

## Oak Bay Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes

**Meeting:** Thursday May 15, 2014, 7:00 pm

**Present:** Brian Holl (Chair), Chris Garrett, Ron Carter, Kevin Murdoch Norman Mogensen, Noreen Taylor, Taylor Davis, Patricia Lane

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**Call to order:** 7:12 pm, B. Holl, Chair

1. Consent agenda

- a. Adoption of May agenda and Minutes of April, 2014 meeting with note to include N. Taylor as present at the April meeting.
- b. Theme Reports – Marine and Waste Management reports were provided as attachments to the agenda while in the case of the Terrestrial Environment Theme, the report was handed out and a verbal update provided under Business Arising. There was no report from the Built Environment Theme.
- c. Correspondence EAC Vacancies – See attached letter to Mayor and Council and correspondence between Municipal Clerk, Lorraine Hilton and Chair, Brian Holl.
- d. Correspondence re: organic (kitchen) waste collection. – A discussion followed regarding where waste was being transported from other municipal sources and the general concern as expressed in the letter from the Chair on the carbon footprint of long distance hauling.

2. Business Arising:

- a. Mike Dillistone of OPAC acknowledges that the letter to OPAC in response to the Draft OCP was received. A general discussion followed regarding how the EAC report would be received and concerns that the report reach OB Council. The Chair was instructed to forward the report direct to Mayor and Council or through Councillor K. Murdoch.
- b. Terrestrial Theme Report (attached)
- c. Leaf Blower Referral: The committee reviewed a draft response to Oak Bay Council's request; *That the Environmental Advisory Committee be requested to report back to Council on the environmental considerations ... of amending the leaf blower regulations in the Anti-Noise Bylaw to ban their use or to remove the current time exemptions.*

B. Holl spoke to the draft that included a summary of environmental issues and included a discussion of Santa Monica CA, Vancouver BC, and Toronto Ont., as examples of jurisdictions dealing with leaf blower issues (exhaust emissions, noise, particulates and operating times) through bylaws, education and leading by example. The committee discussed the many options felt to minimize the problems with leaf blower use. Emissions and noise (decibel levels) were the most important areas of discussion. B. Holl will rework the conclusions and recommendations and re-circulate the document for review.

### 3. New Business

- a. Council report – K. Murdoch had nothing to report.
- b. Oak Bay Tea Party and Waste Management: N. Taylor reported on her role with the Tea Party Committee. Highlights were; 50% of the waste is compostable and this year styrofoam will be banned.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 9:20 pm. The next meeting is June 19.

### Attachments

1. Terrestrial Theme report