



**Meeting
Environmental Advisory Committee
January 14th, 2015, 6:00 p.m.**

The following were in attendance:

Council: Barb Butters
Angie Desmarais
Yvon Doucet

Staff: Ron Hanson
Derek Hemauer
Janice Peyton
Dave Sabo

Public Members: Deanna Lindblad
Paul Ruzycki
Patti Stirling
Ryan Waines
George McKibbin
Richard Lord
Tim Hoyle

Regrets: Beth Palma
Jack Hellinga
Chris Lee

1. Call to Order

Yvon Doucet chaired the meeting until the Chair and Vice Chair were elected.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. Introduction of Committee Members

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Election of Chair

Patti Sterling was nominated for committee Chair, however she respectfully declined the nomination.

Moved by Yvon Doucet
Seconded by Barbra Butters

That Beth Palma be appointed Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee.

CARRIED.

Beth had advised that she would accept the position of Chair, if nominated, at a previous meeting.

Election of Vice Chair

Moved by Patti Sterling

Seconded by Barbara Butters

That George McKibbon be appointed Vice Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee.

CARRIED.

As the Chair was not in attendance, George chaired the remainder of the meeting.

4. Approval / Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Moved by Patti Sterling

Seconded by Yvon Doucet

That the minutes of Nov 12, 2014 be accepted as written.

CARRIED.

5. Items Arising from Previous Minutes

Delaying Rural Roadside Cutting on Municipal Roads

A draft of the Proposed Plan to Delay Roadside Cuttings was provided for review and discussion. Derek provided aerial photo maps for a review of the roads in the proposed trial area. George gave an overview of what the committee members have accomplished to date on this issue. George advised that this is a work in progress and not ready to be voted on at this meeting and not ready to go before Council at this time.

George suggested networking with farmers before the next meeting. Barb advised that Ron Bodner has met with a group of concerned citizens already. Barb suggested a contact person that lives at the end of Weaver Road that could be of assistance.

Barb asked if signage would be used to identify what is happening. Deanna advised that there would definitely be signage and that monitoring will take place not only for milkweed (milkweed is not a noxious weed any longer) but for other "weeds" as well. All agreed that monitoring is key.

Ron Hanson spoke regarding the proposed roads, indicating that Cedar Bay road is very populated and that North of Killaly Street would be better. Ron

advised that all residents on the roads that are chosen would have to be notified, not only the farmers.

Paul Ruzycki asked if the City will still spray for noxious weeds. Dave Sabo, City Gardener, advised that the City no longer does roadside spraying.

Deanna provided a letter of support of this proposal from the NPCA.

The group will continue to work on this and further information will be provided at the next meeting.

Niagara Restoration Program Funding for Ash Borer Tree Removal

Deanna spoke to the issue of dealing with trees affected by the Ash Borer Beetle and answered questions from Dave Sabo, the City Gardener, regarding the Niagara Restoration Program Funding for Ash Borer tree removal. Deanna advised it would be beneficial to the Municipality to apply for the funding and that the application should be made as soon as possible. Deanna advised Dave to call Allison Graszat, Environmental Project Manager for the Niagara Restoration Council for eligibility criteria. Combining smaller City owned wood lots was discussed and Ron Hanson, Director of Engineering and Operations advised that there has been an evaluation done on City owned wood lots.

Subsidy for Removal of Ash Trees on Woodland Areas

Deanna advised that there is no Provincial or Federal funding subsidies available at this time for the removal of Ash Trees on woodland areas or for replanting.

Niagara Restoration Council Request for Support

This item was approved by Council and sent back to the committee for clarification of the type of support the committee is willing to provide.

The committee discussed locations that would be suitable for a naturalized garden with the advice of Dave Sabo, City Gardener. Some suggestions were; Centennial Park, Vale swamp area, Vale North parking lot, Sherkston Community Centre and Bethel Community Centre. Derek point and the old Humberstone School on Killaly Street East were also suggested, however they are not City owned.

George advised that further information will be gathered and an answer will be given to Council as soon as is possible.

6. New/Other Business

Resignation of Larry Fontaine

Staff provided a letter of resignation from Larry Fontaine. George suggested a letter be sent from the Chair on behalf of the committee, thanking Larry for his service. All were in agreement.

Membership Question – Deanna

Deanna advised that she has resigned as a resident representative on this committee as she no longer meets the criteria. The request has been made for Deanna to be reinstated as a member as a representative of the NPCA. The City Clerk is looking into this.

Accessible Customer Service Handbook

Staff provided a copy of the City of Port Colborne Accessible Customer Service Handbook to review. The checklist page with members' signatures will be collected at the next meeting.

7. Next Meeting/Adjourn

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

Moved by Yvon Doucet
Seconded by Barbara Butters

That with no further business to discuss, the meeting be adjourned at 7:00 p.m.
CARRIED.