

Windsor, Ontario December 6, 2012

A meeting of the **Windsor Essex County Environment Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the Board Room, Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant, 4155 Ojibway Parkway, there being present the following members:

Charlie Wright, Co-Chair
Councillor Alan Halberstadt, Co-Chair
Frank Butler (alternate for Derek Coronado (arrives at 5:38 p.m.)
Pauline Cheslock
Matthew Child
Dean Clevett
Rick Coronado (arrives at 5:38 p.m.)
Jesse Costa Gardner (alternate for Phil Roberts)
Roger Dzugan (alternate for Mark Bartlett)
Evan Freeman-Gibb
Paul Henshaw
Phil Roberts (arrives at 5:38 p.m.)
Tamara Stomp
Radwan Tamr, (arrives at 6:27 p.m.)

Regrets received from:

Councillor Hilary Payne (attending an ERCA meeting)
Mark Bartlett
Derek Coronado
John Miller

Guest in attendance:

Jonathon Choquette

Also present are the following resource personnel:

James Bryant, County Engineering Department
Averil Parent, Environment & Sustainability Coordinator
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Charlie Wright, Co-Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:35 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

None disclosed.

4. **MINUTES**

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by R. Dzukan,

That the minutes of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee at its meeting held November 1, 2012 **BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED** to reword the phrase "*Germany meets 25% of their renewable energy requirements*" to "*Germany has 25% of their energy derived from renewables*".

Carried.

5. **PRESENTATION**

N/A

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

6.1 **WECEC Meeting Schedule & Attendance**

Moved by P. Roberts, seconded by R. Dzukan,

That the *Revised* Windsor Essex County Environment Committee (WECEC) Terms of Reference **BE APPROVED**.

Carried.

6.2 **Surplus Parks**

A. Parent reports representatives from WECEC and a member of the Windsor Essex Community Garden Collective met with representatives from Parks to discuss surplus parks in Windsor. The Parks Department presented their approach to consolidate park space as currently there are many small parks requiring high maintenance but have low functionality. She notes funding derived from the sale of a park is placed in a reserve account which may be utilized solely for the purchase of parkland. The Parks Department is interested in working with the Community Garden Collective to identify parks best suited for community gardens (i.e. accessible, access to water). She indicates WECEC has been added as a stakeholder and will be invited to provide input through the

public consultation process (which will occur for each park). The consultation processes for Long Park and South Tilston Park are in progress.

P. Roberts advises the Executive Director of Parks and Facilities has developed strategies for urban cooling. He suggests a framework be established to review parks and to determine which parks can be considered as candidates for naturalization and urban cooling. He notes the public should be educated regarding the naturalization of parks.

T. Stomp states parks provide climate control, beauty and green space and expresses concern that the number of parks may be reduced.

A. Parent indicates parks are being closed for the purpose of enlarging other parks.

Moved by D. Clevett, seconded by P. Cheslock,
That the "WECEC Coordinator Monthly Report - November 2012" **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

WECEC at its meeting held November 1, 2012 approved the following as it relates to the purchase of promotional materials:

Moved by T. Stomp, seconded by R. Dzugan,
"That APPROVAL BE GIVEN to an expenditure in the amount of \$1,500 for the Energy Efficient Campaign, *plus \$300 for the purchase of educational promotional materials to be provided as handouts at environmental events.*"

It is generally agreed that the budget for promotional materials be increased from \$300 to \$400.

Moved by M. Child, seconded by T. Stomp,
That the budget for the purchase of educational promotional materials to be provided as handouts at environmental events **BE INCREASED** from \$300 to \$400.
Carried.

Discussion ensues regarding the venue for future WECEC meetings.

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by R. Dzugan,
That the discussion regarding the venue for future WECEC meetings **BE DEFERRED** pending the outcome of the 2013 budget deliberations.
Carried.

T. Stomp, P. Cheslock and R. Coronado voting nay.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Air

No report.

8.2 Transportation

F. Butler indicates the purchase of BYD hybrid buses from China has not been finalized. He notes the bus fare may increase from \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Moved by R. Tamr, seconded by Councillor Halberstadt,
That the verbal report by Frank Butler, Transportation Subcommittee relating to Transit Windsor buses **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

C. Wright, Co-Chair states the Town of Leamington has the "newest and youngest" bus fleet -two accessible buses that were purchased two months ago.

8.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands

An article from the Windsor Star dated December 5, 2012 entitled "City council delays decision on future of airport woodlots" is distributed and attached as Appendix "A".

City Council at its meeting held December 3, 2012 reviewed the report of the Project Administrator dated November 19, 2012 entitled "Windsor International Airport Master Plan - Woodlot Review Update", attached as Appendix "B" (for information purposes).

P. Roberts states the 120 metre buffer strip surrounding the three woodlots were not approved as approval could contribute to liability from the neighbouring property. He indicates the 120 metre buffer strip resulted from an Ontario Municipal Board decision and is a precedent rather than mandated legislation.

In response to a question asked by Councillor Halberstadt regarding if the buffer would infringe on the neighbouring property, P. Roberts responds the woodlots have been designated as Provincially Significant and as such, any adjacent property to be developed would have to go through an assessment process.

Moved by J. Costa Gardner, seconded by D. Clevett,
That the Provincially Significant Wetlands Subcommittee in partnership with the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup Organization, the Essex Region Conservation Authority, and the Essex County Stewardship Network **BE REQUESTED** to investigate connecting

woodlots on the Airport Lands and further, that the findings **BE PRESENTED** to WECEC and then forwarded on to City Council.

Carried.

8.4 Water Quality

M. Child advises the Water Quality Subcommittee at its meeting held November 9, 2012 discussed disseminating the blue green algae video to schools and public facilities.

The Subcommittee continues to work to educate residents regarding the harm phosphorous is causing to our lakes and rivers and plans to begin a community phosphorous campaign.

Councillor Halberstadt reports the blue green algae video was recently presented at the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting. He indicates some Councillors stated the video was too "tame".

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by R. Tamr,

That the verbal report by Matthew Child, Water Quality Subcommittee **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Tri.I! to the Detroit Wildlife Reserve

A. Parent advises WECEC has been invited by representatives of the Detroit Wildlife Reserve to undertake a walking tour of the Reserve in the spring/summer 2013.

P. Roberts suggests showcasing a physical entity on the Canadian side opposite the Detroit Wildlife Reserve. It is suggested the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup group and ERCA be invited to tour the Reserve with WECEC.

It is generally agreed to tour the Detroit Wildlife Reserve in June 2013 (date to be determined).

10. COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 The article from the Windsor Star dated November 21, 2012 entitled "Climate Change will cost us here, report reveals" is received for information.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on January 10, 2013 at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:11 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR