

Process Notes, February 20, 2014 OPAC meeting

Attending: Councillor Pam Copley (Chair), Councillor John Herbert, Gloria Back, Mayor Jensen, Director of Building and Planning Roy Thomassen and Consulting Planner Michael Dillistone.

Regrets: Councillor Cairine Green, Mike Lloyd, Jan Mears, Patrick Frey, John Graham and Will Moore

OPAC briefly discussed the February 15th Open House and were pleased with the attendance (113 people signed in) and level of discussion of the draft vision statement, goals and objectives. The general feedback was positive and the written comments have been passed on to the consultant to compile and review.

The Committee members present reviewed the first drafts of the policies for the Natural Environment, Parks and Recreation, Community and Social Well-Being and Emergency Management sections of the OCP. The previously circulated sections had been reviewed by sub-committees and the sub-committee's edited drafts were used as a starting point. Generally the members present felt that the language and the tone of the policy sections needed to be more positive and progressive. They also discussed the fact that the sections should be structured to be more consistent in terms of level of information, language or organization. Comments included that some policies seemed too detailed (e.g. dogs in parks) and some information needed to be corrected. It was agreed that since so few members of OPAC were present that the edited versions should be circulated to the other members by e-mail for comment before the information was sent to the project consultant for further consideration and editing.

The Chair requested that, if possible, an edited version of the draft Natural Environment, Parks and Recreation policy sections be made available to the Parks and Recreation Commission for their March 5th meeting. Mr. Dillistone said that he would speak to the project consultant to see if this was possible.

There was a brief discussion of the OPAC Terms of Reference and the need to clarify what level of review was expected from the group. Roy Thomassen circulated notes from the September 26th, 2013 OPAC meeting when this was also discussed. It was noted that the role of OPAC was to be to provide a "high level review of draft OCP policies at the appropriate time". There was some discussion as to what "high level review" entailed and it was agreed that this should likely be a discussion when there were more members present.

Mr. Dillistone briefly reviewed the project schedule as set out by the consultant and reiterated the tight timeline.

The **next OPAC meeting will be on March 6th, 2014** to review the draft of the Land Use Map and the drafts of Demographic and Growth Management, Housing and Neighbourhood policies.