



ADOPTED

11

Pender Island Waste and Resource Management Commission Special Advisory Planning Commission Minutes of a Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 (12:30 p.m.)

Location: Pender Islands Community Hall Lounge
4418 Bedwell Harbour Road, North Pender Island, BC

Members Present: Elizabeth Montague, Chair
Richard Philpot, Deputy Chair
Dale Henning
Donn Korbin
Ursula Poepel
John Pollard
Davy Rippner
Michael Sketch
Gordie Duncan
Michael Symons (Ex officio Member)

Staff Present: Justine Starke, Island Planner
Zorah Staar, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Jim Petrie, Member

Others present: Three (3) members of the public



1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Chair Montague (later elected Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. There were introductions of two new members of the Waste and Resource Management Commission ("the Commission"): Gordie Duncan (from South Pender Island) and Michael Symons (an ex officio Member, from the North Pender Island Advisory Planning Commission).

Deputy Chair Montague also commented on the need for the information being gathered by the Commission (re: discarded materials waste, volumes, needs and related issues) to be retained and organized in a way that was most useful now and in future. She asked Island Planner Starke if staff could consider how this might occur and how they could assist.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to be re-ordered slightly, and to add the following:

- item 6.5, Donn Korbin re: Hartland Treatment of Organic Kitchen Scraps; and
- item 11., Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw Matters.

By general consent the agenda was approved as amended.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

NP-SAPC-2015-009

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

THAT the Commission approve the minutes of August 27, 2015.

CARRIED

4. ELECTION OF CHAIR & DEPUTY CHAIR

Island Planner Starke called for nominations for the role of Commission Chair. Member Sketch nominated Member Montague. After 3 calls for nominations there were no others, so Member Montague was declared Chair by acclamation.

Chair Montague called for nominations for the role of Commission Deputy Chair. Member Sketch nominated Member Philpot. After 3 calls for nominations there were no others, so Member Philpot was declared Deputy Chair by acclamation.

5. QUESTIONS / COMMENTS FROM COMMUNITY (first round)

Ben McConchie commented as follows:

- he was a Member of the current regular North Pender Island Advisory Planning Commission, which hadn't yet been referred any matters by the Local Trust Committee;
- was it not more appropriate to move consideration of waste issues to the regular APC, because its Members did not have any conflicts of interest on waste issues?;
- in any event, the work of Waste and Resource Management Commission was appreciated.

Some Commission Members and Planner Starke confirmed that for the Commission to include South Pender representatives, it had to be a new Special APC. This Commission had been very deliberately created by the LTC, and feedback should be sent to them.

6. REPORTS ON MATERIALS, VOLUMES & NEEDS

6.1 Richard Philpot re: Pender Island Recycling Society

Member Philpot shared a summary and spreadsheets with details of recycling tonnage and vehicle visits, and made comments on the following:

- 25-year history of non-profit Pender Island Recycling Society reviewed, including mission to support the re-use, reduce, and recycle hierarchy;
- new Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) initiatives were a good idea, but there were lots of problems with execution by government and companies;
- compensation was not enough to support rural recycling bodies, so CRD had agreed to a different payment system until 2017, and advocacy was in progress;
- recycling tonnage handled by PIRS was decreasing due to lighter packaging, but vehicle visits were increasing, as was volume of materials per vehicle;

- this meant that more space for PIRS was needed, especially if more commercial recycling was to be included in future.

6.2 Barbara Johnstone Grimmer re: Digesters

Grimmer was not available, but was willing to report at the next meeting about digesters. Chair Montage also planned to circulate some information about large-scale composting, from a Pender presentation last year.

6.3 Davy Rippner re: Ron Henshaw

Chair Montage and Member Rippner had spoken with Ron Henshaw, a discarded materials handler, who had provided this information:

- Henshaw handled mostly woody debris, construction and demolition waste;
- this was on a sporadic basis, and usually involved bringing containers to site;
- Henshaw did clean burning of woody debris;
- he was willing to participate with a waste transfer facility, if controlled by government rather than by private operators.

Note: At this point, the Commission addressed the parameters of their discussion of information from or about private operators. The following was noted:

- most waste transfer private operators on Pender were technically operating beyond the Land Use Bylaw at this point;
- their knowledge of waste materials, volumes and needs was essential to the Commission, but they may not be willing to provide this private business information, or may provide it only if they knew it would not be made public;
- therefore, the Commission discussing operator information was sensitive, and to some degree (as yet undefined) should happen In Camera;
- Commission's focus was not to decide on operators, but rather on best practices, ideal locations, and preferred scope of waste management.

6.4 Dale Henning re: Questions for Operators (including Burdetts)

Note: Before Henning spoke, some Members expressed concern about Chair Montague interviewing Ron Henshaw (see 5.3 above) and suggesting that Dale Henning ask questions of the Burdetts, along with a potential list of questions. Montague said that this was intended to begin gathering info for Commission discussions, but further inquiries would not occur until the group approved it.

Member Henning reported on discussions with Anne and Mike Burdett as follows:

- Burdetts were concerned about providing proprietary information, and also about all operators being asked the same questions (level playing field);
- they gave an initial estimate of waste removed from Pender per year, but then said that they needed to review their tipping slips.

