



**KINGSTON ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY FORUM
MEETING No. 01-2009
MINUTES**

Monday, December 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
In the Boardroom at Rideaucrest Home
KEAF website: www.cityofkingston.ca/keaf

Please provide regrets to Sunni Rideout, Committee Clerk at 613-546-4291 Ext. 1219; srideout@cityofkingston.ca

Present

Councillor Leonore Foster
Councillor Lisa Osanic
Mr. Ted Bailey
Mr. Tom Carpenter
Mr. Ian Dubin
Mr. Robert Foster
Ms Janis Grant
Mr. Matthew Gventer
Mr. Theodore Hsu
Mr. Christopher Knapper
Ms Bardi Vorster

Mr. Andy Dubchak

Regrets

Councillor Rob Matheson
Ms Tina Bailey
Mr. David Kay
Mr. Harold Pickering

Staff Present

Mr. Jim English, Pollution Prevention Specialist
Mr. Brodie Richmond, Environmental Engineer
Mrs. Sunni Rideout, Committee Clerk

THIS IS NOT A VERBATIM REPORT

MEETING TO ORDER

The Clerk called the meeting to order for the purpose of Election of Officers and called for nominations for the position of Chair.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Chair)

Moved by Mr. Dubin
Seconded by Councillor Foster

THAT Mr. Theodore Hsu and Mr. Tom Carpenter be nominated as Co-Chairs to the 2009 Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Mr. Dubin

THAT the nominations for the positions of Co-Chairs be closed.

CARRIED

Moved by Mr. Dubin
Seconded by Councillor Foster

THAT Mr. Theodore Hsu and Mr. Tom Carpenter be elected as Co-Chairs of the Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum.

CARRIED

Mr. Hsu and Mr. Carpenter assumed the position of co-chairs and conducted the balance of the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Osanic
Seconded by Mr. Hsu

THAT the Agenda be amended

- to include a discussion of updates of business from previous meetings under 10) 'Other Business' ;
- to add the name of Ian Dubin under 9c) 'Working Group Items – Communications – Environmental Strategy Group;
- to add the name of Matthew Gventer under 9c) Working Group Items – Plastic Bag Free Kingston; and

as amended, be confirmed.

CARRIED

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Hsu
Seconded by Councillor Osanic

THAT the Minutes of the Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum Meeting No. 07-2008 held on September 8, 2008 be confirmed; and

THAT the Minutes of the Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum Meeting No. 08-2008 held on October 20, 2008 be amended to indicate that Ms Vorster was not present at the meeting and, as amended, be confirmed.

CARRIED

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None was declared.

DELEGATIONS

Mr. Andre Wollin, P. Eng., Base Environment Officer, Canadian Forces Base Kingston was present to address the Committee respecting *"Environmental Initiatives at CFB Kingston"*.

A copy of the presentation is attached to the record.

Mr. Wollin briefly described the location of the Base and of the various functions located on the Base. He said that at one time the Base was slated for closure, however, since that time the population has doubled in the past six years. He said the houses in the village will be brought down and replaced and the anticipated capital construction budget over the next five to eight years is \$300,000,000 to \$400,000,000.

Mr. Wollin stated that a majority of the buildings are served by a central heating plant along with satellite boiler plants, fuelled by natural gas and that carbon management is the management of refrigerants.

Mr. Wollin confirmed that any new building or retrofits valued at \$10,000,000 or more must meet Silver LEED standards while anything under \$10,000,000 would be required to meet BREEAM4 standards. In response to a question of why these would not be certified, Mr. Wollin advised that would be a headquarters decision and that it would probably be because of the cost which is \$3,000 to certify plus 1.5 cents per square foot of any facility.

Mr. Wollin advised there is a very strictly enforced no idling policy on the Base with offenders receiving two warnings and notice being provided to his superior officer. He acknowledged enforcement led to greater participation in this program.

In response to a question of how the lead bullets on the training range are retrieved, Mr. Wollin advised that a mining expert had been retained. He noted that higher velocity weapons vaporize the bullets however it is still an ongoing problem.

In response to a question respecting a solar water heat system, Mr. Wollin noted that this is over 20 years old and for that reason should not be purchased. He advised that the Base does have a process to reclaim its heat and said that their experience with co-generation has not been very good.

In response to a question regarding whether there have been any attempts to reduce greenhouse emissions, Mr. Wollin stated that in a sustainable development strategy there are always numbers and targets. He noted that in 2003 the baseline consumption was 1.8 million cubic litres and in 2006 the figure fell to 1.06 million cubic litres because some pipes were repaired. He also noted that large concrete tanks were purchased for the storage of 350,000 litres of gasoline. The tanks maintain the gasoline at the same temperature as underground tanks. Greenhouse emissions were reduced by 139 kilotons.

Mr. Wollin advised there is no requirement at present for the Base to publish an environmental report.

Mr. Wollin advised that the Base works co-operatively with the City of Kingston for the pick-up of paper, cardboard and composting.

Mr. Wollin noted that the use of pesticides is restricted to the sports fields but the standards provided by the Audubon Society Guidelines are being reviewed. Weeds are still an issue.

BRIEFINGS**BUSINESS**

a) Committee Objectives for the Direction of KEAF

Mr. Hsu requested that Committee members give some thought to KEAF's 2009 goals and objectives. He suggested that there be a discussion scheduled for the January, 2009 meeting on this topic.

Mr. Christopher Knapper withdrew from the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

WORKING GROUP ITEMS**Inner Harbour Group**

(Dr. Laing, Dr. Remenda, Ms Vorster)

Ms Vorster reported that there has been a meeting of this group and that a decision as to their next steps has been made.

