



AGENDA
and Schedule "A"
to the minutes of the meeting of the
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 1st, 2011
Meeting at 5:30p.m.
At the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant, 4155 Ojibway Parkway

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT**

4. **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held February 2nd, 2011 – *emailed separately.*

5. **PRESENTATION:**

Dan Dufour, Carolinian Canada – The Lake Erie Coastal Trail draft plan

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

6.1 Renewable Energy Media Campaign

6.2 New WECEC Appointments

6.3 Updated WECEC Strategic Plan – *attached.*

6.4 Green Speaker Series – David Ullrich

7. **COORDINATORS REPORT**

WECEC Coordinator Monthly Report – *attached.*

8. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

8.1 Air

8.2 Transportation

8.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands – *attached.*

8.4 Water Quality

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

9.1 Clean Across Canada 2013 – *attached.*

9.2 Website additions: Pat on the Back and Green Speaker Series page additions

9.3 Waste to Energy FIT program

10. **COMMUNICATIONS**

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

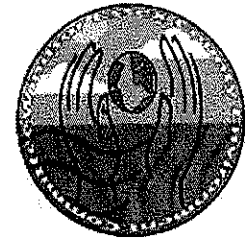
The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 5th, 2011 at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Strategic Action Plan 2012

Strategic Direction #1 – Profile of WECEC			
GOALS	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)	TIME FRAME
<p><u>Goal:</u> Improve the relationships with City and County Councils</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare an annual report of accomplishments and present to City and County Councils ▪ Meet with each county municipality to identify potential environmental concerns to bring forward to WECEC 	Coordinator	Yearly
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hold at minimum one meeting a year with other environmental organizations, committees to share information and to, ▪ Identify opportunities for partnering on community education/public awareness ▪ Include standing item on agenda for other organizations/committee reports 	Coordinator and WECEC	Yearly
<p><u>Goal:</u> Improve relationships with other organizations, committees</p>		Coordinator and WECEC	Ongoing
		Coordinator/Recording Secretary	Monthly
Strategic Direction #2 – Proactive policy development			
GOALS	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)	TIME FRAME
<p><u>Goal:</u> develop policy statements that reflect current state of environmental issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ bring forward existing policy statements for review and updating (if necessary) ▪ identify emerging trends regarding the environment and develop policy statements to reflect these trends ▪ distribute policy statements to City and County Councils 	Coordinator	Ongoing
		Coordinator and WECEC	Ongoing
		Coordinator	Ongoing

Strategic Direction #3 – Committee operations			
GOALS	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)	TIME FRAME
<p>Goal: Ensure performance objectives of the Coordinator are met</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop annual work plan ▪ Develop performance evaluation tool ▪ Conduct performance evaluation on an annual basis 	<p>Coordinator WECEC WECEC</p>	
Strategic Direction #4 - Public engagement			
GOALS	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)	TIME FRAME
<p>Goal: Increase awareness of WECEC by the public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ distribute advanced agenda for WECEC meetings ▪ maintain a website and Facebook page ▪ strategically identify and attend community events ▪ maintain a professional display for participation at community events ▪ develop a communication strategy to regularly highlight the work of the committee 	<p>Coordinator Coordinator Coordinator and WECEC Coordinator Ad-hoc working group</p>	<p>Monthly Monthly Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing</p>
<p>Goal: Increase engagement of public on environmental issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ develop and implement mechanisms for public to be engaged in identifying environmental issues of importance to them ▪ implement delegation policy 	<p>Coordinator Coordinator</p>	<p>Ongoing Ongoing</p>



– FEBRUARY, 2012 –

ONGOING INITIATIVES

1. Provincially Significant Wetlands Subcommittee

The subcommittee asked for a deferral of the follow-up report from the Planning department regarding the Ojibway Shores property. At the Environment and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Wednesday, January 25th the report requested by WECEC to the Planning Department regarding re-zoning City property adjacent to Ojibway Shores from industrial to natural heritage was discussed. From this discussion a motion was made to investigate the benefits to linking existing Natural Heritage areas with the Detroit River. The subcommittee will fight for the property again when this new report is brought forward.

