 – 2 pm; and Pete and Phil 2 - 4 pm. We will showcase a summary of the State of the Environment Report. Gerry will coordinate with Engineering to see if they would like to showcase composters and recycling information. Chris will prepare a one – two pager outlining the highlights.

- B2** Planning has been done for the Sustainability Modeling Workshop to take place April 16th in the CVRD Board Room, with speakers on the Quest model and clean energy act. A demonstration of the MetroQuest tool will show how CVRD can make sustainability planning decisions. Agenda was distributed. Several board members have registered.

- B3 State of the Environment Draft Report** - working draft distributed and update was given by Justin Straker. Time line is to finish the technical review and the final report will be ready by end of next week. Formatting the report (300 pages) will be done but more financing needed for additional formatting and copying. Discussion ensued.

\$5000 Formatting and copies of the SoE and Communication Strategy – after presentation to the board end of May

\$500 Dinner and presentation of report before board meeting with interested leaders who will champion this report.

Kate and/or Dyan will look into purchasing flash drives as a means of distributing the report.

It was moved and carried to allocate funding of \$5000 to finish the State of Environment report and make roughly 20 bound copies; and furthermore to allocate \$500 to bring interested people together to kick-off of this report.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded that a presentation of the State of Environment report be made to the Regional Services Committee on May 26, 2010.

MOTION CARRIED

It will be put on next agenda for the commission to finalize.

B4 Commission Work Plan and Budget. Discussion ensued.

It was moved and seconded that Commission members will form work groups and invite the general public to join in them to give input and help implement the approaches for continuing the work of the Environment Commission.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

CR1 Letter to our Environment Commission Chair dated April 7, 2010, from Judy Stafford of the Cowichan Green Community, representing the Cowichan Earth Day Planning Committee, asking for \$1000 to support staging the event “Earth Day” taking place on April 24th, 2010, in Charles Hoey Park, Duncan.

8:23 pm Judy Stafford excused herself due to a possible perception of conflict of interest.

It was moved and seconded to approve the request for the CVRD Environment Commission to be a sponsor of Earth Day on April 24, 2010, at the Charles Hoey Park in the amount of \$1000 and therefore, there is an opportunity to have a booth and/or a presence at the Earth Day event.

MOTION CARRIED

8:40 pm Judy Stafford returned to meeting.

It was moved and seconded to ask staff to develop

- i. a policy on requests to the Environment Commission for funding, and**
- ii. a policy on conflict of interest, and**
- iii. to prepare a framework for how budget requests should be made.**

MOTION CARRIED

We need to develop a policy on sponsorship. Should we be a granting agency? Discussion ensued and will be continued next meeting.

- CR2** Letter from Peter Nix to Gerry Giles dated March 24, 2010 requesting support.

It was suggested to write a letter to Peter Nix saying we are working on a policy on funding; as well we are working on our 2010 budget and haven't delegated the funds at this time, and to also encourage him to become part of one of our future committees.

- CR3** Letter from Jean Crowder to encourage us to be part of our local Earth Day events.

INFORMATION

- IN1** Sustainability and Sewage tour – April 28th. If interested, people need to sign up themselves.
- IN2** Sustainable Communities Conference in Kelowna Nov 15 – 18, 2010
- IN3** Possible ideas for presenters for this year are: Bruce Fraser on Forestry Practices, Social Planning Cowichan on Environment and the Nature Conservancy.

NEXT MEETING

May 20, 2010 Focus of the meeting will be the State of the Environment report.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Chair

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____

Hello Ecostravaganza vendors and sponsors - An advertising opportunity!

The Cowichan Valley Parents Calendar is another fundraising effort of the Ecole Mill Bay PAC. This incredibly functional and practical calendar features giant date square (for a whole family worth of events) and all of the School District #79 events preprinted on the calendar.

Distribution will be to all parents throughout the District: including North Cowichan (Crofton, Somenos and Alex Aitken schools); Shawnigan Lake (Discovery schools); and Mill Bay.

As a supporter of the Ecostravaganza we would like to invite you to advertise in the Cowichan Valley Parents Calendar. This is a great way to keep your business top of mind with the families of the Cowichan Valley after the Ecostravaganza. With ads spread throughout the calendar you are able to target the months where you would like to highlight your products and/or services.

Business card size ads on our information pages and Daily Calendar Square ads are \$20 each,

Banner ads which run along the top of each month are \$50 each.

To advertise please call Mari Ann at 250 661 4306 or email mariannk@shaw.ca. Must have art work May 21st.

Regards,

The Ecostravaganza Team

Environment Commission Draft Financial Support Policy'

The Environment Commission does not have the budget or mandate to act as a granting agency that would flow CVRD funds to other organizations for their individual purposes or ongoing programs.

