

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021
PAGE 1**

REGULAR MINUTES Minutes of the **LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD** Regular Meeting held Tuesday, March 9, 2021 via GoToMeeting, Leduc, AB.

PRESENT: Councillor Lars Hansen
Sheila Ruddy
Benjamin McDonald
Jennifer Roach
Wendy Yule
Brittany Onysyk
Lynne Chalmers
Mindy Paradis

WITH REGRETS: Ngaire Nix

ALSO PRESENT: Kerra Chomlak – City Representative
Shirley Weslosky – Recording Secretary
Juanita Marinus – Leduc Resident at 7:00 p.m.
John Stephen – Leduc Wildlife Conservation Society (LWCS) at 8:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

I. CALL TO ORDER

Wendy Yule called the meeting to order at 7:01p.m.

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

13/2021

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: It was **Moved** by Brittany Onysyk to approve the March 9, 2021 agenda as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

14/2021

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: It was **Moved** by Lynn Chalmers to accept the regular meeting minutes of February 9, 2021 as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

**SAFETY
MOMENT**

IV. SAFETY MOMENT

- When you go for a walk or do spring activities outside, make sure you stretch. Take a few minutes to do some stretching such as lunges, push-ups, and planks. Stretch your upper and lower body before your exercise and activities. Stretching is good for your muscles.

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021
PAGE 2**

REPORTS

V. REPORTS

A. Chair's Report

- Wendy attended a webinar hosted by Communities in Bloom called, "Hope is Growing" and the theme was yellow flowers.

B. Council's Report

- The City of Leduc and TELUS announced a partnership at the City Council meeting. The communications and technology company will bring their PureFibre internet service to the city's downtown core over the next two years.
- The City of Leduc is looking at purchasing land in North Telford for a new cemetery the first reading was passed at the City Council meeting March 8, 2021.
- Councillor Hansen presented two motions regarding the coal policy at City Council on March 8, 2021. These motions were passed by Council.
- Councillor Hansen announced that the new GO Centre outreach building in downtown Leduc is now open. It's a project led by Gateway Family Church and the Leduc Hub Hope for Homeless. Amenities include; daytime services, overnight shelter, showers, clothing, cooking area, lockers, and coffee from Starbucks.
- The City of Leduc does not get any revenue from the towers at the Leduc Golf Course. Instead, they get a percentage of the total revenue that the Leduc Golf Course has generated, every year.

C. Administration's Report

- City of Leduc received a Municipal Climate Change grant totaling \$50,000.00 for an Electric Zamboni.
- Administration has received the grant to hire a Municipal Energy Manager as a City of Leduc staff member on a two-year term to help with GHG reductions and organics diversion with the LDRWMA.
- Green bin inspection took place March 1 – March 5, 2021 and it initial results show 20% of the carts were contaminated with plastic.
- Hens and Bees update – There are two residents who have applied for backyard hens. The registration is still open for residents until we have reached our limit.

**APPROVAL OF
REPORTS
15/2021**

VI. APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Motion: It was **Moved** by Sheila Ruddy 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

- Councillor Hansen made the two LEAB recommendations to Council and they were both approved.
- Wendy thanked everyone on the sub-committee for putting this together within the past month.

LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021
PAGE 3

- Edmonton and Strathcona County passed motions similar to the City of Leduc this past week.
- The City of Leduc Council is sending a letter to Premier Kenney, Minister Nixon, and Minister Savage regarding the coal mining in Alberta.
- Coal Policy sub-committee were in agreement to meet in early April.
- Benjamin thanked the sub-committee for all their hard work.
- The Alberta Environment Network (AEN) website has good information on the coal mining in Alberta.

Action Shirley Weslosky: Sheila Ruddy would like to be added to the Coal Policy sub-committee.

Action Shirley Weslosky: Circulate the Coal Policy report to LEAB.

B. Spraying fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides in Leduc – Sub-committee update

Action Shirley Weslosky: to set up a pesticide sub-group committee meeting at the end of March of early April.

C. Green House Gas (GHG) Plan and The Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) – Update from sub-committee

- March 15, 2021 is the next sub-committee meeting.
- The second reading for CEIP is April 12, 2021.

D. Dark Skies – Update from sub-committee

- LEAB was asked if one of their goals was to be a light efficient community?
- Leduc community has too much of the wrong type of light.
- When you use the wrong lighting it is wasted energy.
- Wrong lighting can have an effect on human health and wildlife.
- The sub-committee is interested in more public education, and would like to consider placing an article in the REP so the public is aware of the light pollution in Leduc.
- LEAB could work on a potential bylaw or policy to have Leduc be a more light efficient community.

Action Shirley Weslosky: To set up a Dark Skies sub-committee meeting prior to the next board meeting.

E. Review Key Event Dates and Alternate Formats for 2021

- Arbour Day - May
- Volunteer Fair – May
Details will come out in March. LEAB will be asked to prepare a PowerPoint presentation, and will have one member of the organization, present the PowerPoint at the Maclab at a scheduled time.
- Spring Bird Count – May 30 - June 5
- Grade Four Theatre Production – May 31
- Fall Community Registration Day – August
- Pollinator Garden Challenge Celebration – September
- Festival of Trees – November

LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021
PAGE 4

- Christmas Bird Count – December
- F. Recycling Council of Alberta (RCA) Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) report back Mindy Paradis and Lynne Chalmers
 - What is Extended Producer Responsibility EPR?
 - Extended Producer Responsibility is not a program, but an *obligation* for Producers (The companies making products) to do better.
 - This obligation requires them to be proactive in their way of thinking, and in turn, their processes.
 - EPR puts both the cost and consequence on the producer, rather than the program operator.
 - Alberta's current model
 - Currently: collect, sort, process
 - Goal: Collect, sort, process, make
 - Recycling does not take place when the blue bag hits the curb; recycling occurs when the material we send out is actually turned into something else.
 - Producers currently have no incentive to use that recycled content we are processing.
 - Cost and consequence falls on the Program Operator.
 - How EPR differs from Provincial Recycling Programs
 - EPR shifts the cost and consequences to the producers.
 - This gives them incentive to rethink design
 - They have the obligation and authority to coordinate and operate systems that keep materials in use.
 - EPR systems require proof of recycling. No proof, then consequences because they are not complying with the laws.
 - To “prove recycling” they have to use recycled content.
 - They have the authority and creative freedom to find solutions for cost reduction and problem solving, including redesigning their packaging.
 - Shifting the responsibility to producers means they are motivated to do better.
 - Again, EPR is not a program, it's an obligation that “enables disruptive systems thinking”.
 - It forces companies to be forward thinking and proactive, to reduce the amount of plastics currently in the system, and better manage what's coming in.
 - The Role of the Government
 - For Alberta “The role of government is to set the framework and to regulate and enforce outcomes that drive EPR over “just recycling.”
 - Federal government controls the big items like toxic waste, but they don't have the authority to regulate EPR. Ocean plastics are a big problem. They can not regulate EPR, but can ban problematic materials, and create consequences for non-compliance.
 - Recycling Council of Alberta EPR principles:
 - Drive a circular economy
 - Be outcomes based

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021
PAGE 5**

- Have measurable, enforceable, and ambitious performance standards
- Ensure a level playing field (fair for all producers)
- Be implemented alongside complimentary regulations (Federal ban of problematic materials)
- Councillor Finstad has passed a motion at Council to support EPR in the past.

Beekeeping 1 – All about honey bees – Lynne Chalmers

- The Bee class occurred on January 21, the day of the snow squall. The class instructor Dustin got a call from somebody who noticed that a wild bee hive in a tree was laying on the ground and the bees were exposed. He could not go to rescue them because he was teaching the course but asked that they put a blanket over the bees and hope that they don't yield to the weather. Kerra informed LEAB that Dustin and City of Leduc Environmental Inspector, Jenna Chernuka, went the next day and managed to save the bees.

Interesting things about Bees

- The European Honey Bee originated in north Africa. It then moved to Europe, and finally it was brought to the North American continent.
- They are a tropical insect that has learned to adapt to a temperate climate.
- Bees cannot survive on their own; they must be in a colony.
- The Queen is the only bee to lay eggs (1500 – 2000 eggs a day).
- If a Queen gets sick, she releases pheromone to activate the egg laying ability in another female bee.
- If you are stung, scrape the area to remove the stinger.
- If a bee does not have a place to store pollen they swallow it and it is then transformed into wax.
- Bumble Bees don't lose their stingers when they sting, like the European bee.
- The stinger is an egg laying device.
- The Queen and the worker bees are females.
- The worker is an underdeveloped female who cannot lay fertilized eggs.
- The drone does not have a stinger.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Leduc Wildlife Conservation Society (LWCS)

- LWCS Chairman John Stephen attended the meeting at 8:00 p.m.
- The LWCS is a Society that Advocates for the Education, Preservation, Protection and Expansion of Natural Area's in the City of Leduc and Leduc County.
- LWCS would like the City and LEAB to start to rewild areas in Leduc by planting native trees, shrubs and grasses.
 - Northside and Southside of Telford Lake
 - The flight path areas in Leduc (i.e. South of Daystar Church)
 - Deer Creek area
 - LWCS would like the City to re-wild in new sub-divisions.
- LWCS will be planting with LEAB on Arbour Day.
- LWCS can help get the word out for the Pollinator Garden Challenge.

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021
PAGE 6**

- John asked if the City of Leduc can look into The Alberta Native Plant Council Small Grants Program, for a small pollinator garden planting.
- LWCS would like the City of Leduc to preserve wildlife corridors. The corridor between Telford lake and Saunders Lake, John suggests, should have 1 path across RR245, not 2 paths. This is better for wildlife, and less expensive for the City.
- Why do they destroy beaver dams in the Leduc and District Waste Management Facility?
- Deer Creek wildlife corridor, as a City they could protect the creek more.
- Bigger Buffers are needed between New Industrial areas north of Telford Lake.
- Telford Lake shore line will be cleaned up by the LWCS removing garbage in early spring, they plan on using canoes and invite LEAB to join them.
- The City should place more cigarette receptacles around the Telford boardwalk, so that the cigarette butts are not thrown into the lake.
- John recommend that the City close off the pond located on the north side of Telford Lake as this is a nesting and feeding area for birds.
- LWCS will be holding their Pitch in clean up by Deer Valley behind the Dairy Queen this spring and invite LEAB to join them.
- LWCS would like to help the City develop a plan for a Bird Blind on the south side of Telford Lake.
- LWCS are interested in collaborating with LEAB on light efficiency.

John left at 8:39 p.m.

**OPEN
DISCUSSION**

IX. OPEN DISCUSSION

- No items discussed at this meeting.

X. FUTURE TOPICS

- A. Single Use Plastics – April agenda
- B. Business and Multi-Family Waste Diversion Stakeholder Group
- C. LEAB Strategic Planning – Review priority topics for 2021 EVENTS
 - 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

16/2021

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: it was **Moved** by Jennifer Roach to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

**LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021
PAGE 7**

NEXT MEETING

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on April 13, 2021



Chairperson



Recording Secretary