



**Meeting
Environmental Advisory Committee
June 6, 2012, 6:00 p.m.**

The following were in attendance:

Council: Barbara Butters
Yvon Doucet

Staff: Janice Peyton
Chris Lee

Public Members: Beth Palma
Vanessa Deeg
Jack Hellinga

Regrets: Bea Kenny
Paul Ruzycki

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Beth Palma called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. Approval / Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Moved by Beth Palma
Seconded by Yvon Doucet

That the minutes of May 2, 2012 be accepted as written.
CARRIED.

3. Update on Rebate Programs

Chris Lee provided an update on the rebate programs.

One tree rebate was issued in May in the amount of \$25.

Twenty Six toilet rebates have been issued so far this year.

4. New/Other Business

Emerald Ash Borer

The committee discussed the Emerald Ash Borer. Many trees in Port Colborne are already affected. City trees that have been infected by the Emerald Ash Borer are being removed and replaced. If the tree rebate budget hasn't been expended by the end of this year the funds may be put

towards replacement trees. Chris Lee advised that Maples are a good replacement.

There isn't a residential program in place for the Emerald Ash Borer.

Clear Garbage Bag Policy for Businesses

Beth Palma advised that she had a request from merchants on West Street regarding implementing a clear garbage bag policy for businesses. Chris Lee advised that this is Regional jurisdiction and that a request to implement this could go through Council to the Region. Chris advised that clear garbage bags have been discussed in the past and have not been implemented due to privacy issues.

Green Tent at Flavours of Niagara

Committee members were asked if they could volunteer in the green tent for Flavours of Niagara because MYAC members are now working in the green tent this year. The location of the green tent was discussed as some of the committee members weren't aware there was a green tent at flavours last year. Members agreed that if the green tent was next to the food tent more people would recycle. An email will be sent to the Flavours Committee to ask that the green tent be located near the food tent. Beth Palma, Barb Butters and Jack Hellinga advised that they may be able to help out in the green tent.

Curt Benson Resignation

The committee received a letter of resignation from Curt Benson. Janice will talk to the Clerk about a replacement.

Think Tank/Brainstorming Meeting – Proposed by Vanessa Deeg

Vanessa Deeg advised that she had attended a Climate Change Forum in Welland and found it to be very informative. Vanessa commented that since she became a member of the committee she felt that the committee has not accomplished very much. Solar panels, wind turbines and tree planting were discussed. The committee liked the "plant a tree for every resident" or "plant a tree for every tree taken down" ideas. Handing out free seedlings at the green tent "trade your recyclables for a tree" at Flavours was suggested. Barb Butters will contact Vale and ask if they could donate the trees. The committee will be updated on this via email.

5. Next Meeting/Adjourn

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, Sept 5th, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

On the agenda for the next meeting – Brainstorming – email your ideas to Chris Lee

Moved by Jack Hellinga
Seconded by Barbara Butters

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