

**Minutes of the Town of Qualicum Beach Select Committee on Environment Regular Meeting held Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chamber, Municipal Office, 660 Primrose Street, Qualicum Beach, BC**

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Present: Councillor Kent Becker, Chair  
Michael Jessen, Alternate, Arrowsmith Watersheds Coalition Society  
Guy Monty, Brant Wildlife Festival Organizers  
Tom Whitfield, Brown Property Preservation Society  
Sandy Robinson, Friends of French Creek Conservation Society  
Ceri Peacey, Hamilton Marsh Committee of the Friends of French Creek Conservation Society  
Geoff Ball, Milner Gardens & Woodlands, VIU  
Holly Clermont, Mt. Arrowsmith Biosphere Foundation  
Faye Smith, Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers  
Po Wan, Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce  
Nigel Cavanagh, Oceanside Development & Construction Association  
Herbert Sullivan, Qualicum Beach Residents' Association  
Dorothy Hofs, Chartwell Residents' Association  
Cathy Francis, Qualicum Beach Waterfront Association  
Paul Kyba, Alternate, North Qualicum Beach Homeowners' Association

Absent: Michele Deakin, Mid-Vancouver Island Habitat Enhancement Society  
Annette Tanner, Qualicum Beach Environment Committee Society  
Pat Kingsford, Eaglecrest Residents' Association  
Peggy Ward, Qualicum Institute

Also Present: Staff: Bob Weir, Director of Engineering & Utilities  
Trudy Coates, Corporate Administrator  
Sue Hood, Office Assistant

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Nigel Cavanagh MOVED and Tom Whitfield SECONDED, THAT the Select Committee on Environment adopts the February 3, 2010 Regular meeting agenda.

**CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Geoff Ball MOVED and Paul Kyba SECONDED, THAT the Select Committee on Environment approves the November 19, 2009 Special meeting minutes.

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Youth Representative – Staff confirmed correspondence sent to Kwalikum Secondary School and Vancouver Island University to post and distribute an invitation to students who are youth, reside in Qualicum Beach and have an interest in representing youth on environmental issues, to submit a letter of application to the Town by March 1, 2010.

Meeting Location - Chair Kent Becker confirmed other venues were considered, however, due to staff coordination, ability to request other staff to attend, and their time, and room availability, the meeting location of the Select Committee on Environment will remain in Town Hall Council Chambers, unless the whole committee recommends otherwise. For future meetings, coffee will be available and the meeting room will be open 30 minutes prior to the meeting to allow networking time.

## **COUNCIL**

### **Council Motions**

The Committee received, for information, the December 7, 2009 Council motions appointing alternate members and authorizing increased dog control enforcement during Brant migration.

**Status of Recommendations to Council - Nil**

**Referrals from Council - Nil**

## **BUSINESS**

### **Compliance Coal Corporation's Proposed Raven Underground Coal Mine Project near the communities of Union Bay, Buckley Bay, Fanny Bay & Deep Bay**

Tom Whitfield MOVED and Guy Monty SECONDED, THAT the Select Committee on Environment recommends WHEREAS there is a large body of documented evidence on the negative impact to the environment by coalmining, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council send a letter to the Honourable Blair Lekstrom, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources expressing the following concerns about the Compliance Coal Corporation's proposed Raven Underground Coal Mine Project near the communities of Union Bay, Buckley Bay, Fanny Bay and Deep Bay:

- as detailed in Bruce Fleming-Smith's letter of October 28, 2009
- water used in mining and where it goes;
- greenhouse gas emissions;
- source of energy;
- effect on groundwater;
- form of transportation;
- Governmental approval process;

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Qualicum Beach request copies of the licence applications, standing in the approval process and meaningful consultation; AND FURTHER THAT Council instructs staff to write to other municipalities in the region asking them to do the same.

**CARRIED**

### **Verbal Updates from the Chair**

#### **First Nation Consultation**

Chair Becker reported that the Town will review the form of First Nation consultation on environmental issues with the Qualicum First Nation prior to further discussion of a draft recommendation with the Committee.

#### **Little Qualicum River Watershed Plan; A Feasibility Study**

Chair Becker reported that a copy of the Little Qualicum River Watershed Plan Feasibility Study, produced by the Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers has been distributed to Council members and Senior Staff for review, and will be on the next Committee agenda for input.

#### **Pesticide Bylaw**

A draft Pesticide Regulation Bylaw will be on the June Committee agenda for discussion.

**Canadian Cancer Society's Call for Legislation to Ban Chemical Pesticides**

Po Wan MOVED and Guy Monty SECONDED, THAT the Select Committee on Environment recommends THAT the Town of Qualicum Beach responds, and encourages citizens to respond, by the BC government's February 15, 2010 deadline for input on the use and sale of cosmetic chemical pesticides, by supporting the Canadian Cancer Society's call for new legislation that:

- Prohibits the use, sale and retail display of chemical pesticides for lawns, gardens, and non-agricultural landscaping;
- Allows exemptions only to protect public health;
- Provides for public education about the ban and alternatives to chemical pesticides;
- Includes effective mechanisms for enforcement;
- Does not include Integrated Pest Management (IPM), or the use of pesticides 'as a last resort' to deal with weeds and insects; and
- Is passed in 2010 and fully implemented within the first two years of the government's current mandate.

**CARRIED**

**Select Committee on Environment Terms of Reference Amendment**

Tom Whitfield MOVED and Po Wan SECONDED, THAT the Select Committee on Environment recommends THAT Council approves the amended Select Committee on Environment Terms of Reference.

**CARRIED**

Po Wan, Dorothy Hofs, Herbert Sullivan and Nigel Cavanagh left the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

**Select Committee on Environment Priorities for 2010**

Guy Monty MOVED and Sandy Robinson SECONDED to delete Bullet No. 7 Community Forest from the Key Issues Identified by the Select Committee on Environment.

**CARRIED**

The Committee provided suggestions for amendment. T. Coates left the meeting and returned with the final draft "Amended February 3, 2010".

Tom Whitfield MOVED and Holly Clermont SECONDED, THAT the Select Committee on Environment recommends THAT Council endorses the priorities for the Select Committee on Environment identified in the "Key Issues Identified by the Select Committee on Environment" dated for reference Amended February 3, 2010.

**CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Geoff Ball MOVED and Faye Smith SECONDED, THAT the Select Committee on Environment adjourns the meeting.

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

**Next Regular Meeting:** Wednesday, June 2, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber

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Councillor Kent Becker, Chair