

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021
PAGE 1**

REGULAR MINUTES Minutes of the **LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD** Regular Meeting held Tuesday, April 13, 2021 via GoToMeeting, Leduc, AB.

PRESENT: Councillor Lars Hansen
Sheila Ruddy
Benjamin McDonald
Wendy Yule
Lynne Chalmers
Mindy Paradis
Ngaire Nix

WITH REGRETS: Jennifer Roach
Brittany Onysyk

ALSO PRESENT: Kerra Chomlak – City Representative
Shirley Weslosky – Recording Secretary
Juanita Marinus – Leduc Resident

CALL TO ORDER

I. CALL TO ORDER

Wendy Yule called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

17/2021

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: It was **Moved** by Sheila Ruddy to approve the April 13, 2021 agenda as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

18/2021

Motion: It was **Moved** by Ngaire Nix to accept the regular meeting minutes of March 9, 2021 as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

**SAFETY
MOMENT**

IV. SAFETY MOMENT

- Driving hazards in the spring – Be careful when driving as there is a lot of gravel on the roads this time of year. When stopping suddenly you can skid on the gravel which could be dangerous. There are more motorcycles, people out walking, bikes on the road and you may need to stop quickly, so slow down and watch your surroundings. There are more people walking and bike traffic on the multiway so be aware.

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021
PAGE 2**

REPORTS

V. REPORTS

A. Chair's Report

- Wendy followed up with Leduc Wildlife Conservation Society (LWCS) to see if LEAB can collaborate on activities. LEAB will not be joining the LWCS this year at their annual Pitch in Week and tree planting events due to COVID-19.

Action: Shirley will send a link from LWCS on Native Wild Life Plants to LEAB.

- LWCS will collaborate with LEAB on Dark Skies.
- Free Webinar on Board Development, Grant Writing, The Role of the Board's Chair, and Cybersecurity.
- Webinar April 13, 2021 on Defending Our Mountains and Water from Coal Mining.

Action: Shirley will send out Links to webinars and courses

B. Council's Report

- CEIP passed both second and third reading unanimously.
- City of Leduc is putting 40 thousand dollars towards grant money to help small businesses in Leduc affected by COVID-19.
- Council approved the purchase of 30 acres of land, purchased in North Telford for the Leduc Municipal Cemetery.
- There will be a zero percent increase in residential taxes this year.
- New nesting boxes for purple martins are located in North Telford and Fred Johns Park.
- There are 278 active cases of COVID-19 in Leduc at this time.

C. Administration's Report

- LEAB may be interested in attending the Residential Landscape Design course through NAIT.

Action: Shirley will send out the link to NAIT Residential Landscape Design

**APPROVAL OF
REPORTS
19/2021**

VI. APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Motion: It was **Moved** by Ngaire Nix to accept the above noted reports for information purposes only.

MOTION CARRIED

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Coal Policy - Update on recommendations to Council

- The letters had been circulated to LEAB:
 1. Mayor Young sent a letter addressed to the Premier, Minister Savage and Minister Nixon.
 2. Minister Savage's response letter.
- LEAB Coal Policy Engagement Survey – the subgroup had drafted a response. LEAB agreed on submitting a response as a group to the Alberta Coal Survey, as it is due April 19, 2021.
- There is also a bill being proposed by the opposition to protect the Rocky Mountains and members can email their MLA to encourage them to make it a priority.

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021
PAGE 3**

Action: Shirley will send out to LEAB the Coal Policy Engagement Survey draft response. LEAB can send comments in by the end of day on Thursday April 15, 2021. Shirley will submit the survey on behalf of LEAB by Friday April 16, 2021.

- B. Spraying fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides in Leduc – Sub-committee update
- LEAB like the idea to link the Pollinator Garden Challenge with the pesticides key messages. This will be done when sending out the pollinator garden seeds and brochure to grade four and five City of Leduc Schools and on the website.
 - LEAB would like to address education to residents first regarding pesticides in advance of a full-scale campaign to reduce spraying.
 - LEAB discussed placing an ad in the REP newspaper to educate residents about pesticides.
 - LEAB should outline costs and resources and put a recommendation summary together for Council.
 - A pesticide bylaw roll out takes two to three years as per other municipalities who have done this in the past.

Action: Kerra and Sheila will work on an executive summary together with more detail. Then send it out to LEAB for review.

- C. Green House Gas (GHG) Plan and The Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) – Update from sub-committee
- CEIP passed second and third reading Monday April 12, 2021
 - The City of Leduc will know if they received the CEIP grant by the end of December.
 - Active transport with e-bikes and multiway lanes will be the future main focus for this committee.

- D. Dark Skies – Update from sub-committee
- Doug Hube drafted an article for the REP regarding light pollution.
 - Sub-committee is reviewing the article and wants to know if LEAB will be submitting the article or if Doug will be submitting the article himself.
 - The next Dark Skies committee meeting is May 18, 2021. Strathcona County will be joining the meeting to give a presentation on their Dark Skies policies.
 - LEAB is interested in the Miquelon Lake Observatory (Hesje Observatory) Some LEAB members have gone here and said it was very interesting. There was interest to maybe attend the observatory as a group in the future.

- E. Review Key Event Dates and Alternate Formats for 2021
- Arbour Day – Postponed
 - Volunteer Fair – Postponed
 - Spring Bird Count – May 30 - June 5
 - Grade Four Theatre Production – Postponed
 - Fall Community Registration Day – August
 - Pollinator Garden Challenge Celebration – September
 - Festival of Trees – November
 - Christmas Bird Count – December

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021
PAGE 4**

**NEW
BUSINESS**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Arbour Day – Postponed

- B. Pollinator Garden Challenge – Sub-committee update
 - LEAB will be delivering seeds and a brochure with pesticide information to the City of Leduc grade four and grade five classes.
 - The brochure will have information on the pollinator garden, a link to a video called Pollinator Garden Kids Takeover, and natural yard maintenance tips.

**OPEN
DISCUSSION**

IX. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Spruce Grove's Single Use Plastics Bylaw comes into effect in January 2022.

Action: Sheila will look into what is happening at the federal level with the single use plastics initiatives.

- The question was asked by LEAB if The City of Leduc have charging stations throughout the city for electric vehicles? The city is evaluating options for solar panels and charging stations downtown, LRC, and Library.
- Interesting article from the City of Edmonton: they're moving towards being a low-carbon municipality within 30 years and they have adopted an updated energy transition strategy to help get there. Article: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/city-council-net-zero-energy-1.5984796>
- LWCS are looking at no mow zones in the City of Leduc.

X. FUTURE TOPICS

- A. Single Use Plastics – May agenda

- B. Business and Multi-Family Waste Diversion

- C. LEAB Strategic Planning – Review priority of topics
 - Hens and bees pilot project
 - Single use plastics
 - Business and multi-family (ICI/MF) recycling and organics diversion
 - Urban tree removal and replacement policy/bylaw
 - Pesticide policy
 - Green House Gas reductions
 - Pollinator Garden Challenge
 - Dark Skies

ADJOURNMENT

20/2021

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: it was **Moved** by Sheila Ruddy to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021
PAGE 5**

NEXT MEETING

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on May 11, 2021



Chairperson



Recording Secretary