Partners in Climate Protection Group (PCP)

(Ms Bailey, Mr. Foster, Ms Grant, Mr. Hsu, Mr. Pickering)

Mr. Hsu advised that a draft action plan was sent to Visible Strategies by Paul MacLachy to post on the website. There will be a demonstration later this week, possibly Friday. Real public comment can be solicited.

Communications – Environmental Strategy Group

(Mr. Bailey, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Foster, Ms Grant, Mr. Gventer, Mr. Kay, Mr. May, Councillor Osanic, Mr. Dubin)

Mr. Bailey reported the group was focusing on green buildings and that there has been an attempt to meet with home builders to promote more green buildings in new developments. He pointed out there is an awareness of these issues by the builders but the problem rests with home buyers who are not choosing these items. The Building Department seems interested and we have met with them.

Mr. Gventer reported meeting with Mr. Del Stowe, Building Inspector, who is very enthusiastic about encouraging green development. Mr. Stowe reviewed some of their operating standards and talked about the new Building Code and its expectations. There was some discussion about the new legislation in the works to require people to do a new energuide evaluation prior to the sale of their homes and some of the problems for the City to get things done because of Official Plan limitations. Ms Emily Gosse had representatives at that meeting and talked about some of the ways the Official Plan could assist with sustainable development.

Mr. Stowe has been working on newsletters to developers talking about standards in the Building Code and would like to expand that to encourage green building outlining to developers how they can save money on building and marketing. Mr. Stowe suggested he could promote the advantages of green building to the buyer and talked about public education to make it feasible to both the public and the building community. There was also a discussion regarding possible incentives to builders who build green buildings. Mr. Stowe will prepare a sample advertising brochure that could be used for a variety of purposes to encourage green development. He has requested that KEAF look at that brochure, draw up a strategy and ask City Council to give its encouragement of that. Mr. Gventer advised that KEAF would work to encourage and facilitate the brochure. It was agreed to bring this matter back to the Committee at a future date.

Public Meeting Regarding Plastic Bags to be Hosted By KEAF

(Ms Vorster, Ms Grant, Mr. Pickering, Mr. Gventer)

Ms Vorster reported that a meeting was held to discuss the issues and it was determined that there was a need for further information and clarification. Mr. Gventer has produced a report of basic facts and a draft questionnaire for the

purpose of collecting information from the public has been prepared. A question remains of whether KEAF is the appropriate body to collect the public information or indeed, if it is the task of KEAF to inform or to ask the public this question about whether the City of Kingston should be plastic bag free. It was agreed that a request for clarification will be directed to the Environment, Infrastructure and Transportation Policies Committee.

Ms Vorster advised that this is more of an environmental issue and it may not be economically viable for Council to deal with this. It was suggested that there may be some legal problems and therefore clarification from Environment, Infrastructure and Transportation Policies Committee is necessary. Mr. Gventer has put together a list of options which will be circulated. In response to a suggestion that clarification should be sought on whether it is just the plastic shopping bag or absolutely every plastic bag, Mr. Gventer advised it would be possible to simply state that it is our understanding that it is the plastic shopping bag.

Mr. Gventer noted that the Province has already worked on an agreement to reduce plastic bags and could take action with a program to encourage reduction immediately through the City. It was noted that without Provincial movement on this there may be only so much the City can do.

Moved by Ms Grant
Seconded by Ms Vorster

THAT Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum requests that Environment, Infrastructure, Transportation Policies Committee clarify the request for public consultation on plastic bags.

CARRIED

Communications – Environmental Strategy Group

(Mr. Bailey, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Foster, Ms. Grant, Mr. Gventer, Mr. Kay, Mr. May, Councillor Osanic)

Mr. Hsu advised an organization called 'Reduce The Juice' is forming a Steering Committee to hire students over the summer to tell people how to become more energy efficient.

Ms Vorster noted that there is an initiative Switch to produce workshops for homeowners on alternative energy for the beginning of March.

Mr. Hsu advised the organizers of the annual green up festival are starting again so there may be one in March or April, 2009.

Mr. Hsu advised he has received an enquiry from Australia about the energy metering program.

OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that there are some committee members who have not attended three meetings in a row resulting in a problem with meeting quorum. It was pointed out that the members from Queen's University, St. Lawrence College, Royal Military College and the Health Unit also have alternates and it was agreed that Mr. Carpenter will contact these organizations and other Committee members to ask if it is still their intention to attend meetings.

The Clerk is to confirm whether the mandate/terms of reference for KEAF have been amended in the last sentence to delete the words "when requested by Council".

Mr. Hsu stated that Paul MacLatchy had said his people would look into the possibility of putting links for subjects of interest on line. Mr. Hsu will follow up.

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Mr. Hsu advised that the Plasco Energy Group Trip has been postponed.

Mr. Ted Bailey said he was looking at the new development proposed in the North Block for ways that the sub-committee and KEAF can get involved, on what levels and what value can be provided.

Mr. Foster advised that Queen's University, School of Urban & Regional Planning will be attending the Planning Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 18th to give their report "Moving Kingston Forward: Towards Sustainable Residential Development" and recommended that members of KEAF attend this meeting. He asked whether it would be a good idea to invite these people to also come to address KEAF in February, 2009 where there would be an opportunity to ask questions more informally.

SHOW AND TELL ITEMS:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

CORRESPONDENCE

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum is scheduled to be held on Monday, January 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at Rideaucrest Home.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

