



## **THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON**

### **MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020**

**PRESENT:** VOTING

Brian Guy (Co-Chair), Science, Technology & Environmental Services  
Stan Eaman, Health & Social Services  
Ed Wilson, Community at Large Rep.  
Bill Darnell, Community Stewardship  
Kevin McCarty, Business & Commercial Services  
Jenn Comazetto, SD 22 Board Rep.

NON-VOTING

Mayor Victor Cumming (Alternate Member)  
Alan Gee, Fulton Secondary

**ABSENT:** Councillor Brian Quiring, (Appointed Member)  
Colleen Dix, Utility Services and Providers  
Mary Stockdale, Educators and Educational Institutions

**STAFF:** Laurie Cordell, Manager, Long Range Planning & Sustainability/Staff Liaison  
Daniel Sturgeon, Long Range Planner  
Janice Nicol, Legislative Committee Clerk

**ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF  
AGENDA**

Moved by Stan Eaman, seconded by Jenn Comazetto;

THAT the agenda of the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting for Tuesday, August 18, 2020 be amended to include:

**ADD under Information items:**

- a) Climate action , activities in the fall
- b) Committee leadership through commitment to reducing personal carbon footprint

AND FURTHER, that the agenda be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED.**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Stan Eaman, seconded by Ed Wilson ;

THAT the minutes for the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting of July 6, 2020 be adopted.

**CARRIED.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:****UPDATE ON CAP PROCESS****General Update:**

Since the previous meeting :

- Radio ads and social media – generated good responses although some from out of country
- Have been digging through actions and ground truthing's, making sure they are actionable
- Budget is being worked on
- Sustainability grants have been finalized and will be distributed shortly.

**Engagement**

- Meeting with radio stations to figure out how to engage community in climate change, proposal is coming
- Important to get pop-ups going, would be great to reach more. COVID safety plan has been finalized.
- Suggest contacting property managers for strata developments – needs to be focused and specific
- Suggest approaching service clubs as method of engagement.

**Survey**

- Survey – input now closed, results sent to consultants

**Ambassador Program**

- Two update meetings held (both online) – new slideshow and handout, engagement has been limited, may be due to summer and COVID.
- Might be easier to reach Ambassador group after Labour Day
- Ambassadors may be able to join through Zoom, and engage with their networks through Zoom.

**NEW BUSINESS:****REVIEW OF CAP ACTIONS AND PRIORITIES**

This part of the meeting was conducted in a workshop format, led by Laurie Cordell. The Committee noted the following:

- Pleased with the priority of Community Governance
- Some items need to be filtered through different lenses
- Concern that all actions are those that the City can do but meeting targets involves every person, business, etc. – try to think, under each theme, of actions that can be done by individuals, businesses as well
- Appreciate dedication and commitment of every person involved in this process
- There is something in the Plan for everyone, from retro-fits to future proofing, many layers
- Heartening to see how this can be applied to individuals, will take some time to build a culture
- There is still a group of people that don't believe that climate change is human caused – important to include a few paragraphs at the beginning with data outlining that this is a real issue with real consequences, and also that there are realistic, achievable solutions.
- Important to include hopeful statements (e.g. quotes) as well.

What do you feel is missing from the Plan:

- Important to address potential for partnerships (e.g. with School District on busing), while demonstrating a leadership role – needs to be articulated stronger in Plan
- Committee members will forward any actions that have been missed to Laurie
- Add an action statement – City will support and promote businesses, individuals, etc to make changes – e.g by providing a GHG calculator, leasing land for gardens, providing grants, assistance with understanding building retrofitting
- Promote food security – can the City provide land?
- City could look at places where there is density and where garden plots can be located
- Needs to be framed as an investment rather than cost
- Do a consumption inventory to estimate GHG footprint associated with food and other consumables as next part of plan – important to address consumption
- What can the City do on the consumption side
- Important to engage children
- Addressing actions to do with low carbon building materials for developers.

How do we merge mitigation and implementation?

Need a term that reflects action – need to shorten ‘reducing our GHG’s and preparing for climate impacts’. Let Laurie know if you think of a catchphrase that might work.

The Committee participated in a categorizing session for Items a), b) and c) under New Business beginning at 2:29 p.m. and reconvened the Climate Action meeting at 3.38 p.m.

**REVIEW OF CAP  
TABLE OF  
CONTENTS  
REVIEW OF  
TEMPLATES FOR  
PLAN AND  
IMPLEMENTATION  
STRATEGY**

WORKSHOP – see above

WORKSHOP – see above

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**CLIMATE ACTION  
ACTIVITIES**

There are a number of great Climate Action activities planned for the fall – Bill Darnell can provide details.

**LEADERSHIP  
FROM COMMITTEE**

After Council approval is obtained for the Climate Action Plan, implementation will be spearheaded by the City. The community will need to buy in to meet the targets. Suggestion that each member of the Committee examine their own personal carbon footprint which can be monitored and measured.

Suggestion that each member make a commitment to reduce their footprint. Can take the 3% challenge, perhaps have a sign on the lawn in order to build a community. Move from what the City can do to what can be done on an individual basis.

It was noted that the District of Saanich has a great GHG calculator. Would be great to have something similar (perhaps more customized for Vernon) on our website. Brian will send calculator to Committee members.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Climate Action Advisory Committee will be announced.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Climate Action Advisory Committee adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

  
\_\_\_\_\_ Co-Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_ Co-Chair