

FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE DISRUPTION COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, October 4, 2018

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

Present: John Mayba, Sam Brownlee, Gary Swann, Chris Alemany, Sam Brownlee in Chair.

Regrets: Rosalind Chapman (Chair), Guy Langlois, Branden Chase

1. Motion to approve the agenda by John Mayba

2. Motion to approve the minutes of the September 6th meeting by John Mayba seconded by Chris Alemany. Passed.

3. Presentation by John Mayba: A Proposal for Combating Climate Change.

John suggests in light of the failure of federal and provincial governments to take effective action on climate change and specifically their inability/unwillingness to implement effective carbon pricing, that individuals might consider implementing a "voluntary carbon tax" on their own use of carbon. People would assign a dollar value to their activities which have a significant carbon footprint (flying, driving for example) a pay that amount to a local project of their choosing which is doing effective work to mitigate climate change. John suggested paying \$200 per tonne of carbon to a proposed society which would hire a full or part time person to coordinate "all things cycling" in Port Alberni. Suggestions were made by the committee that there were other projects which might be more appealing to some citizens. John stated that the beauty of his proposal is that the contributions would stay in the community to benefit the community and that choice of project to be funded would be the choice of each individual.

4. Discussion re the possibility of converting the steam train to run on natural gas instead of diesel fuel. Given commitments to cruise ship operators to have the train running for 2019 visits, it would be impossible to convert the #7 train (owned by the City) in time, however it might be possible to convert the #113 during the restoration process. The #113 is owned by IHS so there would have to be considerable consultation and an MOU developed. It might also be possible to use carbon funds to finance the conversion.

Motion : To write a letter to the City requesting that staff investigate the possibility of using carbon funds to convert one or both trains to run on natural gas. The letter should emphasize risk reductions related to fire hazard and air quality as well as reduced energy costs and lower carbon fees. Motion: Chris Alemany, seconded by Gary Swann. Passed

5. The committee members reviewed the draft of the TOR and agreed on both the name, The Urban Food Security, Environment and Climate Advisory Committee and the Terms of Reference.

Motion: To submit the TOR to the CEO, Tim Pley for review with the intent of bringing it forward to Council at the November 15th meeting. Motion: Chris Alemany, seconded by John Mayba. Passed.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 1, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Rosalind Chapman, Chair

Davina Hartwell, City Clerk