

FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, July 9, 2015

4:30 p.m. in the City Hall Committee Room

Present: John Mayba, Chris Alemany, Sam Brownlee, Guy Langlois, Rosalind Chapman
Sandra Gentleman, Gary Swann, Bob Haynes

Guest: Ken Watson

1. **Approval of minutes from June 4 2015**

John Mayba moved to approve, Rosalind Chapman Seconded

2. **Approval of agenda**

John Mayba moved to approve, Bob Haynes Seconded

3. Review of priority lists from all Board Members

- Gary Swann discussed the need to collect kitchen waste to make humus.
- Bob Haynes stated that he knows someone who has the equipment to process the food and yard waste into compost.
- Gary Swann and Bob Haynes will look into this issue and present their findings at our meeting in September.
- Guy Langlois will contact Russell Dyson with the ACRD to find out when their solid waste report will be done.
- Ken Watson stated that the City may have a truck available for a pilot program to collect yard and kitchen waste and that kitchen waste collection was identified in the City's future plans.
- Gary Swann discussed the need for the Community Forest to use more sustainable forest practices by growing trees for a longer growth rotation.
- John Mayba moved that the FSCC contact the Community Forest and request that they consider implementing a policy to grow trees with a longer rotation with the purpose of sequestering carbon, given the growing concern with climate change.
- Gary Swann seconded.
- Guy Langlois will draft a letter to the Community Forest and distribute it to the FSCC Committee for approval.
- Bob Haynes discussed the need for water conservation and agri-irrigation. He said that rain harvesting was a good idea.
- John Mayba suggested that there was a need for a water management plan.
- Bob Haynes and Ken Watson confirmed that there was already a water management plan.
- Ken Watson stated that there was a need for better water storage. Farmers should investigate options to store more collected rain water onsite.
- Gary Swann stated that he has a pond and a reservoir to collect rain water. His system is large enough to supply water for all his crops.
- Rosalind Chapman discussed rain harvesting systems that were being used in other communities that supplied all their water needs.

- Bob Haynes moved that the FSCC Committee request that the Agricultural Development Committee write a letter to the ACRD asking what plans are being made regarding agri-irrigation.
 - John Mayba seconded.

 - Chris Alemany discussed the need to bring the two farmers markets together.
 - Gary Swann stated that the Harbour Quay is a good location for the farmers market.

 - Chris Alemany will collect existing active transportation reports and distribute them to the FSCC Committee members.

 - Chris Alemany discussed his recommendation for the city to purchase solar panels.
 - Rosalind Chapman would like to see the First Nations taking a role in developing solar energy in our community.
 - Guy Langlois stated that the First Nations community in Sooke BC have developed a solar power grid and would serve as a good example.
 - Sam Brownlee recommended that a business case needs to be developed to support purchasing solar panels.
 - Chris Alemany will research existing business plans and present his findings at our next meeting to support recommendations for implementing a pilot project to purchase solar panels.

 - Rosalind Chapman discussed the need to increase the number of community gardens in our community.
 - Rosalind Chapman will contact the young professionals to find out if they have plans to expand the existing community garden.
 - Sam Brownlee will contact Planning to get an inventory of available unused city land that may be suitable for community gardens.
 - Guy Langlois suggested that once we have gathered information on what land is available that we request expressions of interest from community groups that would like to develop community gardens.

 - John Mayba discussed the need to support urban farming. He would like to establish some baseline data on how much food is being grown by residents.
 - Guy Langlois will provide a copy of the ACRD Food Survey that was done in 2013.
 - Sam Brownlee suggested that we speak to Transition Town regarding distributing a questionnaire on how much food people produce and having a prize attached to encourage participation.

 - Ken Watson requested that the committee make any suggestions for the Sustainably Report by Wednesday July 15, 2015. Sam Brownlee asked all committee members to commit to read the report and submit comments by end of business on Monday, July 13.
4. Guy Langlois will contact Heather Shobe regarding the presentation she will be making to City Council regarding her request for financial support for the Gleaning Project.
 5. John Mayba moved to present the Rain Harvesting Proposal to the ACRD.
Bob Haynes seconded.

6. Guy Langlois will contact Dan Schubart regarding the Blue Dot Resolution.
8. Adjournment
 - Motion to adjourn by Bob Haynes, seconded by Gary Swann.
 - The meeting adjourned at 6:15PM
7. Next meeting September 3, 2015.

Sam Brownlee, Chair

Davina Hartwell, City Clerk