REGULAR MINUTES

Minutes of the **LEDUC ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD** Regular Meeting held Tuesday, December 14, 2021 via in person at Kosmos Boardroom & GoToMeeting, Leduc, AB.

PRESENT: Wendy Yule

Lynne Chalmers Ngaire Nix Sheila Ruddy Mindy Paradis

Councillor Lars Hansen

Jennifer Roach Benjamin McDonald Brittany Onysyk

WITH REGRETS: Councillor Ryan Pollard

ALSO PRESENT: Shelby Lowe – City Representative

Jenna Chernuka – City Representative Kerra Chomlak – City Representative Keri Nelson – Recording Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER

Wendy called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

38/2021

Motion: It was Moved by Lynn to approve the December 14, 2021 agenda. With

the addition of Berms and Buffers

MOTION CARRIED

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: It was **Moved** by Brittany to accept the amended meeting minutes of November 9, 2021 as circulated.

39/2021

MOTION CARRIED

IV. SAFETY MOMENT

Pronouns Inclusion Moment

SAFETY MOMENT The use of pronouns in today's world. Welcoming, safe supportive and free of judgement. Inclusion is to include all people. Awareness in the workplace is where a lot of info comes from. Nothing can be more personable then how the person is by their name or pronoun. Mis-gendering can be hurtful. International Pronoun day October 20 creates awareness and respect of how to use the gender inclusive language. Important to not make assumptions of someone's

identity. Most commonly used on a person's Email signature after your name, ask what they prefer shows you will accept them for who they are.

https://pronounsday.org/resources

https://www.thehrcfoundation.org/professional-resources/talking-about-pronouns-in-the-workplace

V. REPORTS

A. Chair's Report

- Attended a webinar "Defending Biodiversity: From Old-growth to Peatlands". Biodiversity refers to the variety of life on earth from genes to ecosystems. Peatlands store more carbon than all other vegetation types in the world combined. Canada has the largest peatland carbon stock. Northern peatlands, including large areas of northern Alberta, are vital for protecting biodiversity.
- O Hydrogen energy is more in the news as a source of clean energy although it is not always clean, depending on its production. Grey hydrogen (most common) is created from fossil fuels and releases CO2 which is not captured. Blue hydrogen also uses fossil fuels but captures up to 90% of the CO2 emitted. Green hydrogen (best for the environment) uses electrolysis to split water into hydrogen and water using wind or solar power as an energy source for the process.
- Thank you to the Mayor and Council for the gift cards.

B. Council's Report

Gift cards given to all LEAB board members

Thank you all for all the work you do especially the LEAB board you go above and beyond bringing things forward. The amount of positive things that have come forward to council is astonishing. Your time in invaluable

- o AUMA Kerra made the city very proud good job Kerra.
- Lots of first-time councillors elected throughout Alberta. Medicine Hat elected a new mayor, and majority female council.
- Budget final council meeting yesterday, 2 environmental ~ additional solar panels from Rec Center on Sobeys arena if the grant passes.
- 10,000 trees over 4 years, money to expand the tree planting in Leduc PS team will bring back a plan. 2600 trees a year is the hope.
- Taxes are 1.72% increase for capital for a 3rd fire hall in the industrial area around 65th allow us to meet the demand in the industrial and east Leduc. Lower insurance premiums and good service for our residents.
- Personal news sat on the Water Commission for 4 years elected as Vice Chair
- o Pesticide Survey money is approved.

C. Administration's Report

 LEAB going to council February 14, 2022 Strategic Planning meeting is February 26 so LEAB would want to be ahead of that to show

REPORTS

- where LEABS priorities are. Report form LEAB needed by January 14, 2022. LEAB will have 20 minutes in Chambers.
- Business Expo April 9-10, 2022 LEAB to use 2021 budget to pay for the table to promote the pesticides survey.
- Citizens of Distinction first Friday of January LEAB can submit unlimited amount of submissions they will be valid for 3 years. LEAB to be on subcommittee, meet on February 25, 2022 11-1 to review nominations. Wendy will go and Ngaire will be the alternate

ACTION: Shelby to follow up about Awards night

 Telford Memorial Gardens, just east of Lions Park approved an expansion and there will be an opportunity to plant trees for loved ones.

ACTION: Shelby will send out image

VI. APPROVAL OF REPORTS

APPROVAL OF REPORTS 40/2021

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

MOTION CARRIED

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Coal Policy Update
 - Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society held a webinar in November on Alberta's coal policy
 - The federal government promised to stop the export of thermal coal by 2030
 - The Vista coal mine expansion (near Hinton) was not approved because it would cause unacceptable environmental impacts
 - The push now is for an updated strong coal policy, not just resurrecting the 1976 one
 - With greater understanding of the complexity of land usage and biodiversity there is a need for strong comprehensive land use planning
 - The report from the provincial Coal Policy Committee is expected by Dec 31/21. This was a stakeholder engagement only CPAWS is pushing for a further public consultation.
 - Contamination from coal production continues to be a problem in some Alberta rivers
 - There are some concerns there is not enough funding in place for reclamation when mines close
 - Hydrogen and other renewable energy sources may result in coal being a stranded asset
- B. Spraying fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides and Pollinator Garden Challenge Sub-committee update
 - No update

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

LEAB has asked for external support to launch a survey.

