

Fiscal & Environment Select Committee

Minutes from June 14th, 2006 meeting.
Now "adopted" with no amendments.

Location: Pike House 1589 Millstream Rd.

Present: Bob McMinn chair, Karen Burns Vice chair, Marcie McLean recording secretary,
Warren Lee, Bev York, Vicky Husband, Hans Waelti,

Absent: Adam Sullivan, Paul Weyer

The chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m..

Item 1. Approval of the Agenda

A member requested that the Ford rezoning application be an additional item.

A member requested that the proposed Malahat Corridor be added to the agenda.

There was some discussion by the committee.

Motion by: Warren Lee

Seconded: Marcie McLean

That the agenda be approved with the inclusion of the Ford rezoning added as item 6a, and the proposed Malahat Corridor be added as item 6b. **Motion carried.**

Item 2. Adoption of the draft minutes of April 12, 2006 meeting.

The committee discussed the wording of page 2 last line of the draft minutes.

It was suggested to add the wording "of the covenant" to the end of that last sentence.

Motion by: Vicky Husband

Seconded: Bev York.

That the draft minutes be amended by adding "of the covenant" to the last sentence on page 2.

Motion carried.

Motion by: Bev York

Seconded: Hans Waelti.

That the minutes of April 12, 2006 be approved as amended.

Motion carried.

In moving onto the next agenda item, a member queried the chair as to if there was any further discussion on the draft minutes? The member was advised that the committee had just adopted them. The member indicated that he did not believe that the chair asked the committee if there were any additional comments. The chair apologized, and asked the members if there were any additional comments on the now adopted minutes. And the member said he had additional comments as he felt his comments were not included in the minutes of Vicky's motion pertaining to Highlands 3 Holdings. The member presented his concerns and suggested wording changes. The recording secretary advised the committee that at the time of Vicky's motion, the motion was read back to the committee in its entirety several times. When the discrepancy was later brought forward to the recording secretary via an email from the member, he was advised to bring the matter up at the next meeting when the draft minutes are on the agenda.

The recording secretary advised the committee that she had confirmed the motion in question with the staff member in attendance, and the planner had advised the recording secretary that she did write down the motion carried by Vicky Husband and offered to read her notes of the motion. When that occurred the recording secretary received confirmation that her recorded motion was word for word the same as what staff had also written down. At that time, all of the committee members were advised of this information via email from the recording secretary.

The member continued to advise the committee that when he spoke to the Highlands 3 Holdings rezoning application he made 3 points. One being, zoning should be based on the official Community Plan (OCP), and not amenity bargaining. And two, this would bring consistency into the decision making process.

There was discussion amongst the committee, and the motioner of that past motion which was now adopted, indicated that she would not be opposed to that wording being added into her previous adopted motion of April 12th.

Motion by: Hans Waelti

Seconded: Vicky Husband.

THAT in the previous minutes of April 12, 2006, and, recommendation on Highlands 3 Holdings, that the wording of the first point be changed to:

-zoning should be based on OCP, and not amenity bargaining,
(and the last point have the additional wording added onto the end),
-this would bring consistency into the decision making process."

Motion carried.

(M. Mclean opposed.)

Motion by: Vicky Husband

Seconded: Warren Lee,

THAT the approval of the adopted minutes of April 12, 2006 be rescinded, and that they be amended as in the previous carried motion.

Motion carried.

(M. McLean opposed.)

Motion by: Vicky Husband

Seconded: Hans Waelti.

THAT the minutes of April 12, 2006 be amended with the two sets of amendments:

(1) adding the wording "of the covenant", and,

(2) changing the wording of the first point to "zoning should be based on OCP, and not amenity bargaining,"

(3) adding the following wording onto the last point, "this would bring consistency into the decision making process."

Motion carried.

(M. McLean opposed.)

Item #3. Minutes of the May 23rd, 2006 Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting.

Motion by: Marcie McLean

Seconded: Karen Burns.

THAT the minutes of the May 23rd, 2006, COW be received for information.

Motion carried.

Item # 4. Committee Update of Council Business & Results of Committee Recommendations.

Some update items provided by staff planner Laura Beckett, Liaison Councillor Mendum had not arrived yet.

-Laura advised the committee that she expected that her staff report pertaining to the Ford's rezoning application, and, Highland 3 Holdings rezoning application would be on the council agenda for June 19th.

-Council liaison arrived at 7:30 p.m..

-The committee was advised that the District had received the letter from Bear Mountain advising the District that they were not going to appeal.

Liaison was asked if the monies from Bear Mountain would be fractioned into the District's budget? Liaison advised, not for this year's budget, and, that if any funds are received from Bear Mountain this year that money is allocated for paving Lost Lake Rd., and into road reserves.

Council liaison further explained the appeal in respect to budgeting timeframes.

-A member inquired as to where the referral back to council regarding the Air Cadets Squadron seeking a home had gotten to since the matter has not appeared on council's agenda, and the committees and the Community Hall Task Force have provided their recommendations and comments back to council. Council liaison and staff were not sure of the status of the referral.

-Liaison advised the committee that the Fire Chief Barry Ford had met with the municipal Community & Services Infrastructure Advisory Committee, and council carried a motion to refer their committee minutes from that meeting to our committee, once those minutes are adopted, for information.

-Liaison advised the committee that the new administrator Mr. Chris Coates, from Chase BC, starts with the District on July 17, 2006.

Item #5. Referral from Council re: Integrated Vegetation & Pest Management Policy, and Model Pesticide Use Control Bylaw.