6.5 Donn Korbin re: Hartland Treatment of Organic Kitchen Scraps

Member Korbin commented on information about Hartland:

- currently kitchen scraps received at Hartland transfer station are shipped for processing in Richmond;
- CRD can renew the contract at its discretion until the end of 2018;
- CRD may or may not issue a Request for Proposals for in-region processing of kitchen scraps.

Some Commissioners expressed concerns about the potential negative aspects of local, large-scale, kitchen waste composting or digesting (i.e. odours, controversy, legal battles like neighbours like in Saanich). If the current Hartland shipping to Richmond was working, why change it?

Island Planner Starke commented that processing of organic waste was governed by a strict CRD composting bylaw, requiring licensing of operators. She encouraged the Commission not to close the door on discussion of composting issues, because it was possible that technical issues could be resolved. Kitchen scraps were also a high percentage (30%) of waste.

Note: Ex officio Member Symons left the meeting at approximately this time.

7. MEMBER/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS & DECISIONS ON NEXT STEPS

See notes in items 6.3 and 6.4 above. There was further discussion of which questions should be asked of discarded materials operators, how this should be done, and also the "what" of the Commission's role, i.e. the technical substance of its inquiries with operators and otherwise. In addition, a subcommittee and a survey were suggested.

NP-SAPC-2015-010

MOVED by Member Sketch, SECONDED by Member Rippner

THAT the Commission agrees that the following three areas should be addressed by the "what" category of the Commission's role:

1. list of discarded materials handled by each operator;
2. volume and weight handled in each category, per unit of time;
3. transport capacity of each operator, i.e. number of trucks, volume, and weight capacity.

CARRIED

(Members Korbin and Duncan opposed)

NP-SAPC-2015-011

MOVED by Member Corbin, SECONDED by Member Philpot

THAT the Commission strike a subcommittee of 3 Members, to formulate a list of questions to operators and other stakeholders, and to circulate these questions to other Commission Members for review.

CARRIED

The subcommittee volunteers were Member Henning, Member Korbin and Member Pollard (with Deputy Chair Philpot offering to be a resource). It was suggested to send the draft list of questions for operators and stakeholders to Island Planner Starke as well.

There was also discussion of Commission minutes, with Island Planner Starke confirming that there was some flexibility in departing from the Islands Trust general policy of decision-oriented and not verbatim minutes. Members expressed a preference for their minutes containing enough detail to be useful for future discussions and reference (i.e. not just focussing on decisions), which was possible. On the issues of whether minutes needed to name Members in opposition to a motion, and whether motions could name the mover and seconder, Planner Starke said that she would check further and report back.

8. QUESTIONS / COMMENTS FROM COMMUNITY (none)

9. UPCOMING MEETING DATES PROPOSED

Chair Montague had circulated a list of proposed Commission meeting dates, based on the work plan proposed in the Terms of Reference:

Friday, October 16, 2015
Friday, November 20, 2015
Monday, December 14, 2015

Friday, January 15, 2016
Friday, February 12, 2016
Monday, March 14, 2016
Monday, May 16, 2016
Friday, June 10, 2016 (then presentation at June Local Trust Committee Meeting)
Monday, July 11, 2016 (then presentation at July Local Trust Committee Meeting)

By general consent the above proposed schedule of Commission meetings was accepted, and it was agreed that meetings would occur at 12:30 pm.

Recording Secretary Zorah Staar was asked to book the Community Hall Lounge, prepare a notice of the meeting schedule, and post it on community bulletin boards.

Note: Member Korbin and Island Planner Starke left the meeting at 2:49 pm.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE & BEGINNING AGENDA

The next Commission meeting was scheduled for Friday, October 16 (12:30 pm, Community Hall Lounge unless otherwise notified). The questions from the subcommittee (see 7. above) were to be discussed, potentially along with other matters.

11. OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN AND LAND USE BYLAW MATTERS

Member Sketch commented that it was part of the Commission's role to discuss potential North Pender Official Community Plan (OCP) and/or Land Use Bylaw (LUB) amendments relating to discarded materials. He suggested that there be a standing agenda item on this.

Other Members noted the importance of carrying forward recommendations or suggestions about potential OCP or LUB amendments that could benefit the community.

NP-SAPC-2015-012

MOVED by Member Sketch, SECONDED by Member Montague

THAT the topic of "Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw Matters" be accepted as a standing Commission agenda item, whether or not addressed at each meeting.

CARRIED

Member Sketch further asked that two of his suggestions be recorded in the minutes:

- to insert a new North Pender Island OCP goal reading as follows: "Goal 17 – To minimize waste and maximize recycling in the management of discarded materials; and
- to restructure OCP paragraph 3.3 with the following policy: "3.3.1 Island resident and visitor consumers, as well as collection operators, shall be encouraged to minimize waste abandonment and land fill disposal and instead to maximize recycling in the management of discarded materials by means of advocacy, signage and appropriate land use."

Chair Montague suggested that the above proposal be on the next meeting agenda as well.

12. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting was adjourned at 3:03 pm.

[REDACTED]

Elizabeth Montague, Chair

Certified Correct: [REDACTED]

Zorah Staar, Recorder