The sub-committee has now received a draft copy of the Lake Erie Costal Stewardship Trail concept and will offer any comments to Carolinian Canada.

2. Regional Integrated Community Sustainability Plan

Contact has been made with members from the Inter-Municipal Planning Consultation Committee (IMPCC) to begin discussions with the group regarding a Regional Sustainability Plan.

3. Renewable Energy Media Campaign with Generator Design

Letters requesting support for the renewable energy campaign have been sent to various solar companies in Windsor as well as the Economic Development Corporation and the Regional Chamber of Commerce. Mark Bartlett plans on following up with these companies and agencies in order to discuss our project in more detail with them.

The campaign message still needs to be finalized and approved by the Committee before our campaign will launch.

4. Student Representatives

An updated Terms of Reference for our Committee has been approved by City and County Councils along with our recommendation to replace the City and County Citizen positions with Student positions.

The format for the St. Clair student representative has been determined. The elected student government president will be put forward to sit on our Committee. This has been written into the duties of the student government president. By the middle of March, 2012 student government elections will be complete and we will receive an application and resume from the president. She/he will be recommended to the Standing Committee and will hopefully have approval from the City and County by May 1st when her/his term begins. We will hopefully have a student from St. Clair at our monthly meeting in May. Their term will be one year until the next student government elections which occur on a yearly basis.

A similar request has been made of the University of Windsor student government. Our proposal has been received by the student council president and we are awaiting his response.

5. Water Quality Subcommittee

This subcommittee met for the first time this month. We talked about a variety of issues including non-point sources of phosphorous loading into the Detroit River, a possible Provincial Algal Bloom Strategy, public awareness campaigns etc. We would like to engage authorities such as the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), the Ministry of the Environment (MOE), and the Essex County Federation of Agriculture (ECFA). We also hope to produce a "fact sheet" detailing the issue.

6. Transportation Subcommittee

The subcommittee has received information from Brian Masse's office regarding the high speed rail campaign and will continue to work with the Chamber of Commerce to formulate a united request to the Province in support of high speed rail.

IMPORTANT UPDATES AND INFORMATION

1. Earth Day 2012

Earth Day 2012 will take place on Sunday, April 22nd at Mic Mac (displays and activities) and Malden (native plant garden) Parks. The theme this year is local food – "I like my food naked, near and natural". The Committee has purchased a booth and so will need volunteers during the day from 10am until 3pm.

Attendees: Alan Halberstadt, Derek Coronado, Phil Roberts, Beau Wansbrough (City Planning, Resource), Tom Henderson (DRCC, guest), Dave Munro (DRCC, guest)

Meeting Minutes:

1. Windsor – Essex Parkway Meeting with the Windsor Essex Mobility Group (WEMG)

The sub-committee met before the scheduled meeting with the WEMG and outlined the core issues to be discussed. These included, principally, the Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) compensation required as a result of the Parkway and the resulting permits required, the need for a habitat compensation update, as well as the role of WEMG's technical working group and how the sub-committee might be able to access them. In addition, a notice of motion was prepared to recommend City and County Councils to request a meeting with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and Infrastructure Ontario (IO) and WEMG on behalf of WECEC.

Meeting Outcome with the WEMG:

The meeting with the WEMG was lead by Andreas Stenzel (PIC / WEMG) with attendance by Joel Foster (MTO), Barb Macdonell (MTO), several MTO staff, Elizabeth Reimer (MNR), Michael Cooke (City Planning) and several other resource people. Charlie Wright met the group there.

Mr. Stenzel led us through the process of the compensation strategy, 3:1 compensation rational and eventually to the footprint of the compensation areas. The highlights of their plan was to provide compensation where possible adjacent to existing PSW features, as contiguous as possible and included additional land acquisition to support a 120 m buffer around the 15 Ha of compensation wetland to be developed. All of the land acquisition was complete and there was no further impedance to this plan. Two primary unfragmented blocks were identified to us on a map, the largest being north of Armanda to the parkway and an area in the vicinity of the current Huron Church / EC Row convergence. Several positive elements have been realized by this plan (recognition of the 3:1 ratio and the 120 m buffering sets valuable precedence) and it is our recommendation that this compensation strategy be supported.