Discussion ensued amongst committee; including the past chair of the municipal Environment Advisory Committee provided a brief history on the matter. There was discussion regarding "essential" verses "non-essential" uses, and "residential" verses "commercial and industrial" uses. Staff commented that potential commercial and or industrial users within the District could be encouraged through consultation and possible policy to reduce pesticide use and or use other alternative methods.

Motion by: Vicky Husband

Seconded: Warren Lee.

THAT a strong recommendation be sent to council for adoption of the CRD Model Pesticide Use Control Bylaw, as adjusted for the Highlands, and, that council implement a public consultation and educational process, and, that we further recommend commercial and industrial users/owners be encouraged to comply with the bylaw."

Motion carried.

Item #6. Referral from Council: Control Substance Property Bylaw.

At the request of the committee Council liaison explained the clean up costs scenarios to the committee. We were advised that currently, it is the municipality's responsibility for cleaning up and decontaminating after discovered meth labs or grow operations etc.

By having a bylaw in place such as in our agenda package, the property owner would then be responsible for the clean up costs. These situations could also possibly include policing costs incurred.

With a municipal bylaw in place if the situation occurs and the property owner does not pay up, the clean up, and policing costs if any could be added onto the property owner's municipal property tax notice.

Motion by: Bev York

Seconded: Hans Waelti.

THAT we recommend council move forward and adopt the draft Controlled Substance Property Bylaw, and that there should be educational information provided to property owners.

Motion carried.

Item #6a. Ford's Rezoning Application

Questions were asked of the municipal planner, in particular the past recommendation on the matter from our committee which went to council and the Advisory Planning Commission. The planner advised us that the covenant such as the one our committee had recommended with imposed conditions cannot be applied as it would restrict the sale of the property.

A member also shared with the committee that while attending a regular council meeting that the Highlands Mayor had advised council that he was not willing to spend tax dollars on seeking a legal opinion on the recommendation as he did not support the committee's recommendation.

Discussion ensued for the second time of this topic, regarding potential ramifications if such as rezoning was approved by council.

Motion by: Vicky Husband

Seconded: Marcie McLean.

THAT the committee rescind its' previous recommendation of April 12, 2006, based on new information that a covenant cannot be placed restricting the sale of property, therefore, the committee does not support the Ford rezoning application for the following reasons:

-it does not fit in with the OCP, and,

-concerns with precedent.

There was some additional discussion. One member thought that we should leave the past recommendation as is. Some other members thought that since our last recommendation did not provide any rationale to council that we should take the opportunity to do so now.

Motion carried.

(Hans Waelti, Bev York opposed)

Item 6b. Proposed Malahat Corridor routing.

A member provided an update and potential proposed routes. Staff advised the committee that after attending a meeting recently on the matter that there are links on the Highlands website. Council liaison also provided additional information.

Discussion ensued amongst the committee.

Item 7. Unfinished Business.

a) 2006-2010 Financial Plan Leaflet

The chair expressed concerns that he does not agree with the committee's past recommendation on the matter. And since municipal staff/council had included an insert with the Highlands Property Tax Notices, and that time had passed, that there was no longer a need for the information.

Motion by: Vicky Husband

Seconded: Hans Waelti.

THAT the Fiscal & Environment Committee not prepare a draft leaflet for council's consideration this year."

Motion was defeated.

Discussion ensued regarding the pros & cons of preparing the leaflet and the information, and the requirements of public participation. It was suggested that the 5 Year Financial Plan be posted on the Highlands website. Council liaison advised the committee that the budgets are on the Highlands website. And that with the District's Annual Report requirements, with audited statements, more details are added each year.

Some members of the committee expressed concerns on the matter of the leaflet possibly not being sent out to residents.

Motion by: Bev York

Seconded: Karen Burns.

THAT the Fiscal & Environment Committee recommends that an adopted Financial Plan Leaflet still be sent out to all Highland residents.

Motion carried.

(Hans Waelti opposed)

Bev York left the meeting at 9:25 p.m..

Item 7b) Stipend to volunteer Fire Fighters.

A past referral from council. The chair advised the committee that to date he had not received any of the additional information that he had requested on behalf of the committee from the District Administrator.

The committee was advised that this matter was not considered in preparation of the budget, and therefore, can be deferred until the fall.

Motion by: Marcie McLean

Seconded: Vicky Husband

THAT the committee defers discussions regarding possible Stipend to the Highlands volunteer Fire Fighters until the committee's scheduled meeting for Sept. 13, 2006, and, for the information requested in the email of March 30, 2006 from the chair of the committee to the administrator be provided to the committee members for that meeting.

Motion carried.

Item 7c) Summer Meetings for the Fiscal & Environment Select Committee.

It was discussed that the last Terms of Reference for the advisory committees stated that:

1. The committee is authorized to meet once a month, except during July, August, and December when the Committee may stand adjourned except to meet at the call of the Mayor.

The revised Terms of Reference now states: The Committee may meet once a month if required.

Council liaison advised that council will be discussing their schedule for the summer at their Council meeting on Monday.

Motion by: Vicky Husband

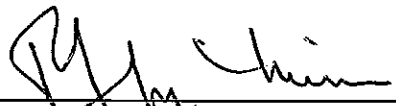
Seconded: Hans Waelti.

THAT the Fiscal & Environment Select Committee stands down until September unless, required to meet from council.

Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 9:32 p.m.,

Motion carried.

Chair sign off: _____


Recording Secretary sign off: _____


The committee's "recommendations" from these minutes will be under a separate page.