The CVRD has a Grant in Aid program for that purpose. There are, however, occasions where the Commission may wish to provide financial support for public events that are consistent with the environmental communications being pursued as part of the commission's annual work plan.

The criteria to be applied in providing funding to support public events include:

- i. The event is sponsored by public agencies and/or non-profit NGO's focusing on environmental or sustainability issues relevant to the region and consistent with the aims of the Commission
- ii. The Environment Commission is a participant or sponsoring partner in the event
- iii. Funding is earmarked for specific purposes related to the public communication or engagement purposes of the event and transparently budgeted
- iv. The Commission's budget is sufficient and the expenditure is endorsed by resolution of the Commission as relevant and appropriate in both character and scale

NOTE: The Commission's financial support of the Earth Day request would be consistent with this proposed policy, while providing funds to Peter Nix for a travelling sustainability bus would not. Engagement of Peter in work groups that are part of the Commission's SOE rollout plan (as suggested by Dave Polster) would be appropriate and consistent with the general request that he actually made.

Support does not have to be just money-it could be in the form of sponsorship, volunteer help, ideas and/or displays.

Gerry / Kate / Dyan,

I am sending you this ad from Island Press (the official publisher of the Society for Ecological Restoration International) because I am concerned that the solutions that are contemplated for the Duncan floods are setting us up for similar problems to the ones experienced in Nashville. In addition, I am concerned about the impacts of increased water levels on the rare plants in the Somenos Garry Oak area. We need to pay attention to what the engineers from North Cowichan are planning for the Somenos watershed.

See you all on the 20th...

Cheers,
Dave

Island Press E-News

May 6

Greetings!

Tennessee, Kentucky and Mississippi have seen massive storms and flooding over the past week causing unprecedented disasters. More than thirty people are dead, and the Cumberland River reached 50 feet. The flood, the highest in almost half a decade, forced the evacuation of thousands, submerged one of Nashville's two water treatment plants and left over 14,000 without power.

Nashville Mayor Karl Dean was upbeat, saying "There's a lot to be done, but we'll get it done." Yet, rebuilding the city without preparing for the future invites another disaster. The authors of [Floodplain Management](#), Robert Freitag, Susan Bolton, Frank Westerlund and Julie Clark, explain that the current strategy of building levees and dams does not account for new information on river behavior. They call for solutions that work with the natural tendencies of rivers, which can become cost-effective, long-term successes by integrating physical and biological systems with our societal capabilities.

As the frequency of natural disasters increase in the wake of climate change, who should pay the cost? Presidential declarations of "disasters" have increased dramatically, ensuring federal emergency relief. But, asks Rutherford Platt in [Disasters and Democracy](#), federalizing the cost of disasters may make matters worse by lightening the burden on local communities and state governments. With this shift, what are the incentives for individuals and local communities to take measures to plan ahead to protect themselves?

Island Press has been urging responsible land use and development for over twenty-five years. We hope to support the affected regions and flood victims by drawing lessons from current events to prevent even greater devastation in the future.

Sincerely,
Chuck Savitt
President

 Join Our
Mailing List

 Forward to a Friend

Upcoming Events

5/25: Ed Grumbine, author
[of *Where the Dragon Meets*](#)
[the *Angry River*, Tempe AZ](#)

[All events >>](#)

ON THE BLOG

[Terry Tamminen's "teachable moment"](#)

[Menhaden muddle: part 5](#)

[Menhaden muddle: part 4](#)

SOCIAL NETWORKING

 facebook

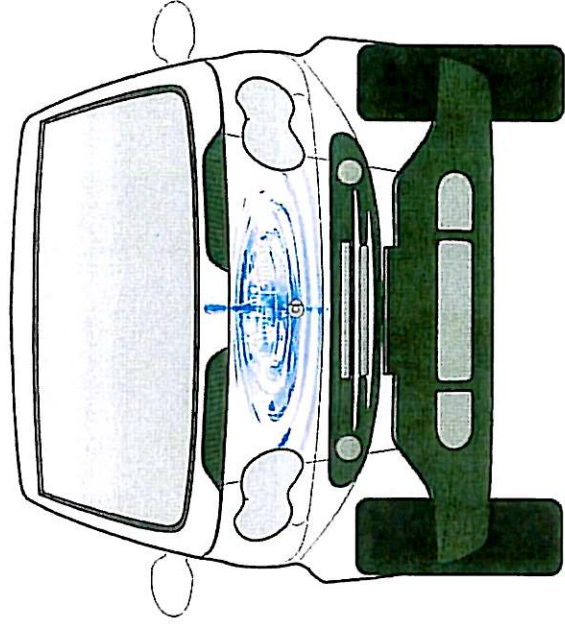
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Smart_01

Mercedes/Smart Smart Car

1/20th Scale