ACTION: Shelby work with communications to see what consultant to bring in

ACTION: Subcommittee should meet in January. Take away and discuss into the subcommittee is this the end of it or resurrect some way without a lot of administrative help. - Booked

Early launch in the spring. Bring back in February to the board.

- Pollinator Garden Challenge, committee to discuss different ways of offering prizes.
- Ways to get kids involved. The passion is there, go out into schools when possible. Not much uptake over the last few years. Seeds dropped off at schools, unsure what happened as no follow-up. Will discuss and report back in the next meetings.
- C. Green House Gas (GHG) Plan and The Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) Update from sub-committee
 - E Scooters are being talked about November 30 open house at the LRC and online. Online survey got a great response 900 so far until January 10.

CEIP Leduc was one of the first people on board. This board has done a lot of good things other communities are noticing we are more of a leader to this. Rocky Mountain House has 11 applications that are preapproved so Leduc will do quite well.

- D. Dark Skies Update from sub-committee
 - Display was really well done. No letters posted in the Rep yet. How do we get the information out to the public? Does LEAB want to use some budget from 2020 to get the articles into the Rep?

ACTION: Keri to send Lars Doug's email so that he can connect to go to the rep - Done

- E. Single Use Plastics Update
 - Waiting on Federal Government. Big one to put into council as a recommendation that we would like to see the COL do some work on this. BC started taking matters into their own hands, should we in Leduc?? Spruce Grove also has taken matters into their own hands their initiatives come into effect in 2022. Edmonton to get bylaw approved and implement in 2023.
 - Revisit LEAB bylaw review and update before council. May 2020 was the Bylaw review.
 - o Goal is to report to council on February 14

F. Buffers and Berms

Important to investigate this. How to move forward with this. Do we create another Subcommittee?

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ACTION: Shelby Planning coming to February meeting to provide update and info - Done

- Planning's information context before moving forward. Would be good to get some answers on that on what background is already there.
- 4 people volunteered on the Subcommittee: Sheila, Ngaire, Wendy, Mindy.

ACTION: Keri to set up Meeting planned for end of Feb

ACTION: Shelby send out the reports **ACTION**: Shelby print out the reports.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Alberta Municipalities Presentation

AUMA from Kerra

Climate change and municipalities. How to save the world on emission. 600K in grants to replace all lights to LED

Risks specific to your municipality, link implementation with other initiative

Considering climate change what that means MCCAC/AMSC programs to reduce GHG

Took advantage of the grants - Solar, vehicle, recreation, staff, CEIP Images of what the area looks like now and what it will look like in 25 year, putting the images out there. Present it in a realistic way.

NEW BUSINESS

B. Budget 2021

- Purchase bird, bat & bee houses. Members approved \$500
- o Pay the rep for the Dark Skies this was voted no by LEAB members
- o Seeds Members approved \$ 500 to Vesey Seeds
- LEAB booth Members approved \$525

Sheila first and Mindy seconded

C. Council update from Sub-Committees

- o February 14, 2022 reports due January 14, 2022
- Leads of each subcommittee summarize. Chair will present. Run through them with the board before council. LEAB prepare presentation and Shelby will help with the paperwork for council.
- LEAB is working on and recommend moving forward, single use plastic, City of Leduc initiatives are: pesticide survey, CEIP launching March 31, 2022. E Scooters, Wetlands, Telford and lions park. Environmental plan coming up on 10-year update. Waste ICI and Multifamily sector. Tree planting, naturalization side of things.

- LEAB continuing ICI and working closely with COL. Tree planting works into pesticides survey. Berms and Buffers. Dark skies, Single use plastics. 3 that LEAB has been actively working on. Back in front of council with data from the survey to get budget approved.
- Initiatives actionable by administration in 2022
- Want to get it into the strategic plan
- No meeting required, all subcommittees will email each other with updates

D. 2022 LEAB meetings

Every second meeting in person for now. January in online. February meeting in person.

IX. OPEN DISCUSSION

OPEN DISCUSSION

The biggest little farm on Netflix – please watch

X. FUTURE TOPICS

- · Hens and bees pilot project
- Business and multi-family (ICI/MF) recycling and organics diversion
- Urban tree removal and replacement policy/bylaw

XI. ADJOURMENT

ADJOURNMENT 41/2021

Motion: it was Moved by Lynn to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held online via Teams on January 11, 2022

Chairperson

Keri Nelson

Recording Secretary