The discussion then went to additional opportunities including compensation value for linking the LaSalle Woodlots to Spring Garden ANSI through the Todd Lane / Lennon Drain corridor and similarly the Black Oak Heritage Park area to the Ojibway Complex through the Ojibway Parkway "approaches". The MTO at this point was not willing to undertake any discussion on the Ojibway option and was reluctant to discuss the Todd Lane linkage feature. Armed with several concept drawings including work done by

Jonathan Choquette, which was familiar to the WEMG group, Joel Foster stated that the project had finished purchasing property and that this corridor was complicated by services, road works and inadequate linkage opportunity. The group set out to identify the opportunity for these much larger linkage concepts and were left with the impression that there may be another look at the Todd Lane / Lennon Drain opportunity but Ojibway / Black Oak was not in the mandate and is a Federal Bridge issue. The notice of motion previously mentioned was dropped as it wasn't required.

Action: Phil will contact Andreas Stenzel to present the wetland compensation plan to the full committee once it has been fully included into their working plans.

2. Ojibway Shores Report to the Environment and Transportation Steering Committee

The second report regarding rezoning is scheduled to go before the committee Wed February 22 at 4:30. The committee felt it was important to submit to the planning department several key issues for this report including work done by the DRCC Habitat Working Group. Alan indicated he was not able to attend this meeting.

It was decided to request a deferral of the report to March through Councillor Halberstadt allowing time to prepare for the submission and meet with the planning department.

Action: Alan to request a deferral of the report to March and organize a meeting with City Planning, the PSW Committee and others interested.

3. Wetland Evaluations of Publically Owned Properties

It has on a couple of occasions recently been brought to the committee's attention that publically owned properties which have wetland characteristics have not been evaluated for provincial significance. The City owned portion of the St. Clair Woodlots had not been evaluated and Mathew Child confirmed at the WECEC meeting of January 5th that the ERCA owned Devonwood Conservation Area was not identified as a PSW contrary to the general understanding of the Committee.

WECEC has had success in requesting evaluations for "suspect" PSW woodlots owned by the City of Windsor which has afforded those woodlots the highest degree of protection, a step which may have contributed to the St Clair Woodlot debate. ERCA is a regulatory agency as well as a resource with respect to PSW's and their protection, yet properties in their care have not been identified and designated.

Notice of Motion: That the City of Windsor undertake; and the County of Essex recommend to the Essex Region Conservation Authority and to Essex County

Municipalities; to identify potential candidate provincially significant wetlands in their ownership and have them evaluated through the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System.

4. St. Clair Woodlot Sale

A brief discussion on the City sale of a portion of the St. Clair Woodlot to St. Clair College was concluded with Alan wishing to pursue discussions with the developer who owns other portions of the woodlot. If the woodlot becomes constrained due to species at risk present and/or the parkway footprint there may be an opportunity for the City to establish ownership of all remaining parcels.

Action: Alan will pursue as a City Councillor.

CLEAN ACROSS CANADA



by *gary NICKERSON*

In 2013, the bar on litter will be raised. Clean Across Canada is hoping to partner with local and national associates to organize the first ever Clean Across Canada 2013. We've heard back from 6 of the 10 provinces so far that will lend their support to the Clean Across Canada initiative. The project is aiming to engage some 500 cities from all parts of Canada within their province. This will truly be the biggest, the most talked about national cleanup project ever! It's going to be enormous! Branches of this project will be named (for example) Clean Across B.C, Clean Across Manitoba, Clean Across Ontario, and so on, under the umbrella of Clean Across Canada. Clean Across Nova Scotia has already begun. We believe that we can raise the level of community engagement across each and every province through participating in this national expression of fellowship. Canadians are renowned for having a stronger-than-average sense of community, values and identity, and the Clean Across Canada will be a wonderful and remarkable occasion to remind ourselves of the strength that our provinces, cities and communities provide us. So if you're interested in being part of a group of local and national stewards of community and the environment, this is the place for you to consider. It will be an amazing thing to see hundreds of thousands of people throughout Canada working together in concert. After seeing how wonderful it feels to tackle a massive undertaking like this, one can only hold their head high and be proud of what was accomplished, look at one another and say, "we did it!"

